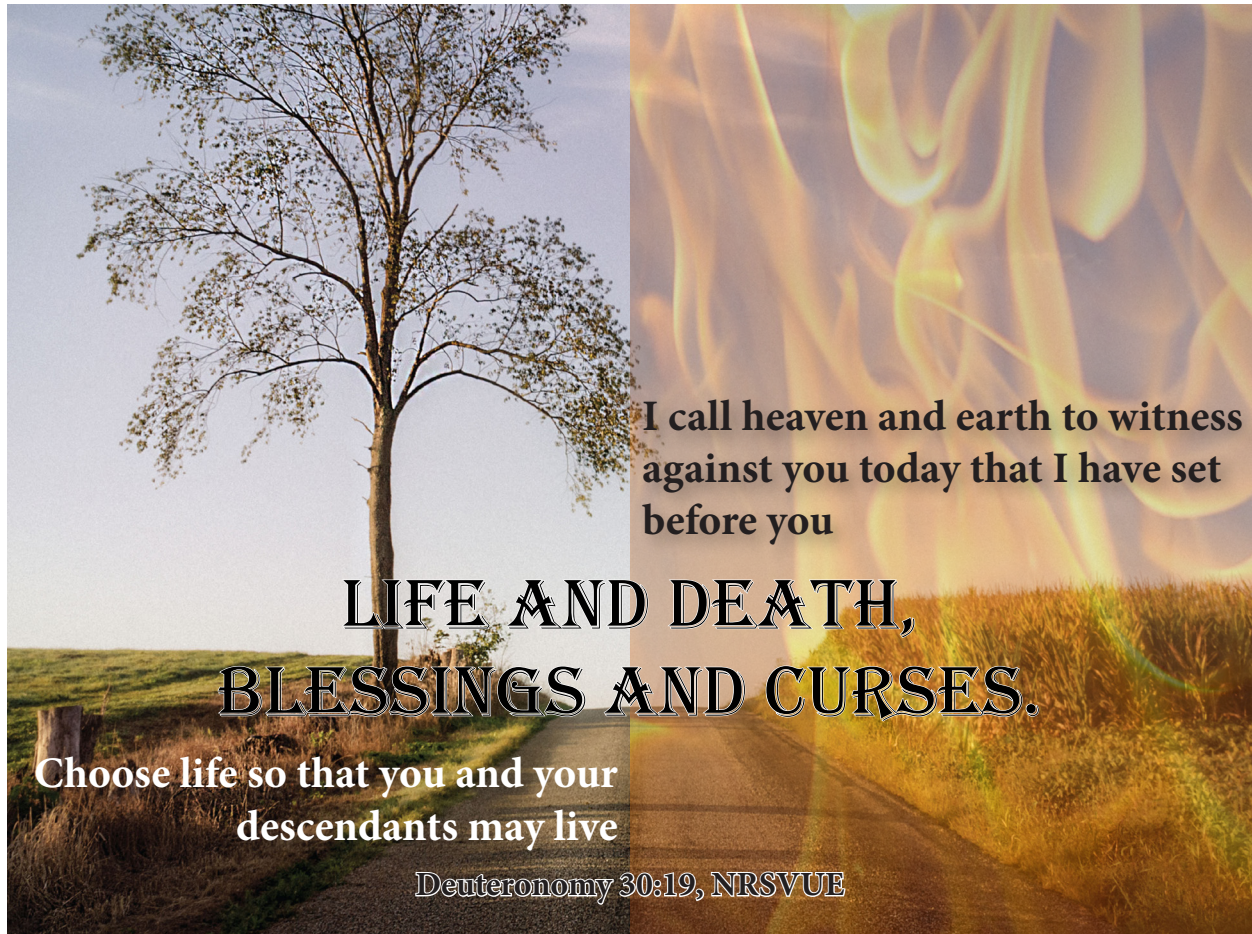


ORDER OF WORSHIP

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.**

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany
February 12, 2023

**Parents, please escort your children to the restrooms.
Please keep your personal belongings with you at all times.
Please sign registration sheets and pass to others in your pew. Thank you.**

§ Denotes when to stand as you are able

WE GATHER TO BE NURTURED

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude “New Britain (Amazing Grace)” *Philip Gehring*

§ Call to Worship

Leader: Whoever is in Christ is a new creation.

People: **The old has gone; the new has come!**

Leader: All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ.

People: **We receive God’s ministry of reconciliation and commit to spreading the message.**

Leader: As God counts not our sins against us, neither do we count others’ sins against them.

