

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.

Epiphany Sunday (Covenant Renewal)
January 2, 2022

**Parents, please escort your children to the restrooms.
Please keep your personal belongings with you at all times.
Please wear a mask and continue to social distance even if you are vaccinated.
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

“Auld Lang Syne (Piano Solo)”

~ *Joyce Leong*

OPENING PRAYER

**O God, Searcher of all our hearts,
you have formed us as a people and claimed us for your own.
As we come to acknowledge your sovereignty and grace,
and to enter anew into covenant with you,
reveal any reluctance or falsehood within us.
Let your Spirit impress your truth on our inmost being,
and receive us in mercy, for the sake of our Mediator, Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

~ *David Tripp, Eng. 20th c*

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Let us give thanks for all of God’s mercies.

O God, our Covenant Friend,
you have been gracious to us through all the years of our lives.
We thank you for your loving care,
which has filled our days and brought us to this time and place.
We praise your holy name, O God.

You have given us life and reason,
and set us in a world filled with your glory.
You have comforted us with family and friends,
and ministered to us through the hands of our sisters and brothers.
We praise your holy name, O God.

You have filled our hearts with a hunger after you,
and have given us your peace.
You have redeemed us, and called us to a high calling in Christ Jesus.
You have given us a place in the fellowship of your Spirit
and the witness of your Church.
We praise your holy name, O God.

You have been our light in darkness
and a rock of strength in adversity and temptation.
You have been the very Spirit of joy in our joys
and the all-sufficient reward in all our labors.
We praise your holy name, O God.

You remembered us when we forgot you.
You followed us even when we tried to flee from you.
You met us with forgiveness when we returned to you.
For all your patience and overflowing grace.
We praise your holy name, O God.

~“Covenant Renewal Service” Copyright © 1992 UMPH.
Wesley Covenant Service abridged by Ole E. Borgen.

§ Opening Hymn UMH #220

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

WE ARE NURTURED BY GOD’S WORD

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Leader: This is the Word of God for The People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Children’s Message

Ryanne Ludington

§ Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

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

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

“Whom Do You Worship?”
Rev. Calvin Culpepper

Covenant Prayer UMH #607

“A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition”

**I am no longer my own, but thine.
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
Exalted for thee or brought low by thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things
To thy pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
Let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.**

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Offertory

“How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place”

~ Lightfoot

Service of Word and Table: INVITATION, CONFESSION AND PARDON, & OFFERING

Please follow along with the slides for the communion liturgy.

Offering Our Gifts and Ourselves

§ **Doxology UMH #94**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Please remain standing as you are able after the Doxology

THE SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE

§ **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*Please partake of your wafer and grape juice when instructed.
Gluten-free wafers are available.*

WE ARE SCATTERED TO SERVE

§ Hymn of Sending Forth UMH #245

“The First Noel”

§ Benediction

God sends you forth from the gathered church to be ambassadors for Christ. God looks for anyone who will lift instead of lean, help instead of hinder. Go to claim a corner of the world for God and may God’s Spirit go with you and abide with you. *Amen.*

~ *Duck and Tirabassi, 243*

Choral Benediction

“May The Peace Of God Dwell In You”

~ *Larson*

Postlude

“Pastorale”

~ *Domenico Zipoli*

Please take your bulletins with you when you leave.

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 Sue Cram Team

Sound Tech: Stan Tunnell

Liturgist: Pastor Calvin Culpepper

Van Driver: Bruce Shindel

Video Tech: Steve Ripley

Acolyte: Ella Anderson

Director of Video Ministries: Krysta Tilges

Announcements

- **Angel Tree:** Thanks to ALL of you for your financial support, for purchasing and wrapping gifts for the children, and for your prayers. Because of your generosity, gifts were purchased for 53 children from 22 families in our church neighborhood and in the nearby area. Each child received two gifts on behalf of the incarcerated parent. Additionally, extra funds were left over to provide \$25 to \$50 in grocery gift cards to each family based upon size of family or need. Thanks also to those of you, including the Youth, who helped organize and deliver the gifts to the families. May God bless you all for it is in giving that we are richly blessed. We ask that you continue to pray for the incarcerated parents and their families. This year most of our families were having a difficult time financially. This is quite a challenge and strain on a grandparent or caregiver, so gift cards were well received and appreciated (several with tears in their eyes). Religious pamphlets, Christmas cards from Court Street United Methodist Church, and December services dates were delivered to the families also. – Barb and Gene Ferry
- Christmas is over, but Scrip cards are always available to use towards your everyday purchases, to give as birthday or anniversary gifts, or help with charitable giving. There is a fine selection of cash and carry items as well as many more that can be special ordered.
- **Volunteer Opportunity:** For roughly one hour per week, help Jeremiah Development organize its "Take-a-Book Library" donations. Contact Sue Kanthak at (815) 627-0001 if you are interested in helping.
- The church will be closed **TOMORROW**, Monday, Jan. 3rd for New Year's Day.

Court Street United Methodist Church Staff

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