

ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE



Welcome to Court Street United Methodist Church



We are a people called United Methodists.
Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

The mission of Court Street United Methodist Church
is to be a welcoming, nurturing, and serving community of Christ.

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 22, 2021

Please keep your personal belongings with you at all times.
Please wear a mask and continue to social distance even if you are vaccinated.
At this time, sing only in your hearts. Thank you.

§ denotes when to stand as you are able

WE GATHER TO BE NURTURED

Ringing of the Bell - Please use this to begin focusing for worship.

Prelude “How Great Thou Art” *arr. J. Wayne Kerr*

§ Call to Worship

Leader: Everyone come, come and refresh without money and without price.

***People:* Our hunger is not slight. We thirst for harmony and hunger for integrity.**

Leader: Listen together, for we have words of life. Your yearning shall be filled; our longing shall be touched.

***People:* For there is a promise: “My love for you shall be as for David. Listening, you shall have good food and abundance.”**

***All:* Gracious God, who had satisfied the hungry and quenched the thirst of longing people: Grant us now the gift of attentiveness, that our eyes may see the favor of your love.**

Opening Hymn UMH #596 “Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word” Instrumental

WE ARE NURTURED BY GOD’S WORD

§ Gospel Reading *John 9:1-41*

Leader: This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

***People:* Glory to you, O Lord.**

Children’s Message “Who is my neighbor?” *James L. Crow*

Blessing of the Backpacks

“Splash Summer Sermon Series: Healed With Water”

Rev. Calvin Culpepper

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Musical Witness

“Wade In The Water”

John and Wesley Work

Performed by Nancy Shindel

Offering Our Gifts and Ourselves

§ **Doxology UMH #94** **“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”** **Instrumental**

WE ARE SCATTERED TO SERVE

Hymn of Sending Forth UMH #178

“Hope of the World”

Instrumental

§ **Benediction**

May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water welling up to eternal life, perfect in you the image of his glory; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain in you always. Amen.

–The Promise of His Glory: Services and Prayers ... commended by the House of Bishops of the General Synod of the Church of England (London: Mowbray, 1991), 222.

Benediction Response

“May The Peace of God Dwell In You”

Postlude

“Father, We Thank Thee”

James Biery

Please take your bulletins with you when you leave.



Altar flowers given by Robert Henbest in honor of Lois & Truman Lander.

Court Street United Methodist Church

215 North Court Street, Rockford, IL 61103
Church Office: (815) 962-6061 | Church Fax: (815) 962-9754
www.courtstreetumc.org

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Ushers: The Sandy Gregory Team

Sound Tech: Tim Welk

Liturgist: Nancy Shindel

Van Driver: Tim Gorman

Video Tech: Steve Ripley

Acolyte: Natalie Urness

Director of Video Ministries: Krysta Tilges

Announcements

- Are you at least 14 years of age and interested in assisting in our nursery? Applicants must be available at least one Sunday a month from 9:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Duties include working with children, light cleaning, and supporting the nursery supervisor. Contact Ryanne to apply.
- The three Jeremiah Development churches are collecting school supplies for Love Rockford. You can bring them to the container in the Narthex from now until September 5th, and they will be distributed during Love Rockford on September 25th. See Narthex for supply list. Thank you!
- The UMW is currently selling mums, asters, and a few other flowering plants as part of a fundraiser for the charity they support during the holidays. Orders are due by 3 p.m. on Monday, August 30th. Orders will be available for pickup in the Chapel Narthex on Rally Day, Sunday, September 12th.

Court Street United Methodist Church Staff

Rev. Calvin Culpepper	Pastor	ext. 220	cculpepper@courtstreetumc.org
Ryanne Ludington	Director of Christian Education		ludingtonryanne@gmail.com
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Tiffany Wilken	Publications Secretary	ext. 200	Communications@courtstreetumc.org
Bert Cromwell	Nursery		
Mike Smith	Maintenance Engineer	ext. 295	Maintenance@courtstreetumc.org

backpack blessings

A Litany for the Beginning of the School Year

Love the Lord your God with all your heart ... and love your neighbor as yourself. –Luke 10:27

(All students in the church are invited to come with their backpacks to the front of the worship space.)

☐ Dear Lord Jesus, we want to begin this new school year as we begin each day, by acknowledging your presence among us with your blessing and guidance.

☑ **Watch over our students, the owners of these backpacks, as they take the next steps in their education.**

☐ Loving Savior, you call each of these children “friend.” Help them to follow your guidance both throughout the school year and each day of life by grace through faith in you.

☑ **Their backpacks will be filled with books, but fill their lives to overflowing with your countless, daily blessings.**

☐ When they feel overcome by the stress and anxiety and their spirits seem low ...

☑ **We pray that these students find comfort in your Word and knowledge of your constant presence.**

☐ When they encounter sadness or grief, whether at school or at home ...

☑ **We pray that these students will know that you provide the Spirit of comfort to all who are mourning.**

☐ When they are faced with temptation to stray from your righteous path ...

☑ **Remind them that you offer love and forgiveness for those who call upon your name.**

☐ Keep their hearts and minds pure and their lives a reflection of your love for them ...

☑ **Bless them, we pray, to see your face in the faces of friends, teachers, parents and others who gather with them this year.**

☐ When they encounter persecution or bullying, particularly when they are standing up for what is right and holy ...

☑ **Make your presence known, we pray, so that each child here is reminded of your promise to never leave us desolate or alone.**

☐ We gather here with these children in your name, Lord Jesus, welcoming you to the circle of love and togetherness that binds us as your friends.

☑ **We pray that their faith in your saving power and promises is strengthened and that their behavior and faith shines as an example to others of what it means to be children in your family.**

☐ With confident hope in God’s watchful care, I bless these backpacks and their owners in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. May all of us, young and old, be strong in faith and filled with the Spirit that we might be a blessing to all in your world.

☑ **Almighty God, hear our prayer and accept our praise in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

(All students return to their seats with their backpacks.)

