

Welcome to the Community Church of Richmond

United Church of Christ

Our Church at Worship on the 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 13, 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

Pastor Hope Molozaizy

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

GATHERING SONG “Here in This Place”

Holy One may Your presence here open our minds.

May Your Spirit among us help us to find

**You are rising up now like a fountain of grace
from the holy ground**

Here in this place.

Here in this place.

Repeat

Words and Music: Christopher Grundy, Copyright ©2008. All rights reserved

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

Jean Valsa

One: Here we are again, carrying our hearts' desires, our hurts and our hopes. Bring them all to God - everything that makes you who you are. Hand them all to God as we gather and we worship.

Let us pray.

Glory to you, O God, from the highest heaven to the depths of the earth! You are our creator, our parent.

You love us; you know us; you call us to you.

All: Glory to you, O God.

One: You bless us with life, with homes and families, with work and play.

But earth is not heaven.

We enjoy, but also grieve; we play but also cry.

All: Glory to you, O God.

One: Sometimes we're overwhelmed by all that the world throws at us and those we love, but evil will not have the final say; love wins every time.

All: Glory to you, O God.

One: Remind us that Jesus knew the pain and weakness of human life - that he was hungry and thirsty, lonely and tired - and he never gave up trusting that you were with him.

He trusted love would win.

All: Glory to you, O God.

One: As we worship today, help us trust again in your light, hope in your word, and live in your presence, for love will win in the end, always and forever.

All: Glory to you, O God.

One: Glory to you, O God. Amen.

SONG "Your Grace is Enough"

Verse 1: **Great is Your faithfulness O God;
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart.
You lead me by still waters into mercy,
where nothing can keep us apart.**

Bridge: **So remember Your people;
remember Your children;
Remember Your promise, O God.**

Chorus: **Your grace is enough!
Your grace is enough!
Your grace is enough for me.**

Verse 2: **Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob;
You use the weak to lead the strong.
You lead us in the song of heaven's vict'ry;
And all Your people sing along.**

Bridge: **So remember Your people;
remember Your children;
Remember Your promise, O God.**

Chorus: **Your grace is enough!
Your grace is enough!
Your grace is enough for me.**

Repeat chorus

Final tag: **For me**

Lyrics and music, Matt Maher

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM

WORD FOR ALL AGES

The children are invited to the front of the church at this time. Afterward, they are dismissed to Sunday School for the remainder of worship. They will return upstairs at the end of worship.

SONG RESPONSE “The Spirit in Me”

**The spirit in me greets the spirit in you, Al-le-lu-ia.
God’s in us and we’re in God, Al-le-lu-ia.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Our story begins with 1 Samuel 1:9-20, 24-28. It tells about the birth of Samuel, who became the last of the judges. His mother, Hannah, prayed deeply for him. When he was born, Hannah dedicated her son to God’s service. When she left him in God’s care, she sang this song of praise (1Samuel 2:1-8):

Hannah prayed and said,

“My heart exults in the Lord;
my strength is exalted in my God.
My mouth derides my enemies
because I rejoice in your victory.

There is no Holy One like the Lord,
no one besides you;
there is no Rock like our God.
Talk no more so very proudly;
let not arrogance come from your mouth,
for the Lord is a God of knowledge,
and by him actions are weighed.
The bows of the mighty are broken,
but the feeble gird on strength.
Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread,
but those who were hungry are fat with spoil.
The barren has borne seven,
but she who has many children is forlorn.
The Lord kills and brings to life;
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.
The Lord makes poor and makes rich;
he brings low; he also exalts.

He raises up the poor from the dust;
he lifts the needy from the ash heap
to make them sit with princes
and inherit a seat of honor.
For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's,
and on them he has set the world.

MESSAGE Having Words with God: Hannah's Bargain

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

HYMN "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" RED Hymnal, #25

TIME OF PRAYER

Pastoral Prayer

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.

THE OFFERING

Invitation to Give

Prayer of Dedication (we say together)

**Holy God, maker of us all,
receive our offerings this day.
Take all that we have, accept all that we do:
it is all for you and for your glory. Amen.**

*HYMN "Sweet Hour of Prayer" #505

NEWS OF THE CHURCH

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Pastoral Benediction

Sending Song "Lord, Make Me More Holy"

**Lord, make me more holy. Lord, make me more holy.
Lord, make me more holy until we meet again.
Holy, holy, holy, until we meet again.**

Call to Worship, Opening prayer, Prayer of Dedication, adapted from Spill the Beans, Issue 20, pp. 52 and 36; Music shared under CCLI License #1908882

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

TODAY

October 20

Liturgist	Jean Valsa	Mike Kennedy
Video Director	Nicki Carter	
Usher	Dick Strahs	
Greeter	Elise L. & George Z.	Ron Obara
Fellowship Hosts		Nicki Carter
Sunday School	Cheryl Heber	The Tedders

The altar flowers are in honor of Yvonne Kemp, who would have celebrated her birthday today.

