

# Welcome to the Community Church of Richmond

## United Church of Christ

Our Church at Worship on the 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 15, 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 "Everlasting God"

Verse: **Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord,  
we will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord.  
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord,  
we will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord.**

Bridge: **Our God, You reign forever.  
Our hope, our strong Deliv'rer.**

Chorus: **You are the everlasting God, the everlasting God,  
You do not faint, You won't grow weary.  
You're the defender of the weak, You comfort those in need;  
You lift us up on wings like eagles.**

Repeat Verse

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CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER George Zimmermann

One: In the midst of life's storms, God is there.

**All: What have we to fear?**

One: In terrifying and confusing times, God is with us.

**All: Of whom shall we be afraid?**

One: Rise up, people of God, for you are loved and saved.

**All: Loved and safe, we worship to give thanks to God.**

One: Let us pray.

Blessed are You, O Lord our God,  
Wellspring of all that is.

One: You are the sea on which we float,  
**All: You are the wind that fills our sails,**  
One: You are the storm that buffets us,  
**All: You are the calm that brings us peace.**  
One: Open our ears to hear Your word,  
**All: Open our eyes to see Your beauty,**  
One: Open our hearts to be warmed by Your love.  
**All: Free us from our lonely prisons of fear and selfishness,  
And make us over, day by day,  
into bearers of Your peace. Amen.**

HYMN

“Stars and Planets Flung in Orbit”

#567

TIME OF CONFESSION

Call to Confession

Prayer (we say together)

**Merciful God,  
when lashed by life’s windstorms  
we often lash out in return.  
Forgive us  
when we blame you or others  
for our troubles.  
Teach us to find you  
in the eye of the storm.  
Show us the calm center  
that comes from a word of peace.**

Moment of Quiet

Words of Assurance

**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 are dismissed to Sunday School for the remainder of  
worship. They will return upstairs at the end of worship.*

SONG RESPONSE “Thank God”

**Thank God, thank God, thanks in the morning,  
Thanks in the noontime;  
Thank God, thank God, thanks when the sun goes down.**

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Genesis 1:1-5

When God began to create the heavens and the earth, the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

### Psalm 131

O Lord, my heart is not lifted up;  
my eyes are not raised too high;  
I do not occupy myself with things  
too great and too marvelous for me.  
But I have calmed and quieted my soul,  
like a weaned child with its mother;  
my soul is like the weaned child that is with me.  
O Israel, hope in the Lord  
from this time on and forevermore.

### The Gospel according to Mark 4:35-41

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion, and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" And waking up, he rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Be silent! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

MESSAGE      Spiritual Stretches for Faithful Fitness:  
Consecrate Our Chaos

### **WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD**

HYMN            "When Peace like a River"

#438

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)

**Thank you, God, for filling our lives with good things.  
Bless what we return to you today.  
May these gifts be like seeds of your kingdom,  
growing beyond our control to feed the world in body and  
spirit. Amen.**

\*HYMN

“Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me”

#441

NEWS OF THE CHURCH

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Pastoral Benediction

Sending Song “Amen”

**Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen.**

Opening prayer, by Richard Rosenberg, on <http://www.worldprayers.org/>; confession — Adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2012, © 2011 Abingdon Press. Posted on <http://www.ministrymatters.com/>; Music shared under CCLI License #1908882

*Over the next couple of weeks, Pastor Hope will share some “spiritual stretches for faithful fitness.” The coming weeks will focus on meeting your fears with love and practicing prophetic grief. She is drawing heavily on the book Dancing in the Darkness: Spiritual Lessons for Thriving in Turbulent Times by UCC pastor, The Rev. Otis Moss III, published by Simon & Schuster, copyright 2023 by Reverend Otis Moss III. The book is widely available through booksellers if you would like to read it yourself.*

## **WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**

### **TODAY**

**September 22**

**Liturgist**

George Zimmermann

Ron Obara

**Video Director**

Nicki Carter

**Greeter/Usher**

Dick Strahs

**Fellowship Hosts**

Aidan Zimmermann

The Tedders

**Sunday School**

Gail Crutcher

Gail Crutcher

Today, following worship, all liturgists and anyone who might serve as a greeter or usher going forward is asked to meet with Pastor Hope at the front of the church.

## **CHURCH NEWS**

### **FOR CONNECTION**

#### **FELLOWSHIP & STUDY OPPORTUNITY!**

Fellowship and Bible study are ways we can fan the flame of our faith. Join Katie Anderson-Tedder for TWO MORE Tuesdays of fellowship and bible study. The group continues to gather in the Lounge on Tuesdays at 6:30p.m. thru September 24<sup>th</sup>. It's not too late to join! All are welcome.

