

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH

United Church of Christ

Sunday, May 5, 2024

**for those able, please stand*

Gathering Music & Lighting of Candles

Centering Silence & Prayer

Prelude

Words of Welcome

This is the Day that our God Has Made . . .

Let Us Rejoice and Be Glad in it!

*Opening Song “Gather Us In” #649

*Sharing God’s Peace “Weave” *Rosemary Crow*

***Weave. Weave, Weave us together.
Weave us together in unity and love.
Weave. Weave, weave us together
Weave us together, together in love.***

Preparing Our Hearts

Reading “Abide” *Steve Garnaas-Holmes*

Special Music

Reading “The Turtle” *Mary Oliver*

A Time of Offering & Opportunity

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

Children’s Time

***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 John 15: 5-17

Sermon “Bearers of Fruit”

Silent Reflection

Song of Response “Gloria, Gloria” #240 2x

Celebration of Holy Communion

This is Christ’s table and all are welcome. Please come forward by the center aisle and return by the side aisles. If you would like to remain seated, raise your hand and we will gladly come to you.

Communion Song “One Bread, One Body” #689

A Time of Prayer

*God in your grace... **Hear Our Prayers***

*The Prayer of Jesus

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

*Closing Song “Abide With Me” #521 v.1 & 3

*Benediction

*Congregational Response

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

Rev. Vicky Stifter | Minister
Steve Chance | Youth Program Volunteer | Kristen Daly | Nursery Care Provider
Kristen Warnock | Guitar & Vocals | Nate Gebhard | Piano
Karen Jones & Sandy Spellecy | Diaconate
Donna McCoy & Elaine Thompson | Readers
Liz Barteld & James Holloway | Hospitality
Kim Vogel | Audio-Visual System

Welcome to Riverside Community Church

United Church of Christ

GUESTS 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 Steve Chance 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 in the Riverview Room for coffee, and conversation.
- Special congregational meeting to consider the Proposed Resolution for a Ceasefire in Gaza.
- **Tuesday.** Bible Study at Down Manor 10:30-11:30 AM.
- **Wednesday.** Adult Education & Spiritual Nurture Board at 11:30 AM
- Diaconate 2 PM | Meditation 3:30 – 4:30 PM | Circles of Solace 5:30 – 7:00 PM.
- **Thursday.** Cheers meets at 10:30 AM Ruth Wells Room
- Inquirer’s Gathering at 5:30 PM
- **Saturday.** Celebration of Life for Vic Pavlenko 3:00 PM
- **Sunday.** Council meets in the Ruth Wells Room at 12:15.

COMMUNITY ACTION FOR PEACE Join us for an interfaith gathering for peace and a permanent ceasefire in Gaza. Fridays at 2nd and State Street, 4:30-5:00 p.m.

FISH FOOD BANK. Riverside’s week to help at FISH Food bank. Contact Judith Poage at 541-990-2209 or orheyjude@gorge.net

INQUIRER’S GATHERING Interested in learning more about Riverside? Join us for a soup supper, a time of sharing about our spiritual journeys and conversation on May 9th 5:30 – 7 PM. RSVP’s appreciated by noon on May 7 pastor@riversideucc.com.

CARPET REPLACEMENT. The sanctuary will be closed and under maintenance while new carpet is installed! May 21 – 24th.

DRUMMING with Clayton Miles Have an interest in learning how to drum? Thursday, June 6, 5:30 p.m. at Riverside. \$35 per person. Contact stu@watsonx2.com to register.



Welcome to Riverside Community Church.

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We are blessed by your presence.

Bienvenidos a la iglesia Riverside. Su presencia es una bendición para nosotros.

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 striving to reduce 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 541.980.0505 or katie@riversideucc.com.

Our Justice and Witness & Immigrant Welcoming teams promote engagement with the Warming Shelter, FISH Food Bank, Somos Uno, Columbia Gorge Climate Action Network. Contact Ann Harris at 541-806-2525 or 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: 541-38-1412 / pastor@riversideucc.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 or call 541.386.1412 for more information.

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

On the Web: Riverside’s web site, 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 or visit www.riversideucc.com

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Visit our Facebook page: Riverside Community Church, UCC



“The Vine and the Branches” Laura Sotka

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