

**RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH**

United Church of Christ

*\*for those able, please stand*

Gathering Music & Lighting of Candles

Centering Silence & Prayer

Prelude

“Christians, We Have Met to Worship *with  
O Worship the King*” Moore, arr. Larson

Words of Welcome

This is the Day that our God Has Made . . .  
**Let Us Rejoice and Be Glad in it!**

\*Opening Song “This Is the Day” #652

\*Sharing God’s Peace

Preparing Our Hearts

Reading “Christ Has No Body But Yours”  
*St. Teresa of Avila*

Choral Anthem

“Agnus Dei with How Great Thou Art”  
*Smith, Hine and Raney*

Reading “The Art of Blessing the Day”  
*(excerpt) Marge Piercy*

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  
James 2:14-17 Mark 7:31-37

Sermon “Be Opened”

Silent Reflection

Song of Response “Here Are Our Hearts”

***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

***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 “Healer of Our Every Ill” #630

\*Benediction

\*Choral Response “Go with Us, Lord”

Rev. Vicky Stifter | Minister  
Katie Cook | Youth Program Coordinator | Kristen Daly | Nursery Care Provider  
Diana Beterbide | Chancel Choir Director, Piano & Organ  
Karen Roof, Betty Shalhope & Sandy Spellecy | Diaconate Team  
Beth Hartwell & Kathryn Murray | Readers  
Alison Betzing & The Callison Family | Hospitality  
Tom Hackett | Audio-Visual System

## Welcome to Riverside Community Church

United Church of Christ



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 gay, lesbian, bisexual 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 siblings 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](mailto: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 Jeannie Chance at (541) 806-6648 or [stjechance@gmail.com](mailto:stjechance@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: 541-386-1412 / [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) 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](mailto:kathy@hungerchronicles.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)

For more information about the United Church of Christ visit <http://www.ucc.org>

Visit our Facebook page: Riverside Community Church, UCC

**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 Katie Cook 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 AT RIVERSIDE:**

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

- Council meets at 12:10 in the Ruth Wells Room
- Advent calendar making for baby Althea in the Riverview Room

**Tuesday.** Bible Study at Down Manor 10:30-11:30 AM

**Wednesday.** Meditation at 3:30 in the Ruth Wells Room

- OWL (Our Whole Lives) 6:45 – 8:30 PM in the Fireside & Riverview Rooms
- Chancel Choir rehearsal at 7:00 PM

**Thursday.** Cheers meets at 10:30 AM in the Ruth Wells Room

**Friday.** Community Action for a Cease Fire in Gaza. 2<sup>nd</sup> & State Street. 5-5:30 PM

**Saturday.** Men's Group meets at 9:00 AM in the Riverview Room

**MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP MEAL** Begins Wed., Sept. 11 5-7 PM Hosted by Spirit of Grace, 1140 Tucker Rd. Share ritual and a meal with our friends from Bethel, Riverside & Spirit of Grace.

**CIRCLES OF SOLACE** Fall series begins Wed, Sept 18<sup>th</sup> 5:30 – 6:30 PM. Cost is \$60. Scholarship available. Register by Sept. 13. Contact: [office@riversideucc.com](mailto:office@riversideucc.com).

**IT'S A POTLUCK!!** Sun, Sept 22. Join RCC friends after worship in the Riverview Room as we welcome in the fall season. Please bring a dish to share.

**FALL FUNDRAISER!** “*All You Need is Love*” Sat., October 19 4 – 8 PM. Tickets are now available at [www.riversideucc.com](http://www.riversideucc.com) or by calling 541-386-1412. If you would like to volunteer or submit an auction item contact: [office@riversideucc.com](mailto:office@riversideucc.com).



“The Opening” by Karen Wallo

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SEPTEMBER 8, 2024