

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH

United Church of Christ

Sunday, March 31, 2024



**for those able, please stand*

Gathering Music & Flowering of the Cross

Centering Silence & Prayer

Prelude “Thine is the Glory” *Scott*

Words of Welcome

Christ is Risen . . . ***Christ is Risen Indeed!***

*Opening Song & Procession of the Cross

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today” #288

*Call to Worship

Christ is Risen Indeed!

Adapted from a poem by Ted Loder

*Sharing God’s Peace

Preparing Our Hearts

Readings “Listen to the Mustn’ts”

Shel Silverstein

“If Darwin Prayed”

Bruce Sanguin

Choral Anthem “Crown Him!” *Forrest*

Reading “On Letting Easter In”
Macrina Wiederkehr

A Time of Offering & Announcements

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 Mark 16:1-8

Sermon “A God of Second Chances”

Silent Reflection

Song of Response “Alleluia” #316 (*verse one, 2x*)

A Time of Prayer

*The Prayer of Jesus

(As created by members of Riverside’s “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. Amen.***

*Closing Song “The Day of Resurrection!” #298

*Benediction

You are welcome to be seated following the benediction.

Postlude “Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!”

Rev. Vicky Stifter | Minister
Katie Cook | Youth Program Coordinator | Kristen Daly | Nursery Care Provider
Diana Beterbide | Piano, Organ & Chancel Choir Director
Kate Dougherty | Trumpet
The Betzing Family, Elaine Johnson & Sandy Spellecy | Diaconate Team
Sandy Spellecy, Charissa Callison, Abi Lytle | Readers
The Betzing Family | Hospitality
Michele Beaman | Audio-Visual & Sound System

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. There is no Sunday School today. Those birth to age 4 are invited to the nursery, located downstairs in the Fireside Room from 10:15 am – 12 noon.

THIS WEEK AT RIVERSIDE

Today. All are welcome after worship for coffee & conversation in the Riverview Room. Easter Egg Hunt and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Parents & children please meet Katie Cook in the Riverview Room for instructions.

- Tuesday. Bible Study at Down Manor 10:30-11:30 AM.
- Wednesday. Meditation 3:30 – 4:30 Ruth Wells Room
Chancel Choir Rehearsal - 7:00 PM.

COMMUNITY ACTION FOR PEACE Join us for an interfaith gathering for peace and a permanent ceasefire in Gaza. Fridays at 2nd and State Street, 4:30-5:00 p.m.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE: Service for Dick O’Bannon’s on Friday, April 12 at 2 PM. Reception following.

CIRCLES OF SOLACE. This five-week series, Wednesdays from 5:30-7:00 pm beginning April 17, offers participants a safe and sacred place to share sadness and sorrow, whether it be for personal losses, or circumstances in the broader world. To register or learn more: office@riversideucc.com Space is limited. \$45 for the series. Scholarships available.

“LIGHTING THE WAY” CAPITAL CAMPAIGN Our campaign continues toward our goal of \$800,000. Every dollar helps. Campaign packets are available this morning at the back of the sanctuary and in the Riverview Room. One of our most significant projects, the addition of an emergency exit from the Fireside Room (where our children enjoy Sunday School), is very close to completion. Look for information on a tour coming soon!



Welcome to Riverside Community Church.
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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.

. . . 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 striving to reduce 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 541.980.0505 or 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 Ann Harris at 541-806-2525 or 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: 541-38-1412 / 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 or call 541.386.1412 for more information.

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

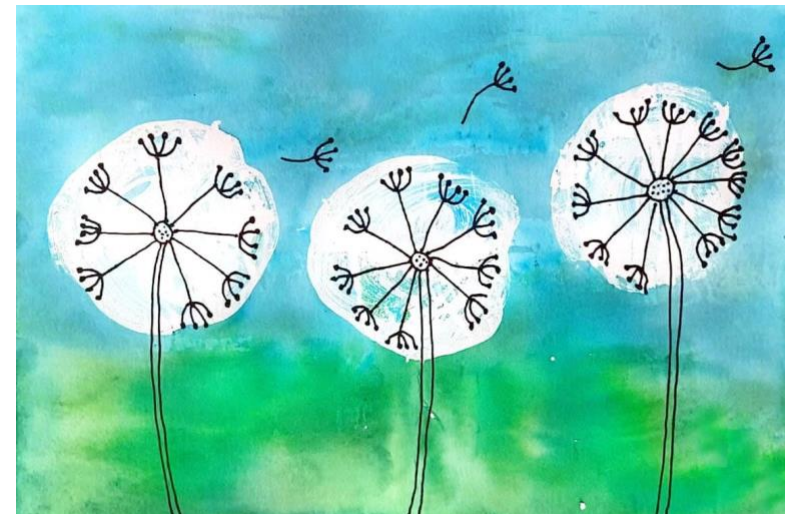
On the Web: Riverside’s web site, www.riversideucc.com, includes: a calendar of all events, the most recent Current newsletters, a way to give electronically, and everything about the life of our congregation.

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

For more information about the United Church of Christ visit <http://www.ucc.org>

Visit our Facebook page: Riverside Community Church, UCC



Artwork by Kathy Barbro

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EASTER

