

*\*for those able, please stand*

## Gathering Music & Lighting of Candles

### Centering Silence & Prayer

#### Prelude

#### Words of Welcome & Introduction

This is the day that our God has made...  
*let us rejoice and be glad in it!*

#### \*Opening Song

“Let’s Sing unto the Lord” #33

#### \*Sharing God’s Peace

### Preparing our Hearts

#### Reading

“A Vision” *Wendell Berry*

### Special Music

#### Reading

“Refugia Faith”  
*(excerpt) Debra Rienstra*

## 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

Psalm 19:1-4, 7-14 Luke 12:54-59

### Sermon

“Love of Creation”

### Song of Response <sup>2x</sup>

*Susan Drake & Julie Jennings*

*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.*

### 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.*

### Communion Song

“One Bread, One Body” #689

## A Time of Prayer

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

**\*The Prayer of Jesus** *as created by members of Riverside’s  
“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 #574

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

### \*Benediction

### \*Congregational Response

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

**Welcome!** We are blessed by your presence.

**Guests** ~ 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.

**THIS WEEK AT RIVERSIDE**

**TODAY**

Ages 5+ - Join Katie Cook for Sunday School after Children's Time.  
Birth-Age 4 – Nursery care available in the Fireside Room from 10:15 AM – 12:00 PM. All are invited for coffee and connection in the Riverview Room after worship.

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Music & Arts Board meets to plan for spring & summer.  
All are welcome!

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Conboy National Wildlife Refuge hike led by Keith Harding. Meet in the RCC parking lot at 12 noon.

**TUESDAY**

First session of Circles of Solace 5:30 - 7:00 PM

**WEDNESDAY**

Bible Study at Parkhurst 2:00 - 3:00 PM (*a new location*)  
Meditative Prayer 3:30 PM  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM

**THURSDAY**

Cheers Care Team meets 10:30 AM | Ruth Wells Room  
Dessert & Discussion 7 PM – see below for details

**FRIDAY**

Justice seekers of all ages are invited to join an interfaith gathering for peace and a permanent ceasefire in Gaza.  
5:00 – 5:30 PM at 2<sup>nd</sup> and State streets in Hood River.

**ADULT ED & SPIRITUAL NURTURE “DESSERT & DISCUSSION”**

Spiritual and biblical topics relating to contemporary times via interviews & videos with Bill Moyer.  
Hosted by Karen Roof: 3675 Arrowhead Ave. Hood River  
May 8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. RSVP KarenRoof17@gmail.com

**“TAI CHI EASY”** Sunday mornings in May at 9:30 am in the Ruth Wells Room. This practice of gentle movement is highly adaptable for all bodies. No experience or special clothing needed.  
Led by Kim Morton, a trained TCE leader

**Welcome to Riverside Community Church  
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](http://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](mailto:katie@riversideucc.com)

**JUSTICE & WITNESS**

Engaging in advocacy & service  
Contact: Jeannie Chance 541-806-6648 [stjechance@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:kathy@hungerchronicles.com)  
Follow Us on Facebook - Riverside Community Church

