

**Welcome to the Community Church of Richmond
United Church of Christ**

**Our Church at Worship on the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 4, 2022 10:00 A.M.**

***Our Mission: To be an inviting, caring faith community
connecting with Christ.***

Welcome, visitors! Our greeters have welcome bags to share with you, so please make sure they know you're visiting.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

Penny Kraft

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Hope Molozai

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

GATHERING SONG

"Come to Me"

Verse 1: **All who are weary, all who are burdened down
Come to me, come to me, come to me
And I will give you rest** *(repeat)*

Verse 2: **My yoke is easy, my burden feels so light
Come to me, come to me, come to me
And I will give you rest** *(repeat)*

Repeat first verse

Tag: **Come to me, come to me, come to me.
And I will give you rest.**

Words and Music by: Christopher Grundy, CCLI 1908882

CALL TO WORSHIP

Cheryl Kazimier

One: Rejoice, for God is right here among us.
Give thanks, for in Christ we are made new.
Sing praise, for we come to worship God.

OPENING PRAYER

One: Let us pray:

All: **Gracious God,
gentle in your power and strong in your tenderness,
we know that we do not live by bread alone
but by every word that comes from you.
Feed our deep hungers
with the living bread that you give us in Jesus.
May his promise to be present where two or three gather,
be fulfilled in us.
Make us a joyful company of your people,
as we join with the faithful in every place and time
to praise and honor you. Amen.**

HYMN

“Come, O Fount of Every Blessing”

#459

TIME OF CONFESSION

Call to Confession

Prayer (we say together)

All: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to
sin and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight
in your will and follow in your ways,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: We have received the Spirit that is from God. May we
understand anew the grace and forgiveness bestowed by that
Spirit. In God’s vast love, we are forgiven. We are home.
Praise be to God.

All: **Amen!**

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 9:10-18

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized.

Galatians 3:26-29

For in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

TIME FOR ALL AGES

After the past few weeks of hearing Pastor Hope preach about baptism, today's your day to remember and respond and recommit. Move around through a few different reflections or just focus on one and enjoy it.

Questions of Baptism:

Do you desire to be baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Do you renounce the powers of evil and desire the freedom of new life in Christ?

Do you profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciple, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow in the Christian faith and to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, celebrating Christ's presence and furthering Christ's mission in all the world?

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

HYMN "Lord, I Want to be a Christian" #454

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Communion Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Remembering
Prayer of Consecration
We Share the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

**O God, our help, thank you for this meal together,
that we've shared in the Spirit with your servant, Jesus,
who makes us new and strong, who brings life eternal.
We praise you for giving us all good gifts,
and pledge ourselves to serve you,
as you've served us today at this table. Amen.**

HYMN "Rejoice, You Pure in Heart" #55

THE OFFERING

Invitation to Give: We are so thankful for the continued financial support that we have continued to receive during this time! You may always send your check directly to the church at PO Box 246, Richmond IL, 60071.

NEWS OF THE CHURCH

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Pastoral Benediction

Sending Song “Something Beautiful for God”

Today let us do something beautiful for God.

Do something small but do it with great love.

Do what we can, where we are, with what we’ve got.

Today let us do something beautiful for God!

Lyrics & music: Bryan Sirchio, Crosswind Music.

Call to Worship from 9/11/11 bulletin; Confession from BOW; Music shared under CCLI License #1908882

CHURCH NEWS

FOR SERVICE

GIFT CARD UPDATE: Our gift card sales have seen an uptick this summer – thanks for rising to the challenge! Keep it going this fall – New clothes for the kids? Home improvement projects? Regular gas and groceries? As you purchase any of those things, you can also be...**HELPING THE CHURCH AT NO COST TO YOU:** How can you help the church finances without costing you any money? You can buy gift cards of course! You buy the card, you use the card, and the church gets a percentage of that. Do you go to Jewel or Meijer every week? Do you have a Starbucks account that you can load the card onto the app? Do you order often from Amazon? What about those restaurants right down the road in McHenry? Jewel pays us 4% of every gift card purchased through this fundraiser; Meijer pays 3% and Starbucks pays 4.5%. Most of the McHenry restaurant chains pay us 8%! Home Depot, Ace, and Kohls are 4%. If you are spending the money at these places, why not pay up front, get a gift card, and help out the church. It just takes a little preplanning on your part, but no extra money! See Penny’s post below for details on how to order. You can see a list and the % at www.raiseright.com/brands Thanks for helping with this fundraiser.