All: **We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors as God makes his appeal through us.**

—Based on 2 Corinthians 5:16-20

§ Opening Hymn UMH #405

“Seek Ye First”

WE ARE NURTURED BY GOD’S WORD

Old Testament Reading Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Please refer to your Bible’s Table of Contents to locate this scripture.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Message

James L. Crow

Processional Hymn

“Jesus Loves Me”

The children are invited to come forward as we sing.

Blanket Sunday Collection for Church World Service

Concluding Hymn

“Hallelujah (Praise Ye the Lord)”

Author Unknown

§ Gospel Reading Matthew 5:21-37

Please refer to your Bible's Table of Contents to locate this scripture.

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

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

Message

“Understanding Heaven and Hell”

or

“The Cost of Discipleship” and “Training in Righteousness”

Rev. Richard A. Wang

WE RESPOND to GOD'S WORD

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer, UMH #895

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves

Offertory

“O Shout With Joy!”

Nygaard

Presented by Chancel Choir

§ Doxology UMH #94

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

WE ARE SCATTERED TO SERVE

§ Hymn of Sending Forth UMH #557

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

§ Benediction

Do not be afraid. God goes with you to build bridges of reconciliation, create communities of acceptance, establish villages of compassion. Go in peace, strengthened by God's blessing.

Choral Benediction

“Dismiss Us From This Place”

Jones/Berman

Postlude

“Holy Manna (All who Hunger, Gather Gladly)”

Wilbur Held

You are invited to finish worship by listening to the Postlude.

If you wish to leave, you may do so, leaving quietly so others may enjoy the Postlude.

Facetime by the Big Bell



Altar flowers given by Bert Cromwell in loving memory of her father Alex Riofredo.

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	Van Driver:	Curly Thompson
Sound Tech:	Ryan Welk	Video Tech:	Steve Ripley
Liturgist:	Lorelle Wandell	Cameraman:	Andrew Mertzenich
Acolyte:	Kaylee Bulliner	Livestream Techs:	Krysta Tilges & Ella
Facetime Host:	Sue Cram		Anderson

Announcements

- **Welcome to Blanket Sunday!** Every year the congregation generously throws their loose change into a blanket to benefit **Church World Service (CWS)**. CWS uses donations to distribute cleaning supplies, school supplies, hygiene kits, and, of course, warm blankets to those affected by poverty and natural disasters. Learn more at cwsblankets.org. Special offering envelopes are also available.
- **Brought a can of soup for Court Street's SOUPer Bowl Sunday?** Place your donations either in the large purple cannister or the marked box in the Narthex. Thank you for becoming an MVP in this year's Bowl; your pantry items will be distributed by **Rock River Valley Pantry** to our neighbors in need.
- **A visitation and funeral service for Diane Conklin will be held at Court Street on Wednesday, February 15th.** The visitation begins at 9:30 a.m., followed by the service at 10:30 a.m. There will also be an evening visitation at Fitzgerald's Mulford Chapel from 4 - 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 14th.
- **We're holding another ALL-CHURCH MEETING on Saturday, February 18th in the Dining Room at 9:00 a.m.** Surveys for sharing your input ahead of the meeting are available in the Narthex.
- **Noisy Offering is next week!** Again, we request you spare some spare change for this monthly donation drive. Your nickels and dimes support our outreach ministry **Waffles and Worship**, which combines a contemporary service with a free warm breakfast on the last Sunday of every month.
- **Shrove Pancake Sunday: It's the Feast before the Fast.** Join us after service on Sunday, February 19th for a pancake luncheon complete with sausage and all the trimmings.
- **Join us for one of two Ash Wednesday Services on February 22nd.** Service and imposition of ashes will be held in the Chapel at 12 Noon and then again at 6 p.m.

Court Street United Methodist Church Staff

Rev. Calvin Culpepper	Pastor	ext. 220	cculpepper@courtstreetumc.org
Ryanne Ludington	Director of Christian Education		ludingtonryanne@gmail.com
James L. Crow	Director of Arts Ministries	ext. 209	jlcrow@live.com
Krysta Tilges	Director of Video Ministries		ktilges@gmail.com
Jack Armstrong	Director of Music	ext. 221	gogo234@att.net
Andrew Mertzenich	Organist		andrew.mertzenich@gmail.com
Teresa Field	Parish Nurse		Teresabsf5@yahoo.com
Verlette Gorman	Church Administrator	ext. 202	ChurchAdmin1@courtstreetumc.org
Tiffany Wilken	Publications Secretary	ext. 200	Communications@courtstreetumc.org
Bert Cromwell	Nursery		
Bill Kint	Maintenance Engineer		Maintenance@courtstreetumc.org