



*\*for those able, please stand*

Gathering Music & Lighting of Candles

Centering Silence

Prelude “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”  
*arr. Larson*

Words of Welcome  
*This is the day that our God has made...  
let us rejoice and be glad in it!*

\*Opening Song “As We Gather” (2x) #646

\*Sharing God's Peace

Preparing our Hearts

Reading “Could you Embrace That?”  
*Thomas Aquinas*

Choral Anthem “If My People Will Pray”  
*Owens*

Reading “God's Ways”  
*Adapted from a poem by Edwina Gately*

A Time of Offering & Announcements  
*Today's Pockets of Plenty Offering will benefit  
FISH food bank.*

God is good .... **all the time...**  
and all the time... **God is good!**

Children's Time *Heather Lytle*

**I am a child of God,  
nothing can shake my confidence;  
I am a child of God,  
no one can take my inheritance;  
Never alone I'll stand,  
strengthened by God's own hand,  
I am a child, I am a child, a child of God.**

Bible Bits & Scripture Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
Mark 1:14-20

Sermon  
“The Holy Nudge to Loving Kindness”

Silent Reflection

Song of Response 2x  
**Here are our hearts. Here are our hands.  
Here are our lives. Use them as You can.  
Show us those who hurt. Show us those in need.  
Show us how to serve. Teach us how to see.**



A Time of Prayer  
*God in your grace... **Hear Our Prayers***

\*The Prayer of Jesus  
*As created by Riverside's Greatest Prayer Group*

**O Giver of all life,  
clear a space within us for your light to dwell.  
Create your holy reign of justice and love  
here today, on Earth,  
through our fiery hearts and willing hands.  
Give us the bread and strength we need for this day.  
Forgive us the harm that we do to all that you love,  
as we forgive those who harm us.  
And lead us not into numbness, distraction, or greed,  
but bring us back from our fears.  
For You are the source of all that is good and holy—now  
and forever. Amen.**

\*Closing Song  
“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”  
#347

\*Benediction  
*You are welcome to be seated after the Benediction*

\*Postlude “Spanish Trumpet Joy” *arr. Harris*

Rev. John Boonstra | Guest Preacher & Doug Roof | Worship Leader  
Diana Beterbide, Pianist, Organist, Chancel Choir Director  
Dave Kaplowe | Youth Volunteer & Kristen Daly | Nursery Care Provider  
Betty Shalhope, Sandy Spellecy & Elaine Johnson | Diaconate Team  
Beth Hartwell & Heather Nielsen | Readers  
Kim Vogel | Audio Visual & Sound System  
Barb Dworschak | Hospitality

**Welcome to Riverside Community Church**  
*United Church of Christ*

**VISITORS** We are blessed to worship with you today. Thank you for the gift of your presence. We invite you to fill out a “welcome card” and place it in the offering plate or give it to Pastor Vicky after the service.

**CHILDREN AT RIVERSIDE** We joyfully welcome children of all ages at Riverside. Those 5+ are invited to join Dave Kaplowe for Sunday School after Children’s Time. Those birth-age 4 are invited to the nursery, located in the Fireside Room from 10:15 am – 12 noon.

**THIS WEEK & NEXT SUNDAY AT RIVERSIDE**

**Today.** All are welcome after worship for coffee & conversation in the Riverview Room.

**Tuesday.** Bible Study at Down Manor 10:30-11:30 AM  
Circles of Solace 5:30 PM

**Wednesday.** Meditative Prayer - 3:30 PM | Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM

**CELEBRATION OF SERVICE AWARD** Today is the final day to submit your nomination to honor a friend or member of RCC for their Christian witness of service to neighbor. Forms are available in the Riverview Room.

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NEXT SUNDAY**

All Riverside members and friends are invited to participate as we recognize and celebrate our ministry in 2023 and make important decisions for the year ahead. Topics include leadership, budget, bylaws, the upcoming capital campaign and presentation of the Celebration of Service award. Lunch & childcare provided. Materials will be available early next week.

**COMMUNITY ACTION** Friday January 26 4 PM. In conjunction with a National Day of Action there will be a community action for Gaza ceasefire now! Gathering at the flagpole of State and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets.

**MEMORIAL SERVICE** for David Warnock will be held February 17 at 2 PM and for Helmut Riedel on February 24 at 2 PM.

*Riverside is blessed by your presence.*

**We are . . .**

. . . a vibrant, Spirit-filled community of people who seek to follow in the ways of Jesus: loving our neighbors, doing justice and sharing the extravagant welcome of God with the whole of creation.

. . . an “Open and Affirming” congregation—affirming the full inclusion of gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender persons (LGBTQ+) in the church's life and ministry.

. . . an “Immigrant Welcoming” congregation—called by our faith to stand together with our undocumented and documented immigrant brothers & sisters and their families.

We seek to honor and protect the gifts of God’s creation--divesting our financial resources from the fossil fuel industry, reinvesting in renewable energy and reducing our use of fossil fuels.

Riverside’s youth ministry team supports: Sunday School, teen groups, and Our Whole Lives (OWL)--a comprehensive human sexuality program. *Contact Youth Leader Katie Cook at [katie@riversideucc.com](mailto:katie@riversideucc.com).*

Our Justice and Witness team promotes engagement with the Warming Shelter, FISH Food Bank, Somos Uno, Columbia Gorge Climate Action Network. *Contact Ann Harris at [harris.annj@gmail.com](mailto:harris.annj@gmail.com)*

Our "Cheers" team offers care, comfort and meals to those with health, aging issues, new parenthood or other transitions. *Contact Pastor Vicky if you have a need: [pastor@riverssideucc.com](mailto:pastor@riverssideucc.com)*

More ways to connect, learn and feed the spirits of those of all ages: Men’s Discussion Group, monthly book group, adult education classes and a Tuesday Bible study & reflection group. *Contact [office@riversideucc.com](mailto:office@riversideucc.com) for more information.*

Keep up on what’s happening! Sign up for our weekly online newsletter, *The Current*, by contacting editor Kathy Watson, [kathy@watsonx2.com](mailto:kathy@watsonx2.com). Or visit our Facebook page: Riverside Community Church, UCC.

On the Web: Riverside’s web site, [www.riversideucc.com](http://www.riversideucc.com), includes: a calendar of all events, the most recent Current newsletters, a way to give electronically, and everything about the life of our congregation.

Riverside is one of more than 5,000 communities of faith that make up the “*United Church of Christ*” (UCC). The UCC has been on the cutting edge of justice movements in the U.S. since its work to abolish slavery in the 1800’s. For more information about the United Church of Christ visit <http://www.ucc.org>

*For more information about Riverside  
contact the church office at 541-386-1412 OR [office@riversideucc.com](mailto:office@riversideucc.com)  
or visit [www.riversideucc.com](http://www.riversideucc.com)*



*“Tara – Beauty4AshesArt*

**Riverside Community Church**  
**United Church of Christ**

**Sunday, January 21, 2024**