

**for those able, please stand*

Gathering Music & Lighting of Candles

Centering Silence & Opening Prayer

Prelude “Now Thank We All Our God”
Manz

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

*Opening Song “Here in This Place”
Christopher Grundy

*Holy one, may your presence here
open our minds
may your Spirit among us help us to find
you are rising up now like a fountain of grace
from the holy ground here in this place.
here in this place.*

*Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty
the whole universe speaks of your glory
from the holy ground here in this place.*

*Sharing God’s Peace

Preparing our Hearts

Reading “Come, Yet Again, Come”
Rumi

Choral Anthem “Harvest Hymn”
Alford, Pierpont & McDonald

Blessed to be a Blessing *The Bingener Family*



A Time of Offering & Announcements

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

*Today’s Pockets of Plenty offering will support the
Community Thanksgiving Meal.*

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.***

Bible Bits & Scripture Psalm 91

Poetry & Reflection *Chelan Harkin*

Song of Response “Thankful”
Foster, Sager & Page

A Time of Welcome
Deanne McLaughlin | Frank Haskell | Kristen Warnock

***We welcome you with joy into the common life of this
community of faith. We promise you our friendship and
prayers as we share the hopes, joys and challenges of
the church of Jesus.***

***By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we join together to
do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly in the ways
of our God.***



A Time of Prayer
*God in your grace... **Hear Our Prayers***

*The Prayer of Jesus
(as created by Riverside’s Greatest Prayer study 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
“For the Fruit of All Creation” #723

*Benediction
You are welcome to be seated after the Benediction.

Postlude

Rev. Vicky Stifter | Minister
Karen Jones & Christy King | Youth Program Volunteers
Kristen Daly | Nursery Care
Diana Beterbide | Piano, Organ & Choir Director
Kristen Warnock | Music Minister
Karen Roof, Sandy Spellecy & Ann Becker | Diaconate Team
Gary McFarlen | Reader
Kim Vogel | Audio-Visual & Sound System
Molly Fauth and Jennifer Hackett | Hospitality

Welcome to Riverside Community Church

United Church of Christ

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 or give it to Pastor Vicky after the service.

CHILDREN AT RIVERSIDE We joyfully welcome children of all ages at Riverside. Those 5+ are invited to join Karen Jones and Christy King for Sunday School after Children’s Time. Those birth-age 4 are invited to the Fireside Room from 10:15 am – 12 noon.

THIS WEEK & NEXT SUNDAY AT RIVERSIDE

Today All are welcome after worship for coffee & conversation in the Riverview Room.

Council meets in the Ruth Wells Room.

Tuesday Bible Study at Down Manor 10:30-11:30 AM

Wednesday Meditative Prayer - 3:30 PM

Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM

Thursday Thanksgiving Meal 12-2 PM Riverview Room

Friday Office Closed

Next Sunday “Make a Joyful Noise” worship service.

BRING US YOUR #1’s & #5’s! In the spirit of “rethink, reuse, recycle” the Justice & Witness team invites you to bring your clean #1 and #5 plastics with you to church. You’ll find a home for them on Sundays at the Sherman St. entrance between 10 & 10:30 a.m.

BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING Your generous giving is the foundation of our vital ministry of healing & justice-making. Please return your pledge card by December 3.

“ALL CREATION WAITS: The Advent Mystery of New

Beginnings” Our Advent journey will include an exploration of the themes of this beautiful book. Discounted copies are available for purchase after worship in the Riverview room or at Waucoma bookstore. We’ll gather to discuss on Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:10: December 3, 10 & 17 in the Ruth Wells room. All are welcome.

Riverside is blessed by your presence.

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.

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

. . . 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 reducing our use of fossil fuels.

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

Our Justice and Witness team promotes engagement with the Warming Shelter, FISH Food Bank, Somos Uno, Columbia Gorge Climate Action Network. *Contact Ann Harris at harris.annj@gmail.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: 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 office@riversideucc.com for more information.*

Keep up on what’s happening! Sign up for our weekly online newsletter, *The Current*, by contacting editor Kathy Watson, kathy@watsonx2.com. Or visit our Facebook page: Riverside Community Church, UCC.

On the Web: Riverside’s web site, www.riversideucc.com, includes: a calendar of all events, the most recent Current newsletters, a way to give electronically, and everything about the life of our congregation.

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 the United Church of Christ visit <http://www.ucc.org>

*For more information about Riverside
contact the church office at 541-386-1412 OR office@riversideucc.com
or visit www.riversideucc.com*



“Gratitude” John Benedetto

Riverside Community Church
United Church of Christ

Sunday, November 19, 2023