AT CHURCH THIS WEEK

Today, Worship & Spiritual Growth meeting, 11:15am
Monday, Cabinet meeting, 6:30pm via Zoom

CHURCH NEWS

FOR CONNECTION:

PUMPKIN CARVING NIGHT: Thursday, October 24th, 6:00-7:30PM. Come enjoy pumpkin carving with your church friends! Sign up in the lounge by Sunday, October 20th so we can provide pumpkins for everyone. We won't be providing a meal, so families can either eat before they come or bring their own dinner to eat in the fellowship hall.

ALL SAINTS DAY

We will recognize All Saints Day on Sunday, November 3rd during the worship service. In addition to remembering church members, we also remember family members and close friends that have passed during this last year. If you would like someone's name to be listed, please email Kathy at office@richmonducc.org no later than October 30.

FOR SERVICE:

STEWARDSHIP PLEDGES: Last week, we handed out the stewardship packets. If you didn't receive yours, check to see if it's at the front of the church. Please return all pledge cards by Sunday, Oct 20.

HURRICANE HELENE APPEAL: As we continue to pray for and respond to those who have experienced unimaginable loss this past week, please consider a gift to the Hurricane Helene Recovery Appeal of the United Church of Christ. You may clearly mark your giving envelope "Hurricane relief" and leave it in the offering plate, or donate directly online at <https://support.ucc.org/hurricane-helene-relief>

NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING

The annual Neighbors in Need offering, which we will receive through October, supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two-thirds of the offering is used by our Justice and Witness Ministries to fund local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Working with thousands of justice and peace advocates, Justice and Witness continues work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, health care, immigration, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice.

One-third of Neighbors in Need giving supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Forebears of the UCC worked with many tribes across the northern Plains states. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM as are the more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations in the U.S.

Please clearly mark your check or giving envelope with "Neighbors in Need" or use one of the special envelopes available.

Trivia Night Returns!

Saturday, November 9, Doors open at 6PM,
First Question is at 7PM
at the **Richardson Adventure Farm Event Room**

Form your team (up to 8 people) and as a team answer 4 rounds of trivia questions over the course of 2-3 hours. Points are awarded for correct answers and the winning team wins trophies, their name on the large trophy kept here at church, and endless glory. Teams are encouraged to bring their own snacks; beverages of many types are available for purchase.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO KNOW A LOT OF TRIVIA to enjoy Trivia Night! While Trivia is the main event, there are other fun games during the evening, as well as the eating, drinking, the silent auction, and general merriment!

How can you help?

Spread the word!! The best way to get people to come to an event for the first time is to invite them.

Plan to come! There is no embarrassment at this event. Even teams that know very little trivia have a great time, and all our team answers for the questions are written down and turned in at the end of the round, so no one knows what you don't know.

*Registration forms will be available soon.

Donate something for the silent auction. See below for details

Bring your checkbook or plenty of cash, so you can bid big at the silent auction!

Silent Auction

Dawn Conley puts together baskets for the Trivia Night Silent Auction. If you have empty baskets from previous years, we could repurpose those again or you can donate empty baskets of your own or from the thrift stores.

You can put together a themed basket of your own making, or donate a single, new item or gift card (purchased through Penny!) and Dawn will assemble the basket. Any new items that might make a treasure for someone are welcome! Let Dawn know what you plan to donate; call, text, or email her at 815-236-5982 or conley8405@gmail.com. The deadline for baskets is Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2024.

PRAYERS for the WEEK OF October 13, 2024

JOYS: Happy Birthday to Dave Heber! (10/14)

We are thankful for school successes, the improved health of our loved ones, and the many other blessings in each of our lives.

PRAYERS FOR:

Cheryl Kazimier's brother-in-law, Robert Sciog

Margaret Molozaai's teacher

Henry Eickelberg

Deann Workmon's grandsons, serving in the Navy

Carol Sligting's daughter and family

Ongoing Israeli conflict

Jim and Kathy Speaker's friend, Gayle

Those impacted by Hurricane Helene, including George & Elise's daughter, Caroline, and her family

Those who are grieving

Jan Revelle

Penny & Jim Kraft's friend, Jeff

MaryAnn Keil's son-in-law, Nick Ciko

Joshua Canady, son of Jennifer Canady who cleans our building

George Zimmermann's sister, Cheryl Shepherd

Ongoing Prayers:

Betty Waspi's son-in-law, Wayne Japp

Robert Richardson

Rev. Ruth Costello

Mike Karch

Bill Haase

Henry Eickelberg

Louise Strah's niece, Amy Lenik

Melissa Jones

Our Congregational Prayer Partners this week are Marti Swanson and Henry Eickelberg.

In the Wider Church: We pray for our neighbors in Christ at St. John's U.C.C. Harmony in Hampshire and their Pastor, the Rev. David Bateman.

