

Welcome to the Community Church of Richmond

United Church of Christ

Our Church at Worship on the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 4, 2024

10:00 A.M.

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

Welcome, visitors!

Join us after worship for coffee and conversation in the lounge, the room right next to the sanctuary.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

Penny Kraft

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Hope Molozaizy

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

GATHERING SONG "My Life is in You, Lord"

Chorus

My life is in You, Lord;

My strength is in You, Lord;

My hope is in You, Lord, in You, it's in You.

My life is in You, Lord,

My strength is in You, Lord;

My hope is in You Lord, in You, it's in You.

Verse

I will praise You with all of my life;

I will praise You with all of my strength.

With all of my life, with all of my strength,

All of my hope is in You.

Repeat Chorus

Tag **It's in You, it's in You. In You.**

Words and Music by Daniel Gardner © 1986 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

CALL TO WORSHIP and OPENING PRAYER

Jean Valsa

One: God calls us out of our isolation to join hands with our siblings in the community of faith. God calls us out of our confusion to speak to us from the Word and to inspire us by the Spirit. God calls us out of our sin to cleanse us through the Son and to enhance our lives with beauty and usefulness.

All: We have answered God's call by coming here this morning; let us worship God with joy!

One: Let us pray:

Eternal Christ, who knelt and prayed to God for us,
“That they may all be one.”

**All: Thank you for your vision of unity untorn,
of faith without division.**

One: We confess we have often strained the ties designed to hold
your followers within one common fold.

All: Christ, may your Spirit guide us back to your way.

One: Beyond the things that still divide us, let us find love’s all-
embracing bond.

All: Amen.

HYMN

“Come, O Fount of Every Blessing”

#459

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

WORD FOR ALL AGES

*The children are invited to the front of the church at this time.
Afterward, they can remain with their families for worship.*

SONG RESPONSE “The Whole World”

The whole world is in God’s hands (repeat 3 times)

The world is in God’s hands.

COVENANT OF THE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF RICHMOND

**By the call of the Creator, who binds in covenant
faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races,
we are bound earnestly to strive for the opening
of the minds and hearts of people to truth,
and to seek justice and peace
for the realization of humanity’s full potential.**

**We are bound in covenant to be
a congregation of the church of Jesus Christ,
to seek unity in our diversity,
and ordained to continue the work begun in God’s earthly
ministry.**

**We covenant under the guidance of the Holy Spirit
to be bound, one with another,
in worship and service as disciples of Jesus Christ,
and to walk together in God’s ways,
known or to be made known to us. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

The Story of Ruth 1:16-18

"Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God."

The Prophet Jeremiah 31:31-34

"But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."

The Gospel According to John 17:1-5, 18-23

"I pray they will be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you... Then the world will know that you sent me and that you have loved them just as you loved me."

MESSAGE 60 Years with the United Church of Christ:
 A People United by Covenant

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

HYMN "As the Grains of Wheat" #783

THE OFFERING

Invitation to Give

Prayer of Dedication (we say together)

Great God,

**We bring our offering, not to be rewarded,
but because we're grateful.**

We give, not from guilt, but because it's a joy to share.

We dedicate these gifts, not to pay bills,

but to empower a ministry that spreads the gospel.

Bless our giving, that through it,

we might achieve more than we can imagine. Amen.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Communion Prayer

Leader: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The prayer continues...

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.

Remembering the Story

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Each tray of bread also holds gluten free crackers; we serve grape juice rather than wine so that all people may share in this meal. Please hold the bread and the juice until all are served so we all may partake together.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (we say together)

**Almighty God,
we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior's presence
in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal.
Unite us with all who are fed by Christ
that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love
and that your universal church may be a rainbow of hope
in an uncertain world;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

*HYMN

"Shall We Gather at the River"

#597

NEWS OF THE CHURCH

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Pastoral Benediction

Sending Song "When the Lord's in You"

**When the Lord's in you, and the Lord's in me,
there's a bridge between our spirits,
wherever we may be.
'Til we meet again
let us hold the Mystery of the Lord in you and me.**

(Bryan Sirchio Used with permission. Crosswinds Music, Madison WI)

Call to worship, Chalice, p. 250 #75; opening prayer, HEAM from opening hymn; dedication, Baylor, Taught by Love, p. 119; Music shared under CCLI License #1908882

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

	<u>TODAY</u>	<u>August 11</u>
Liturgist	Jean Valsa	Nicki Carter
Video Director	Nicki Carter	
Greeter/Usher	Dick Strahs	
Fellowship Hosts	The Speakers	The Richardsons
Sunday School	N/A	NEEDED

CHURCH NEWS

FOR SERVICE

OUR NEXT BLOOD DRIVE is Tuesday, August 13, 3:30-7:30pm.
Please plan to give.

The Beach Picnic at Richardson Lake is TODAY!

I'm so excited to have you all at Richardson Beach from 4pm-7pm today .

Location: **9407 Richardson Rd. Spring Grove**

Instead of pulling into the Christmas Tree farm, go across the street to the lake. Follow the "paved path" down the hill to the LEFT around the lake until you arrive at the beach. This is a different path taken than last year. No worries, just follow the signs.

*******There is NO bathroom at the beach*******

You are welcome to drive to my house and use the bathroom, or go "outside", but be prepared.

