

*\*for those able, please stand*

## Gathering Music & Lighting of Candles

### Prelude

### Words of Welcome

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

### \*Opening Song

“All Things Bright and Beautiful” #30

### \*Sharing God’s Peace

### Preparing our Hearts

### Reading

“God in All Things”

*Meister Eckhart*

### Special Music

“This is my Father’s World”

*arr. Mark Hayes*

### Reading

“Blessing the Animals”

*Jan Richardson*

## A Time of Offering

*Today’s Pockets of Plenty offering will support the  
rescue & rehabilitation work of the  
Rowena Wildlife Clinic.*



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.*

### Scripture

Psalm 148

### Sermon

### Silent Reflection

### Song of Response

“Eat This Bread”

***Eat of this bread, drink of this wine; come and  
be fed, come now and dine.  
Eat of this bread, drink of this wine; here all are  
fed, here all may dine.***

## Celebration of Holy Communion and Blessing of Creatures

*This is Christ’s table and all are  
welcome. Please come forward by the  
center aisle and return by the side aisles.*

*You are also welcome to bring your  
beloved creature, or a photo, for a time of  
blessing. If mobility is a challenge, please  
raise your hand and we will come to you.*

### A Time of Prayer

*God in your grace...*

***Hear Our Prayers***

**\*The Prayer of St. Francis** *(insert)*

### \*Closing Song

“To You, O God, All Creatures Sing”  
*(insert)*

### \*Benediction

### Music of Sending Forth



Rev. Vicky Stifter | Minister  
Katie Cook | Youth Program Coordinator - Kristin Daly | Nursery Care Provider  
Lydia Warren | Musician  
Sandy Spellecky & Donna McCoy | Diaconate Team  
Donna McCoy & Michelina Roth | Readers  
Kathryn Murray | Audio-Visual & Sound System  
Michelina & David Roth, Karen & Keith Harding | 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**

Children - Please join Katie Cook for Sunday School after the Children's Time. Birth-Age 4 – Nursery care is available in the Fireside Room from 10:15 AM – 12:00 PM.  
All are invited to join for coffee, snacks and conversation in the Riverview Room after worship.

“Orphans of the Living” book reading and signing  
with Kathy Watson

\*\*\*

### **WEDNESDAY**

Bible Study at Parkhurst 2:00 - 3:00 PM  
Meditative Prayer 3:30 PM  
Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM  
OWL 6:45 PM

\*\*\*

### **THURSDAY**

Riverside office closed for re-carpeting

Circles of Solace 5:30 PM

\*\*\*

### **FRIDAY**

Riverside office closed for re-carpeting

Last day to register for Camp Magruder Oct 24-26.  
Register online or in person!



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. Please contact Deanne if you can take a shift: [deannemclaughlin@gmail.com](mailto:deannemclaughlin@gmail.com)

## **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)



*“St. Francis of Assisi” John August Swanson*

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

Sunday, October 5, 2025