GIFT CARD ORDERING: Contact Penny Kraft to order gift cards for your regular shopping, dining out, gas stations, or, of course, for gifts! If you give Penny a gift card order on Sunday, your cards are usually here by midweek. Contact Penny at 815-236-6172 or mriapk@gmail.com or leave an order form and payment in the mailbox labelled “GIFT CARDS” in the office hallway. Thanks!

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING: [Support the wider church with](#) this annual offering for the United Church of Christ to support new church starts, new ministries in existing congregations, youth and young adult events and ministries across the nation as well as women’s events and ministries. Designate “Strengthen the Church” on your giving envelope or check memo line. Learn more at www.ucc.org/stc

FOR CONNECTION

FALL FELLOWSHIP FUN: The Congregational Care Ministry Team is busy making plans for the coming months, starting with: Everyone is invited to Richardson’s Adventure Farm on Sunday, September 11, from 1-6 PM.

Let's have a campfire and/or explore the maze with our church family! BYOE (*everything*: lunch, drinks, snacks, camp chairs) or purchase Richardson's delicious delights available on the farm. We will have a couple of picnic tables at our campfire site for seating and eating. Rob and Carol have graciously waived our entrance fee; however, goodwill donations to church are always appreciated. Please text Dawn Conley at (815-236-5982) or email (conley8405@gmail.com) with how many people you’re bringing. (See <https://richardsonadventurefarm.com/> for more details.)

Plans are also in the works for a Bunco night in early October and a chili cook-off later this fall, so stay tuned!

FOOD WITH FRIENDS: Stay tuned – more plans will be coming soon!

OFFICE MANAGER UPDATE: We are receiving interest from a number of people about our Office Manager job and hope to hold interviews within the next week or so. If you have a friend or neighbor who might be a good fit for this 9-hour/week position at the church, encourage them to reach out to Pastor Hope. In the meantime, thanks to Jan Revelle for helping out the past couple weeks. And remember to pray for the next right person to find their way to us for this job.

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OTHER FALL UPDATES

Sunday School will begin in regular rotation on next Sunday, September 11.

Bibles will be presented to some of our church children on September 18.

The choir will begin singing later in September. If you are interested in singing with them this fall, talk to Kim May.

We plan to have fellowship snacks on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. Contact Pastor Hope if you can host.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

TODAY

Liturgist	Cheryl Kazimier
Video Director	
Greeter/Usher	Dick Strahs
Communion Preparations	Cheryl Kazimier

Sept 11

Liturgist	George Zimmermann
Video Director	
Greeter/Usher	
Fellowship Hosts	
Sunday School	Gail Crutcher

Sept 18

Liturgist	Ronnie Obara
Video Director	
Greeter/Usher	
Sunday School	Gail Crutcher

Sept 25

Liturgist	Jean Valsa
Video Director	
Greeter/Usher	
Fellowship Hosts	
Sunday School	Gail Crutcher

Are you willing to help with any of these jobs this summer? Let Pastor Hope know.

PRAYERS for the Week of September 4, 2022

If you have prayer updates or announcements to share, Please send them to Pastor Hope (pastorhope@richmonducc.org) AND our office email, (office@richmonducc.org). THANKS!

We will leave a person on our list for four weeks, unless asked to leave them on longer.

JOYS: Birthdays: Libby Valsa (Sept 4), Jim Speaker (Sept 6), Bill Vezina (Sept 9)

PRAYERS FOR:

Bill Haase

Those affected by floods and fires

Linda Swenson

Nicki Carter's aunt, Joan Groenwald née Herzog

Ongoing Prayers:

Cheryl Heber's father, Russell Koca

Patt Clymer, friend of the Molozaiys

Marti Swanson's brother, John

Lydia Blanton's friend, Natalie, and Natalie's family

Ella Watts, Melissa Jones's mother

Louise Strahs' niece, Amy Lenik

Our Congregational Prayer Partner this week is Bob Krueger. (Bob's address is 14595W Rockland Rd Unit 155, Libertyville IL, 60048 – he'd love a note!)

In the Wider Church: We pray for our neighbors in Christ: St. Peter United Church of Christ in Lake Zurich and their pastor, The Rev. Ruth Farrell.