- 1) Bring some food to share** like chips, salads, coleslaw, veggies/dip, smores fixins, baked beans, etc. Whatever is your picnic specialty. Items already being provided: Hot dogs, buns, ketchup, mustard, paper products, utensils, watermelon

PLEASE text me (Jean) at the number below with what you will be bringing so we can make sure our bases are covered.

2) BRING YOUR OWN:

Drinks/coolers, Lawn chairs, Fishing poles & accessories, Swimsuit, towel, sunscreen, life jacket, etc.

The best way to get a hold of me is by text/phone. If you have any questions, let me know, otherwise, I'll see you then!

Jean Valsa
309-212-0902

Saturday, August 17, 11am-1:30pm

Annual Beef Roast

We will again offer drive-thru sales in the parking lot and outdoor seating available for those who want to enjoy their meal on-site. Meals are \$17 this year for the all-inclusive beef roast meal. Bulk beef and pickles are available while supplies last and drinks are available for an extra cost.

You can help by inviting your friends and neighbors!

Find all the details on our Facebook page, and you can share it to help spread the word.

We need help in the days beforehand to set up the outdoor dining area and prep some food and supplies.

We need help on the 17th inside packaging the meals to go, taking orders and payments, and with general hosting duties.

Jim and Kathy Speaker are our main event organizers; let them know how you can help!

Community Church of Richmond, UCC Annual Beef Roast Dinner



5714 W. Broadway
Richmond II 60071

Saturday, August 17 11:00AM – 1:30PM

- ★ Tender Roast Beef
- ★ Baked Potato
- ★ Farm Fresh Corn on the Cob
- ★ Farm Fresh Tomatoes
- ★ Our Famous Pickles
- ★ Fresh Baked Dinner Rolls
- ★ Dessert



Price - \$17.00 Cash/Credit taken on site or web

EAT OUTSIDE OR TAKE OUT

To place your order:

Online at www.richmonducc.org or

Drive up on Saturday the 17th

Question? Email: treasurerichmonducc@gmail.com

Sunday, August 18

Outdoor Worship and Backpack Blessing

Bring your lawn chair for worship under the tent on the day after the Beef Roast.

And Pool & Dessert Party at George & Elise's home

Bring your swimming suit and a dessert to share to 9905 Falcon Dr, Richmond (just off of Hill Rd) as we wrap-up the summer with a pool party.



GIFT CARD ORDERING: Contact Penny Kraft to order gift cards for your regular shopping, dining out, gas stations, or, of course, for gifts! You can see a full list of vendors and the % we receive at www.raiseright.com/brands . 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 upper hallway.

Gift Card App We can also support this fundraiser through the RaiseRight app with your smartphone. Gift cards for many places are available digitally for you to purchase and then use right away at the store you're shopping in or the restaurant you're eating at! Using the app cuts down on our shipping costs and gets funds delivered back to the church account quickly. Penny Kraft, Ronnie Obara, and Kathy Speaker are all very familiar with using the app and can help you get started if you're interested.

PRAYERS for the WEEK OF August 4, 2024

If you have prayer updates or announcements to share, please send them to BOTH Pastor Hope (pastorhope@richmonducc.org) AND our office manager, Kathy Smietana (office@richmonducc.org). THANKS!
We will leave a person on our list for four weeks, unless asked to leave them on longer.

JOYS: Birthdays: Mike Anderson (8/8)

Jim and Kathy Speaker celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary today! The flowers on the altar are given in honor of that anniversary and we celebrate with them.

Sympathies for the Livingston/Zimmermann family on the passing of George's aunt, Dolores Friese.

PRAYERS FOR:

Bill Haase

Theresa Kaman's friend's infant, Charlotte

Theresa Kaman's grandmother, Maria

Robert Richardson

George Zimmermann's sister, Cheryl Shepherd

Charles Kemp's brother, David

Mike and Donna Anderson's sister-in-law, Mary DeRoos

Mike and Kathy Karch

Our country during this election season

Ongoing Prayers:

Rev. Ruth Costello

Louise Strah's niece, Amy

Mike Karch

Lenik

Bill Haase

Melissa Jones

Henry Eickelberg

Our Congregational Prayer Partner this week is Kim May.

In the Wider Church: We pray for our neighbors in Christ at First Congregational U.C.C. in Crystal Lake and their Senior Pastor, the Rev. Eric Fistler, and their Associate Pastor, the Rev. Emily Davis.

Members and Friends who are Homebound: Betty Waspi

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

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

OFFERTORY

783

Text and music: Marty Haugen, 1990

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once

scat-tered on the hill were gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;

so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to

one in you. you. 1 As this cup of bless-ing is
2 Let this be a fore-taste of

to Refrain

shared with-in our midst, may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all that is to come when all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Shall We Gather at the River

597

Robert Lowry, 1864; alt.

Rev. 22:1-5

1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
 3 As we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - ery bur - den down;
 4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;

with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
 we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.
 grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.
 soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain

Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er,

Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Written during a time when an epidemic was claiming many lives in New York, Robert Lowry's hymn raised the question "Shall we meet again?" Lowry was pastor at Hanson Place Baptist Church in Brooklyn from 1861 to 1869, and collaborated on numerous hymn collections with William H. Doane.

Tune: HANSON PLACE 8.7.8.7. with refrain
 Robert Lowry, 1864