

ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE



Ascension / Heritage Sunday
May 21, 2023

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.**

Parents, please escort your children to the restrooms.
Please keep your personal belongings with you at all times.
Thank you.

§ Denotes when to stand as you are able

WE GATHER to be NURTURED

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

Partita on “How Firm a Foundation”

Hal Hopson

§ Call to Worship

Leader: Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David.

People: **He endured that we might live with him. He died that we might reign with him.**

Leader: Most gracious God: On this day, when we celebrate your Son’s return to you in glory, we offer humble and joyous thanks for what he did for us and for all who would respond to his claim.

People: **With his disciples, we behold with awestruck wonder his triumphant ascension, hailing him as a prophet, priest, and king.**

Leader: He was faithful to you from first to last, even at the price of a horrible death.

All: **Keep us faithful with his help – in our worship, our witness, our service. In his name, we pray. Amen.**

§ Opening Hymn UMH #103

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

WE ARE NURTURED by GOD’S WORD

New Testament Reading

Acts 1:1-11

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

Leader: This is the Good News of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

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

Children’s Message

James L. Crow

Processional Hymn UMH # 191, vs. 1

“Jesus Loves Me”

The children are invited to come forward as we sing.

Noisy Offering (Donations benefit our Waffles and Worship Ministry.)

Concluding Hymn

“Hallelujah (Praise Ye the Lord)”

Author Unknown

§ Gospel Reading

Luke 24:44-53

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 Luke.

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

Message
“What Goes Up, Must Come Down”
Rev. Richard A. Wang

WE RESPOND to GOD’S WORD

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer, UMH #895

Recognition of 50-Year Anniversary Members

Presented by *Rev. Calvin Culpepper*

Patsy Fields
Allen Hoople

Jeffrey Magin
Karl Noltemeier
Louise Noltemeier

Donald Terasaki
Miriam Warrner

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves

Offertory

“Let There Be Peace On Earth”
Presented by Jubellation Bell Choir

Arr. Sherman

§ Doxology UMH #94

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

WE ARE SCATTERED to SERVE

§ Hymn of Sending Forth UMH #369

“Blessed Assurance”

§ Benediction

Leader: As we leave this place, let us depart in the assurance that God does not remain hidden in a cloud, concealed from us.

People: **God is still among us!**

Leader: Let us not gaze longingly at heaven for a sign.

People: **God is revealed!**

Leader: Let us glimpse the face of Christ in one another. Let us celebrate the Holy Spirit, who works in our community. Let us give glory to God our Creator, today and every day.

All: Amen.

Postlude

“Simple Gifts (I Danced in the Morning)”

J. Wayne Kerr

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.

Please join us in the dining room on the lower level for an after-service reception and presentation of the current results for the Capital Improvements Campaign.



Altar flowers given by Dorothy Powell in loving memory of her family

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:	Jeff Mann
Sound Tech:	Tim Welk	Acolyte:	Ella Anderson
Liturgist:	Dorothy Powell & Lili Breson	Video Tech:	Steve Ripley
Facetime Hosts:	No Facetime – After-service Reception in Dining Room	Livestream Techs:	Krysta Tilges & Ella Anderson

Announcements

- **The CSUMC Book Club will meet TODAY at Dorothy Powell's home at 2 p.m. to discuss *Haunted Rockford, Illinois* by Kathi Kresol.**
- **The *Ring in Spring* handbell concert benefiting Get Connected will be held today at 4 p.m. at Second-First Church.**
- **The Bishop's Appeal for this year's annual conference is a request for donation items used to assemble personal dignity kits.** We request you donate the hygiene products, listed on the poster in the handicap vestibule, to the drop box in the Narthex no later than Sunday, June 4th.
- **During the month of May, we're collecting donations of peanut butter (and jelly) for the Rock River Valley Pantry.** Drop your donations into the barrel in the Narthex.
- **Tis the season for graduations.** Surprise your graduate with a SCRIP card to his or her favorite retailer. There are many options for gift giving, and sales help raise money for the church!
- **Speaking of graduates – if you have one in the family this year, let the office know by Tuesday, May 30th.** We will recognize graduates on Children's Sunday, June 11th.
- **The Domestic Violence Subcommittee will meet in the Library at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, May 23rd.**
- **We are holding a Family Movie Night at 6 p.m. on Friday, May 26th.** Join us in the sanctuary as we watch Disney's *Strange World*.
- **Our next Waffles and Worship service will be held next Sunday (May 28th) at 8 a.m. in the dining room.** All are welcome to attend this contemporary-styled worship built around fellowship and food.
- **Don't forget to wear red to church next Sunday for Pentecost!**

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 Mertzzenich	Organist		andrew.mertzzenich@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