**THE ILLINOIS CONFERENCE WOMEN'S RETREAT** is October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> at Pilgrim Park Camp and Retreat Center in Princeton, IL. Pastor Hope will attend and has attended many years in the past as well as several other church members. This year we'll explore the theme of **Enough** as mentioned in the Bible and how it affects our lives – Enough already! Am I Enough? What is Enough? and much more. There will be Enough time to unwind, study the Bible in experiential ways, get to know one another, work on a service project, take a walk around the beautiful grounds of Pilgrim Park, and even take a nap.

If you're curious about attending, talk to Pastor Hope. It is also possible to attend on Saturday only if that works better for your schedule. Pilgrim Park is about 2.25 hours from Richmond. Financial assistance is available.

### **CHURCH OUTING TO RICHARDSON ADVENTURE FARM**

#### **NEXT SUNDAY! Sunday, September 22, 2024, 3 p.m.**

Rob and Carol Richardson have graciously donated a campfire/picnic site and corn maze entrance for our church family to hang out and explore! We are asking for a \$10/per person donation that will go to church. Also, we'll share an early dinner,

roasting hot dogs. We will supply paper goods, etc. Please, sign up to bring something to share. The sign-up sheet is in the lounge.

Please remember that while the Adventure Farm is fun for all, this event is only for the Community Church, not extended family or friends. Thanks.

Golf cart rides to the campfire site are available to those who are uncomfortable walking.

### **FOR SERVICE**

**HYGIENE ITEMS NEEDED** The attendees of the Women's Retreat are collecting items for hygiene kits for The Harbour, an agency that serves homeless women and children in Park Ridge. Through **September 29**, we are collecting small/trial size hygiene items: toothbrush, toothpaste, nail clipper, bar soap, deodorant, etc. As always, thank you for your generosity!

**MEN'S SING** September 29! ALL the men of the church are joyfully encouraged to arrive at church by 9:20 that day and rehearse with Kim to offer a fun, familiar musical piece in worship that day. Never sung in a choir before? Don't worry, Kim's a professional music trainer, and the Holy Spirit does great things!

**DO YOU HAVE BEAUTIFUL SUMMER/FALL FLOWERS?** Please consider sharing them with the congregation. Let Jonathan Kaman know when you would like to bring them in to put on the altar. If you would like to order flowers, please contact Jonathan at 815-347-5035

### **RICHMOND & SPRING GROVE FOOD PANTRY**

During the summer months, the food pantry experiences a decline in giving. We are collecting food items now to help them keep the shelves stocked. Please drop off food items in the basket in the sanctuary.



## **CABINET UPDATE**

The Church Cabinet met last Monday evening. Here are a few updates:

**Finances:** We ended August with about \$23,000 in the general fund, and about \$99,000 total in our combined, non-endowment funds. We hope not to take any more money from our savings CDs during 2024, but will need to keep an eye on the general fund. The Beef Roast brought in just over \$3500.

**Events:** We talked about scheduling an all-church cleaning day, possibly this fall. We could get into some deep cleaning and care of our building that the cleaning service can't get to. Stay tuned. We will take part in the Village's Trunk R Treat event on Saturday, Oct 12; Elise is heading up that effort but would appreciate support. Trivia Night will be held November 9 at Richardson Farm Event Room. The downtown businesses Hot Cocoa Walk will be December 7 and we plan to participate in that similar to last year.

**People:** It's about that time of year when we start to discern who will be the next Vice President of the Congregation. Elise will be finishing her 2<sup>nd</sup> year as President and stepping down from that position. We expect George Livingston, current VP, will become the next President and we need a new VP. It's also a good time to discern possible new leadership for other congregational roles. Many of our officers and cabinet members will continue to serve in their respective positions if they need to. They will typically continue on faithfully and diligently. Also, many of them wouldn't mind if there were someone else to step into those roles, even if just for a year, or to share those roles. If you feel anything that might be a nudge from the Holy Spirit to step into a different way of serving the church, talk to Pastor Hope or President Elise.

The next Cabinet meeting will be October 14, at 6:30, on Zoom.

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

Trivia Night is  
Saturday, November 9, 2024

## **PRAYERS for the WEEK OF September 15, 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: Jan Revelle (9/18); Katie Anderson Tedder and Gail Crutcher (9/20)

As summer nears its end, we give thanks to God for Jim Speaker mowing the lawn again this summer for no charge to the church.