With our Mission Partners: Exodus Worship Service says, "Praise God! A Burmese couple passed the citizenship test last Friday. We celebrate with them and the New Neighbor volunteer who met with them for several months to study." And also, "Pray for an Afghan family of 7 who is scheduled to arrive this week. Pray that their flight would not be delayed again, and that they can arrive as soon as possible to be reunited with their relatives in Chicagoland."

Members and Friends who are Homebound or in Nursing

Facilities: Mercedes Ahlgrim (New Mexico), Bob Krueger (Libertyville)

Ps. 36:7-9

Robert Robinson, 1758; alt.

1 Come, O Fount of ev-ery bless-ing, tune my heart to sing your grace;
 2 Here I pause in my so - jour-n-ing, giv-ing thanks for hav-ing come,
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I am drawn a - new!

streams of mer - cy, nev-er ceas-ing, call for songs of end-less praise.
 come to trust, at ev-ery turn-ing, God will guide me safe-ly home.
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to you.

Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a - bove.
 Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God,
 Prone to wan - der, I can feel it, wan-der from the love I've known:

Praise the mount; I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - fail - ing love.
 Came to res - cue me from dan - ger, bless - ed bod - y, pre - cious blood.
 Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your ver - y own.

Converted to Methodism at age twenty, Robert Robinson soon became a Calvinistic Methodist preacher and later gained great popularity. The melody, associated with this text since 1813, is an American folk tune.

Tune: NETTLETON 8.7.8.7.D.
 John Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, 1813

Lord, I Want To Be a Christian

454

*African-American spiritual**Deut. 6:5-6; 10:12-16*

1 Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart;
 2 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart,
 3 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart, in my heart;
 4 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

Refrain

In my heart, In my heart, in my heart,
 In my heart, in my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

Many of the enslaved of antebellum America did not want to become Christians because they did not want to adopt the religion of their captors. But this spiritual attests that the

Tune: I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN
 8.6.8.3. with refrain

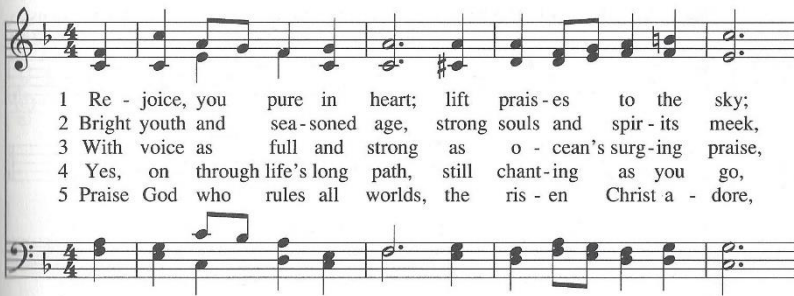
African-American spiritual

Rejoice, You Pure in Heart

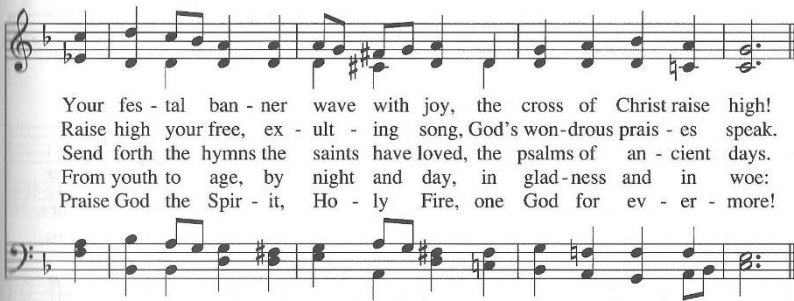
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Edward H. Plumpire, 1865; alt.

Ps. 20:5; Phil. 4:4



1 Re - joice, you pure in heart; lift prais - es to the sky;
2 Bright youth and sea - soned age, strong souls and spir - its meek,
3 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
4 Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as you go,
5 Praise God who rules all worlds, the ris - en Christ a - dore,



Your fes - tal ban - ner wave with joy, the cross of Christ raise high!
Raise high your free, ex - ult - ing song, God's won - drous prais - es speak.
Send forth the hymns the saints have loved, the psalms of an - cient days.
From youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe:
Praise God the Spir - it, Ho - ly Fire, one God for ev - er - more!

Refrain



Re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, give thanks and sing.
Re - joice Re - joice

This hymn, inspired by Philippians 4:4, was written for the Choral Festival held at Peterborough Cathedral in England. The author was an Anglican priest and a professor of theology

Tune: MARION S.M. with refrain
Arthur H. Messier, 1883
For an alternate setting, see 71