

**for those able, please stand*

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

“Kum Ba Yah”
#487

*Sharing God’s Peace

Preparing our Hearts

Reading

“Lament Psalm Twenty Seven”
Ann Weems (excerpt)

Gospel Ensemble

“Song of Hope”
Avishai Cohen

Reading

“A Great Leaning”
Steve Gaarnass-Holmes

A Time of Offering & Announcements

Today’s special offering will benefit “One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS), a vital mission that supports disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development efforts around the globe.

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

Offertory

“Get Together”
T. Aas and J. Groth

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

Luke 13:31-35

Sermon

“The Fox and the Hen”

Silent Reflection

Song of Response 2x

“Take O Take Me As I Am”

*Take, O take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.*

A Time of Prayer & Blessing . . .

God in your grace... Hear Our Prayers

*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

*I’m gonna sing when the spirit says sing
I’m gonna sing when the spirit says sing
I’m gonna sing when the spirit says sing
And obey the spirit of the Lord.
v2. pray, v. 3 love, v.4 move*

*Benediction

*Congregational Response

“Amen”
African American Spiritual

Reverend Vicky Stifter | Pastor
Katie Cook, Youth Program Coordinator | Kristen Daly, Nursery Care Provider
Tim Mayer, Kristen Warnock, Paul Thompson & Gospel Ensemble | Musicians
Susan Bell & Deanne McLaughlin | Diaconate Team
Elaine Thompson & John Boonstra | Readers
Kim Vogel & Sonsiree | Audio Visual & Sound System
Dawn & Matt Rankin | 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 to age 4 are invited to the nursery, located downstairs from 10:15 – 12 noon.

THIS WEEK at RIVERSIDE
TODAY

All are welcome after worship for coffee & connection in the Riverview Room.
Plastic recycling - please check in with volunteers.
Panel discussion hosted by the Immigrant Welcoming Team.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study at Down Manor 2:00 PM
Meditative Prayer - 3:30 PM | Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM
Enneagram Series-2nd Session 6 PM Riverview Room

THURSDAY

Book Group meets at the home of Karen Roof 10:30 AM

FRIDAY

Community Action for peace with justice for those in Palestine & Israel. 5:00 - 5:00 PM at 2nd & State streets in downtown Hood River.

NEXT SUNDAY

New Series: “Wild Hope: Stories for Lent from the Vanishing”
9:15-10:10 AM Ruth Wells. Books available in Riverview Room

SAVE THE DATE! SNL @ RCC Saturday, May 3rd 5:30 PM

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United Church of Christ

WHO WE ARE

We are a vibrant, Spirit-filled community following the ways of Jesus-loving our neighbors, seeking justice, and sharing God’s extravagant welcome.

OPEN AND AFFIRMING

We fully embrace LGBTQ+ individuals in all aspects of church life and ministry.

IMMIGRANT WELCOMING

We stand in solidarity with our immigrant siblings, documented and undocumented.

CARING FOR CREATION

We divest from fossil fuels, invest in renewable energy, and strive to reduce our environmental impact.

The UCC is a denomination committed to justice since the abolitionist movement of the 1800s. Learn more: www.ucc.org

MINISTRIES & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Youth Ministry - Sunday School, teen groups, and Our Whole Lives (OWL), a comprehensive human sexuality program. Contact: Katie Cook 541-980-0505 or katie@riversideucc.com

JUSTICE & WITNESS

Engaging in advocacy & service
Contact: Jeannie Chance 541-806-6648 stjchance@gmail.com

“CHEERS” CARE TEAM

Providing meals and support during times of transition, connection and health challenges
Contact: Pastor Vicky 541-386-1412 pastor@riversideucc.com

CONNECT & GROW

Men’s Discussion Group
Monthly Book Group
Adult Education Classes
Tuesday Bible Study & Reflection

STAY CONNECTED

Weekly Newsletter, *The Current*
Sign up at kathy@hungerchronicles.com
Follow Us on Facebook - Riverside Community Church

A Time of Stillness

During this holy season of Lent, you are invited to dwell in the peace and stillness of the sanctuary prior to the start of the worship service. If you would like to engage in conversation, you are welcome to use the Riverview Room.



“Mama Hen” Beth Bathe

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH

United Church of Christ

Sunday, March 16, 2025