Members and Friends who are Homebound: Betty Waspi

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Ps. 103

Joachim Neander, 1680

Tr. Catherine Winkworth and others

LOBE DEN HERREN 14.14.4.7.8.

Stralsund Gesangbuch, 1665

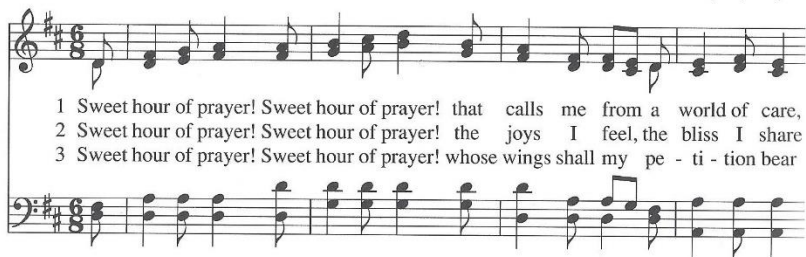
1. Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won - drous - ly
 3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy work and de -
 4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and sal -
 reign - eth, Shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so gent - ly sus -
 fend thee; Sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy here dai - ly at -
 dore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with prais - es be -

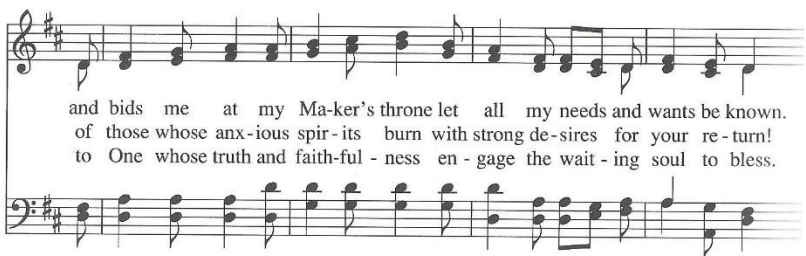
va - tion! Come, ye who hear, Broth - ers and
 tain - eth! Hast thou not seen All that is
 tend thee. Pon - der a - new All the Al -
 fore him. Let the A - men Sound from his

sis - ters draw near; Praise him in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 need - ful hath been Grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 might - y can do, He who with love doth be - friend thee.
 peo - ple a - gain: Glad - ly for aye we a - dore him.

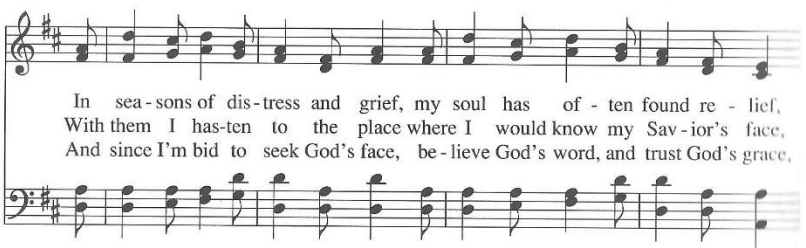
Sweet Hour of Prayer

William Walford, 1845; alt.


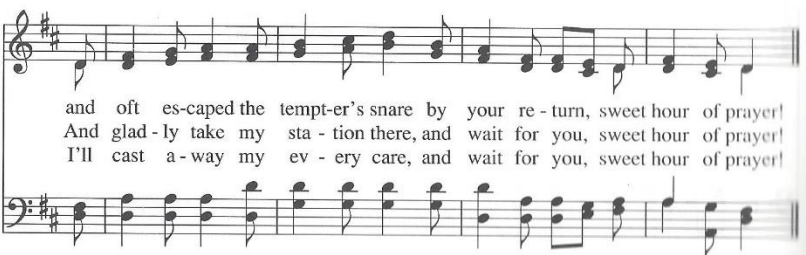
1 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! that calls me from a world of care,
 2 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! the joys I feel, the bliss I share
 3 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! whose wings shall my pe - ti - tion bear



and bids me at my Ma-ker's throne let all my needs and wants be known.
 of those whose anx-ious spir-its burn with strong de-sires for your re-turn!
 to One whose truth and faith-ful - ness en - gage the wait - ing soul to bless.



In sea-sons of dis-tress and grief, my soul has of - ten found re - lief,
 With them I has-ten to the place where I would know my Sav-ior's face,
 And since I'm bid to seek God's face, be - lieve God's word, and trust God's grace,



and oft es-caped the tempt-er's snare by your re - turn, sweet hour of prayer!
 And glad - ly take my sta - tion there, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!
 I'll cast a - way my ev - ery care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!

Although credited to a different poet when first published in 1845, researchers believe this hymn was written by William Walford. William Bradbury, a highly trained musician, sang under Lowell Mason in Boston and also wrote "Jesus

Tune: SWEET HOUR L.M.D.
 William B. Bradbury, 1861