

*\*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

“Woke Up This Morning”

#### \*Sharing God’s Peace

### Preparing our Hearts

#### Reading

“Dreams and Nightmares”

*(adapted) Walter Brueggemann*

#### Gospel Ensemble

“May You Be Well”

*Tim Mayer*

#### Reading

“Christ Has No Body But Yours”

*St. Teresa of Avila*



### A Time of Offering & Opportunity

*Today's special offering will benefit the Black in the Gorge scholarship fund as part of Riverside's Musical Reparations Project*

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

Acts 11:1-18

John 13: 31-35

#### Sermon

“Radical Love”

### Song of Response

“What Does the Lord Require of Us”

*Tim Mayer*

### A Time of Prayer

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

### \*The Prayer of Jesus

*The New Zealand Prayer Book*

*Eternal Spirit, Earthmaker, Pain bearer, Life giver,  
Source of all that shall be. Father and Mother of us  
all. Loving God, in whom is heaven;  
May the hallowing of your name echo  
through the Universe! May the way of your justice be  
followed by the peoples of the world!  
May your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
May your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain  
our hope and may it come on earth.  
With the bread that we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts that we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love.  
Now and forever, now and forevermore. Amen.*

#### \*Closing Song

“Down By the Riverside”

*African-American Spiritual*

v 1: *I'm gonna lay down my burdens...*

v 2: *I'm gonna let go of hate and fear....*

v 3: *I'm gonna lay down my sword and shield...*

v 4: *I'm gonna shake hands with everyone...*

#### \*Benediction

### \*Congregational Response

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

Rev. Vicky Stifter | Minister  
Katie Cook | Youth Program Coordinator – Kristen Daly, Nursery Care Provider  
Tim Mayer, Paul Thompson, Kristen Warnock & Gospel Ensemble | Musicians  
Pam Riedl, Alison Betzing, Jeff & Dana Pricher | Diaconate  
John Boonstra & Donna McCoy | Readers  
Kim Vogel | Audio Visual & Sound System  
Jennifer Hackett | Hospitality

**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.  
Council meets in the Ruth Wells Room at 12:10 PM

#### **TUESDAY**

Circles of Solace 5:30 – 7:00 PM

#### **WEDNESDAY**

Adult Ed & Spiritual Nurture Board 10:30 AM  
Bible Study at Parkhurst 2:00 - 3:00 PM  
Meditative Prayer 3:30 PM  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM

#### **THURSDAY**

All invited for Gorge Ecumenical Ministries spring social & potluck. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at FISH: 1130 Tucker Road, Hood River.

#### **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.

#### **SATURDAY**

Tabling for “We are Immigrants” campaign at Farmers Market,  
9 AM -1 PM Contact Deanne if you can take a shift:  
[deannemclaughlin@gmail.com](mailto:deannemclaughlin@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.

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  
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



*Pope Francis washes & kisses the feet of refugees, March 2016*

**RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**United Church of Christ**

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

May 18, 2025