

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE

**“FORGIVENESS: FROM THE HEART AND TO THE BONES”**



**16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

September 17, 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

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*If you would like to sing along with this morning's pre-service hymns, please locate  
"I Was There To Hear Your Morning Cry" (FWS #2051); "I've Got Peace Like a River" (FWS #2145); and  
"Take My Life, and Let It Be" (UMH #399) in your hymnals.*

## **WE GATHER to be NURTURED**

*Ringing of the Bell*

Prelude "Dove of Peace" *Arr. David Cherwein*

### **§ Call to Worship**

*Leader:* A kind word opens a closed flower.

***People:* A soul-deep prayer lifts the clouds.**

*Leader:* A generous gift loosens hardened hearts.

***People:* A quiet deed catches another's attention.**

*Leader:* A heartfelt forgiveness releases new possibilities.

***People:* Each act of love, each measure of care,**

*Leader:* Weaves another strand in God's kingdom

***All:* And causes the heart to sing.**

§ Opening Hymn UMH #327 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

## **WE ARE NURTURED by GOD'S WORD**

New Testament Reading Romans 14:1-12

*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 # 585, vs. 1 "This Little Light of Mine"

*The children are invited to come forward as we sing.*

Noisy Offering (Donations Benefit Our Waffles & Worship Ministry)

Concluding Hymn "Hallelujah (Praise Ye the Lord)" *Author Unknown*

§ Gospel Reading Matthew 18:21-35

*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**

“Forgiveness: From the Heart and to the Bones”

*Rev. Dr. Richard A. Wang*

## **WE RESPOND to GOD'S WORD**

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer, UMH #895

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves

Offertory

“All Good Gifts”

*Martin*

Presented by Chancel Choir

§ Doxology UMH #94

**“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

## **WE ARE SCATTERED to SERVE**

§ Hymn of Sending Forth FWS #2216

**“When We Are Called to Sing Your Praise”**

§ Benediction

People of God, having been reconciled to God, you are sent to be agents of reconciliation to the world. Go from this place to forgive, to love, to restore, to bring peace, and to live in joy. Our creating, redeeming, reconciling God goes with us in the power of his Spirit. Amen.

Choral Benediction

“Deep Peace”

*Sexton*

Postlude

“Be Thou My Vision”

*Arr. Eleanor Whitsett*

*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 the Gwen Thomas Memorial in memory of the beloved Les Thomas's birthday, September 20.**



COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
 215 N. Court Street, Rockford, IL 61103  
 (815) 962-6061, WWW.COURTSTREETUMC.ORG

**TODAY'S WORSHIP**

<b>Ushers:</b>	The DuWayne Stanis Team	<b>Acolyte:</b>	Lili Breson
<b>Sound Tech:</b>	Stan Tunnell	<b>Video Tech:</b>	Steve Ripley
<b>Van Driver:</b>	Jeff Mann	<b>Liturgist:</b>	Karen Brown

**Livestream Tech:** Krysta Tilges & Ella Anderson

**Facetime Hostess:** Judy Mehren

Announcements

- **The Domestic Violence Subcommittee is meeting on September 19<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. in the library.** Everyone is welcome to participate.
- **SAVE THE DATE:** On Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> we mark the beginning of Domestic Violence Awareness Month with a special 10 a.m. worship service and an after-service walk for awareness through the downtown area.
- **'Tis the season to be thankful, so let us harvest a host of hallelujahs in gratitude of what the Lord provides.** Join us after worship service on October 8<sup>th</sup> for our Hallelujah Harvest, an autumnal festival filled with fellowship and seasonal food.
- **Pastor Appreciation:** We will hold a special after-service reception on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> in honor of Pastor Cal and Gwen and all they do to support us as a congregation. Feel free to bring cards or notes relaying your personal gratitude.
- **Don't forget the SCRIP Committee has a wide selection of retail gift cards to help you with your autumn lawn care needs.** Consider: Walmart, Menards, Lowe's, and The Home Depot.
- **If you would like to join the Chancel Choir this year, please meet in the choir room at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays for weekly rehearsal. The Jubellation Bell Choir meets on Tuesdays at 6 p.m.**
- **SAVE THE DATE: Discoverers Book Sale & Art Emporium Book & Art Sale** Runs Saturday, October 7 through Tuesday, October 10. Please donate books and artwork for the sale throughout September. Drop Box Outside the Church Library.

Court Street United Methodist Church Staff

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