

*\*for those able, please stand*

Gathering Music & Lighting of Candles

Centering Silence & Prayer

Prelude

“Chariots of Fire” *Vangelis*

Words of Welcome & Introduction

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

**\*Opening Song** *3x*

*John Bell, South-African traditional*

*God welcomes all, strangers and friends;  
God’s love is strong and it never ends.*

**\*Sharing the Peace of Christ**

Preparing our Hearts

Reading

“The Way It is”

*William Stafford*

Gospel Ensemble

“Brother’s Keeper” *India Arie*

Reading

“Cargo” *Greg Kimura*

A Time of Offering & Opportunity

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

Children’s Time

A Time of Recognition & Blessing

*Annabella Barteld, Andy Betzing, Kylin Elliott,  
Matthew Fauth & Paloma Williams*

*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 16:16-34

Sermon

Song of Response

“Eyes on the Prize”

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** *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.*

**\*Closing Song**

“The Trees of the Field” *#710*

**\*Benediction**

**\*Congregational Response”**

“Amen”

*African American Spiritual*

Rev. Vicky Stifter | Minister  
Katie Cook | Youth Program Coordinator – Kristen Daly, Nursery Care Provider  
Tim Mayer, Paul Thompson, Evelyn Charity & RCC Gospel Ensemble | Musicians  
Donna McCoy, Bill Light and Sharon Scott | Diaconate  
Adam & Joy Brake | Readers  
Jenn Anderson | Audio Visual & Sound System  
Ann Harris & Eileen Utroske | 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.  
Open & Affirming Implementation Team meets  
in the Ruth Wells Room.

**WEDNESDAY**

Bible Study at Parkhurst 2:00 - 3:00 PM  
Meditative Prayer 3:30 PM  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM

**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.

**RIVERSIDE’S EARTH CAMP “ABCD’S OF GOD’S CREATION”**

June 23 – 26 10AM -12 PM. Registration is now open! Ages 4-10  
See [www.riversideucc.com](http://www.riversideucc.com) to register. \$15 per child per day.  
Scholarships available.

**“TAI CHI EASY”**

Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM on June 8, 15 & 22nd 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.

**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  
and challenge.  
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

Learn more about the United Church of Christ at [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)



“Helping Each Other On our Way” Jolly Van der Velden

**RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**United Church of Christ**  
*Seventh Sunday of Easter*

June 1, 2025