

**RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH**

United Church of Christ

*\*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

Preparing Our Hearts

Reading “And Then You” *Walter Brueggemann*

Gospel Ensemble “Lean on Me” *Bill Withers*

A Time of Offering & Opportunity

*Today’s Pockets of Plenty Offering will benefit the work of the Columbia Gorge Pride Alliance*

*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.***

Scripture Isaiah 56:3-8 Acts 8:26-31

Sermon “Why It Matters” *Rev. Tyler Connoley*

Silent Reflection

Song of Response “Put a Little Love in Your Heart”  
*Jackie DeShannon*

A Time of Welcome *John Head & Lucia Orth*

***We welcome you with joy into the common life of this community of faith. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes, joys and challenges of the church of Jesus. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we join together to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly in the ways of our God.***

A Time of Prayer

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

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Rev. Vicky Stifter | Minister  
Katie Cook | Youth Program Coordinator | Kristen Daly | Nursery Care Provider  
Tim Mayer | Piano & Gospel Ensemble Director- Paul Thompson | Bass  
Bill Light & Sharon Scott & Sandy Spellecy | Diaconate  
Beth Hartwell | Reader  
Ann Harris & Nancy Pavlenko | Hospitality  
Tom Hackett | Audio-Visual System

\*The Prayer of Jesus *(as created at Riverside by members of the “Greatest Prayer” reflection 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 “Draw the Circle Wide”  
*Gordon Light*

***Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.  
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,  
standing side by side.  
Draw the circle wide.***

***V. 1 - God the still point of the circle  
Round whom all creation turns  
Nothing lost but held together  
In God’s gracious arms***

***V. 2 - Let the dream we dream be larger  
Than we’ve ever dreamed before  
Let the dream of Christ be in us  
Open every door!***

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Response “Amen”

*African American Spiritual*



## 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 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.
- **Tuesday.** Bible Study at Down Manor 10:30-11:30 AM.
- **Wednesday.** Meditation at 3:30 in the Ruth Wells Room
- **Friday.** Community Action for a Cease Fire. 2<sup>nd</sup> & State Street. 5-5:30 PM.

**NEXT SUNDAY.** Joint outdoor worship with Bethel and UU Churches at Port Marina Park (near the History Museum). 10:30 a.m. with potluck following. Bring a chair or blanket for seating, plates & utensils and your favorite dish to share! No worship at RCC.

- **RIVERSIDE’S EARTH CAMP - July 22 - 25**  
*“The Mystery & Magic of God’s Creation!”* 10 am. – 12 pm in the Riverview Room. Ages 4 – 12. Volunteers are needed. Contact [katie@riversideucc.com](mailto:katie@riversideucc.com). Scholarships available. Use scan code to register or contact Katie. Weekly schedule:
  - Monday - Magician Day
  - Tuesday- Four-Legged Friend Day
  - Wednesday- Habitat Day
  - Thursday- Galaxy Day



Welcome to Riverside Community Church.  
United Church of Christ

*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](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 [stjchance@gmail.com](mailto:stjchance@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*



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June 30, 2024