

**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

“Here in This Place”

Christopher Grundy

*Holy one, may your presence here
open our minds*

*May your Spirit among us help us to find
You are rising up now like a fountain of grace
From the holy ground here in this place.
Here in this place.*

*Sharing God's Peace

*The peace of the earth be with you,
The peace of the heavens too;
The peace of the rivers be with you,
The peace of the oceans too.
Deep peace falling over you;
God's peace growing in you.*

Preparing our Hearts

Reading

“Giver and Gift” *Meister Eckhart*

Special Music

“We Rise” *Batya Levine*

Reading

“Hymn for Healing”

Amanda Gorman

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 stand,
strengthened by God's own hand,
I am a child, I am a child, a child of God.*

Bible Bits & Scripture

Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

Sermon

“The Prodigal Parent”

Silent Reflection

Song of Response ^{2x}

*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

God in your grace... Hear Our Prayers

*The Prayer of Jesus

(From J. Philip Newell's "Celtic Mass for Peace")

*Ground of all being, Mother of life, Father of the
universe, your name is sacred, beyond speaking.
May we know your presence, may your longings be
ours, our longings in heart and action. May there be
food for the human family today, for the whole earth
community. Forgive us the falseness of what we have
done, as we forgive those who are untrue to us. Do
not forsake us in our time of conflict but lead us into
new beginnings. For the light of life, the vitality of
life, and the glory of life are yours now and forever.
Amen.*

*Closing Song

“How Can I Keep from Singing?” #424

*Benediction

*Congregational Response

“Go Now in Peace” *Natalie Sleeth*
*Go now in Peace. Go now in Peace.
May the Love of God surround you,
Everywhere, everywhere, you may go.*

Reverend Vicky Stifter | Pastor
Christy King, Youth Program Volunteer | Kristen Daly, Nursery Care Provider
Kristen Warnock | Vocals & Guitar - Donna McCoy & Stu Watson | Drummers
Christy King, Bob Dorband & Donna McCoy | Diaconate Team
Betty Shalhope & Kathy Watson | Readers
Sonsireia | Audio Visual & Sound System
Deanne McLaughlin, Darren Tillson, Katie & David Skakel | 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. Open & Affirming Implementation Team meets in the Ruth Wells Room.

WEDNESDAY

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

FRIDAY

Community Action for peace with justice for those in Palestine & Israel. 5:00 - 5:30 PM at 2nd & State streets.

SATURDAY

Men’s Group meets at 9 AM in the Riverview Room.
RCC Spring Clean Up Party! 10 AM - 2 PM.
Contact office@riversideucc.com to RSVP

NEXT SUNDAY

“Wild Hope: Stories for Lent from the Vanishing” 9:15-10:10
Special guest musician & speaker, Lasana Kanneh

SNL & RCC Saturday, May 3rd 5:30 PM. Variety show, dinner & merriment for all ages! Got an Act? Contact office@riversideucc.com . Tickets available soon!

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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 stjechance@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 in 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.



“The Prodigal Son” Kirby Kendrick

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH
United Church of Christ

Fourth Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 30, 2025