

**for those able, please stand*

Gathering Music & Lighting of Candles

Centering Silence & Prayer

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

Offering of Love “Mary Did You Know?”
Lowry, Greene & Schrader
Barbara Grant

*Call to Worship We Arise Today!
Adapted from a Prayer by St. Patrick

*Opening Song “Arise, Your Light Is Come!”
#231

*Sharing God's Peace

Preparing our Hearts

Reading
“For Those Who Have Far to Travel”
Jan Richardson

Offering of Love

Evvy Pricher

Offering of Love “Brightest and Best”
Reginald Herber

A Time of Offering & Announcements
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.***

Offerings of Love

Keith Harding
Boyd Nunley

Bible Bits & Scripture
Isaiah 60:1-6
Matthew 2:1-12

Offering of Love “Songbird”
Christine McVie
Lauren Gray

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.

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 “We Three Kings”
#233 verses 1, 2 & 5

*Benediction

*Congregational Response “Amen”
African American Spiritual

Rev. Vicky Stifter | Pastor
Kristen Warnock | Guitar & Vocals
Boyd Nunley | Piano
Ruby & Alison Betzing, Susan Bell & Lizz O'Bannon | Diaconate
Gail Lyon & Bonnie New | Readers
Kathryn Murray | Audio Visual & Sound System
Elaine Johnson & LaJuan Jecker | Hospitality

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 & NEXT SUNDAY AT RIVERSIDE

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

- Music & Arts Board meeting.

Wednesday. Bible Study at Down Manor 1:30-2:30 PM

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

Thursday. Adult Education & Spiritual Nurture Board meeting 10:30 AM in the Ruth Wells Room

Friday. Community Action for peace in Gaza 4:30 – 5:00 PM at 2nd & State Streets.

Next Sunday. Music by Tim Mayer, Kristen Warnock and the Gospel Ensemble (GE). Rehearsal at 9:15 for all interested in singing with the GE. Council Meets after worship in the Ruth Wells Room.

MARTIN LUTHER KING CELEBRATION JANUARY 20

On January 20, Riverside hosts a community-wide celebration of the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Workshop begins at 3 PM, Gospel Choir Rehearsal at 3:15 PM, Celebration at 5 PM and Community Meal at 6:30 PM. For more information, visit www.gorge-em.org

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING. JANUARY 26 AT NOON

All Riverside members and friends are invited to participate as we celebrate our ministry in 2024 and make important decisions for the year ahead including leadership, budget, and RCC bylaws.

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 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 sibling’s 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 Jeannie Chance at (541) 806-6648 or 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*

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

For more information about the United Church of Christ visit <http://www.ucc.org> Visit our Facebook page: Riverside Community Church, UCC



“Wise Women also Came” Jan Richardson

Riverside Community Church
United Church of Christ

Sunday, January 5, 2025