

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH  
United Church of Christ  
February 27, 2022

*\*for those able, please stand*

Gathering Music & 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

“God Welcomes All” 2 x South African traditional, words by John Bell  
**God welcomes all, strangers and friends;  
God’s love is strong and it never ends.**

\*Sharing God’s Peace

Preparing Our Hearts

Reading

“Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander”  
*excerpt, Thomas Merton*

Gospel Ensemble

“May You Be Well” *(adapted from the Metta prayer)*

Offering & Announcements

*God is good...all the time...and all the time...God is good!*  
*Today’s Pockets of Plenty offering will support the work of FISH food bank.*

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

Exodus 34:29-35 Luke 9:28-36

Sermon

Silent Reflection

Gospel Ensemble

A Time of Prayer

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

\*The Prayer of Jesus

***Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen***

\*Closing

“Siyahamba”

***We are singing in the light of God....(dancing, praying, loving)***

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Response

“Amen” (same tune as “God Welcomes All”)

\*\*\*\*\*

**WELCOME!**

**VISITORS** 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 later in the service.

**CHILDREN AT RIVERSIDE** We joyfully welcome children of all ages at Riverside. Those 5+ are invited to join Katie for Sunday School after the Children’s Time. Those birth-age 4 are invited to the nursery, located downstairs inside the Fireside Room and available 10:15 am until noon.

**TODAY, THIS WEEK & NEXT SUNDAY AT RIVERSIDE**

- Pockets of Plenty is dedicated to Sumos Uno.
- A Black History Month Film Series: Soul Music – many genres, all with heart. Discussion today 4–5 PM. For details and links see [www.riversideucc.com](http://www.riversideucc.com)
- Bible study with Pastor Vicky at Down Manor--Tuesday 10:30-11:30 a.m. All are welcome.
- Ash Wednesday service—Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
- Our Whole Lives (OWL)--Wednesday at 6:45 p.m. in the Riverview Room
- Worship---Sunday March 6 at 10:30. Pastor Vicky preaching, music by Diana & the Chancel Choir. Celebration of Holy Communion. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent.

**A BRUNCH FOR ALL WHO LOVE** Join us TODAY after worship for a festive brunch celebrating the gift of love. Enjoy a tasty meal prepared by Chef Kathy Watson & friends, and stories of love from several guests. Suggested contribution of \$7 for those 5-11, \$12 for those 12 & up.

**A GROUNDED FAITH: Reconnecting with Creator & Creation** You are welcome to join Pastor Vicky & Riverside friends on Sunday mornings during Lent for a time of spiritual nurture, connection and education. The series will begin on March 6. All gatherings will take place 9:00-10:00 in the Ruth Wells room. Interested? Please contact Pastor Vicky: [pastor@riversideucc.com](mailto:pastor@riversideucc.com)

***Rev. Vicky Stifter, Minister***

***Katie Cook, Youth Program Coordinator***

***Tim Mayer, Piano & Gospel Director / Paul Thompson, Bass***

***Elaine Johnson & Elaine Thompson, Diaconate Team***

***Sandy Spellecy & Bonnie New, Readers***

***Stu Watson & Tom Hackett, Sound & Audio Visual***

***Kathy Watson & Friends, Hospitality***



## Welcome to Riverside Community Church.

United Church of Christ

*We are blessed by your presence.*

*Bienvenidos a la iglesia Riverside. Su presencia es una bendición para nosotros.*

We are a vibrant, Spirit-filled community of people who seek to follow in the ways of Jesus: loving our neighbors, doing justice and sharing the extravagant welcome of God with the whole of creation.

We are an “*Open and Affirming*” congregation—affirming the full inclusion of gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender persons (LGBTQ+) in the church's life and ministry.

We are an “*Immigrant Welcoming*” congregation—called by our faith to stand together with our undocumented and documented immigrant brothers & sisters and their families.

We seek to honor and protect the gifts of God's creation--divesting our financial resources from the fossil fuel industry, reinvesting in renewable energy and striving to reduce our use of fossil fuels.

Riverside's youth ministry team supports: Sunday School, a children's choir, teen groups, and Our Whole Lives (OWL)--a comprehensive human sexuality program. *Contact Youth Leader Katie Cook at 541.980.0505 or [katie@riversideucc.com](mailto:katie@riversideucc.com).*

Our Justice and Witness & Immigrant Welcoming teams promote engagement with the Warming Shelter, FISH Food Bank, Somos Uno, Columbia Gorge Climate Action Network. *Contact Heather Nielsen at 541.400.0478 or [heather@healthyconnectionsshr.com](mailto:heather@healthyconnectionsshr.com)*

Our "Cheers" team offers care, comfort and meals to those with health, aging issues, new parenthood or other transitions. *Contact Pastor Vicky if you have a need: 541.386.1412 / [pastor@riverssideucc.com](mailto:pastor@riverssideucc.com)*

More ways to connect, learn and feed the spirits of those of all ages: Men's Discussion Group, monthly book group, adult education classes and a Tuesday Bible study & reflection group. *Contact Doug Roof at 302.598.2741 or [office@riversideucc.com](mailto:office@riversideucc.com) for more information.*

Riverside is one of more than 5,000 communities of faith that make up the “**United Church of Christ**” (UCC). The UCC has been on the cutting edge of justice movements in the U.S. since its work to abolish slavery in the 1800's.

*For more information about Riverside  
contact the church office at 541-386-1412 OR [office@riversideucc.com](mailto:office@riversideucc.com)  
or visit [www.riversideucc.com](http://www.riversideucc.com)*

*For more information about the United Church of Christ visit <http://www.ucc.org>  
Visit our Facebook page: Riverside Community Church, UCC*



**RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH**

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

*Sunday, February 27, 2022*