### **PRAYERS FOR:**

Joshua Canady, son of Jennifer Canady who cleans our building  
George Zimmermann's sister, Cheryl Shepherd  
Phyllis Kazimier's nephew, Bill Haacker  
Aidan Zimmermann's neighbors  
Peace in the Middle East  
Pastor Hope's friend, Timoth  
Theresa Kaman's friend, Cheryl  
Robert Richardson

### **Ongoing Prayers:**

Rev. Ruth Costello  
Mike Karch  
Bill Haase  
Henry Eickelberg  
Louise Strah's niece, Amy Lenik  
Melissa Jones

**Our Congregational Prayer Partners** this week are Ralph and Connie Runnfeldt.

**In the Wider Church:** We pray for our neighbors in Christ at St. Paul U.C.C. in Elgin and their Pastor, the Rev. Liz Patz.

**Members and Friends who are Homebound:** Betty Waspi



Ps. 148

Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1989

1 Stars and plan - ets flung in or - bit, gal - ax - ies that  
 2 Skies a - dorned with sun - set splen - dor, si - lent peaks in  
 3 Life in won - drous, wild pro - fu - sion, seed and fruit, each  
 4 Hu - man - kind, earth's deep - est mys - tery, born of dust but

swirl through space, Pow - ers hid with - in the at - om,  
 calm re - pose, Gold - en fields a - wait - ing har - vest,  
 flower and tree, Beast and fish and swarm - ing in - sect,  
 touched by grace, Torn a - part by tongue and col - or,

cells that form an in - fant's face: These, O God, in  
 foam - ing surf and fra - grant rose: Earth, its boun - ty  
 soar - ing bird, re - joic - ing, free: These, your crea - tures,  
 yet a sin - gle, striv - ing race: We, in whom you

si - lence praise you; by your wis - dom they are made.  
 clothed with beau - ty, ech - oes all cre - a - tion's praise.  
 join in cho - rus, prais - ing you in word - less song.  
 trace your im - age, add our words to na - ture's song.

Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., began his ministry as a parish pastor. His long association with Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg began in 1962 when he joined the faculty as professor of preaching, and continued until 1989 when he retired as president emeritus.

Tune: LAUDA ANIMA 8.7.8.7.8.7.  
 John Goss, 1869

# When Peace, Like a River (It Is Well with My Soul)

Ps. 146; Col. 1:19-23; 2:13-14; 3 John 1:2

Horatio G. Spafford, 1873; alt.

1 When peace, like a riv - er, up - holds me each day, when  
 2 Though e - vil should tempt me, though tri - als should come, let  
 3 My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought—my  
 4 O God, speed the day that is filled with your light, when

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, What - ev - er my lot, you have  
 this blessed as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ has re - gard - ed my  
 sin— not in part, but the whole— Is nailed to the cross and I  
 clouds are rolled back as a scroll; The trum - pet shall sound and the

*Refrain*

taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."  
 help - less es - tate, and has paid life and blood for my soul:  
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! It is  
 Lord shall ap - pear, "e - ven so"— it is well with my soul.

well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
 It is well with my soul.

*This hymn was written out of grief over the loss of the author's four daughters in the sinking of the SS Ville du Havre. After leaving his Chicago law practice, Horatio G. Spafford and his wife settled in Jerusalem.*

Tune: VILLE DU HAVRE 11.8.11.9. with refrain  
 Philip P. Bliss, 1876

# Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

441

Edward Hopper, 1871; alt.

Mark 4:35-41

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The vocal line features a melody with a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure of each system. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic foundation with chords and moving lines. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

1 Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me o - ver life's tem-pes-tuous sea;  
2 As a moth - er stills her child, you can hush the o - cean wild;  
3 When at last I near the shore, and the fear - ful break-ers roar,

Un - known waves be - fore me roll, hid - ing rock and treach-erous shoal;  
Bois-terous waves o - bey your will when you say to them, "Be still."  
Keep - ing me from peace-ful rest, then, while lean - ing on your breast,

Chart and com - pass ev - er be; Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.  
Won-drous Sov - ereign of the sea, Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.  
May I hear your words so true, "Fear not, I will pi - lot you."

Inspired by the many sailors in his congregation in New York City, Edward Hopper wrote these lines. They were first sung for an anniversary service of the American Seamen's Friend Society at Broadway Tabernacle (Congregational).

Tune: PILOT 7.7.7.7.7.  
John E. Gould, 1871