

ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE

“STOP COMPLAINING – START PRAISING”



17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 24, 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

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

"Lead on, O King Eternal"

Joshua Evanovich

§ Call to Worship

Leader: I will exalt you, my God and King, and praise your name forever.

***People:* I will praise you every day; yes, I will praise you forever.**

Leader: Great is the LORD! He is most worthy of praise!

***People:* Let each generation tell its children of your mighty acts.**

Leader: I will meditate on your majestic, glorious splendor and your wonderful miracles.

***People:* Your awe-inspiring deeds will be on every tongue; I will proclaim your greatness.**

Leader: Everyone will share the story of your wonderful goodness; we sing with joy of your righteousness.

***People:* The LORD is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.**

—Psalm 145:1-8

§ Opening Hymn FWS #2216

"When We Are Called to Sing Your Praise"

WE ARE NURTURED by GOD'S WORD

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 16:2-15

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 UMH # 585, vs. 1

"This Little Light of Mine"

The children are invited to come forward as we sing.

Concluding Hymn

“Hallelujah (Praise Ye the Lord)”

Author Unknown

§ Gospel Reading

Matthew 20:1-16

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

“Stop Complaining – Start Praising”

Rob & Lorelle Wandell

§ Hymn of Praise

“Great is the Lord”

Composed by Deborah D. Smith & Michael W. Smith

Please refer to the screens for song lyrics.

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 UMH #139

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

§ Benediction

Philippians 4:6

In everything you do, stay away from complaining and arguing, so that no one can speak a word of blame against you. Go and live clean, innocent lives as children of God in a dark world full of crooked and perverse people. Let your lives shine brightly before them.

Choral Benediction

“Deep Peace”

Sexton

Postlude

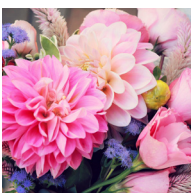
“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

Arr. Joel Raney

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 Stan and Joan Tunnell in honor of the First Anniversary of Dylan and Kayla Latham.



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

TODAY'S WORSHIP

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|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Ushers: | The DuWayne Stanis Team | Acolyte: | Kaylee Bulliner |
| Sound Tech: | Tim Welk | Video Tech: | Steve Ripley |
| Van Driver: | Curly Thompson | Liturgist: | Cindy Anderson |

Livestream Tech: Krysta Tilges & Ella Anderson

Facetime Hostesses: Nancy Doran, Georgalee George, and Dorothy Powell

Announcements

- **NEXT WEEK:** On Sunday, October 1st 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. **We will also collect for the annual appeal for World Communion Sunday.**
- **‘Tis the season to be thankful, so let us harvest a host of hallelujahs in gratitude of what the Lord provides.** Join us after service on October 8th for our Hallelujah Harvest. We’re serving beef barbecue, cheesy potatoes, and yummy apple and pumpkin desserts. Jodi Beach and Jim McDowell will present music, and there will be seasonal activities. Free-will donations are appreciated.
- **Pastor Appreciation:** We will hold a special after-service reception on Sunday, October 15th 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.
- **COMING SOON: 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 is outside the Church Library. See poster in the handicap entrance for hours of operation. Sale will be held in the Youth Center.
- **YIKES!** The CROP Hunger Walk is just a few short weeks away (Sunday, October 15th). It’s not too late to join the Court Street team, and it’s never too late to support the cause. Donations primarily benefit CWS (of Blanket Sunday fame) and are used by them to alleviate hunger throughout the world. For more information, visit <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/team/court-street-united-methodist-church>.

Court Street United Methodist Church Staff

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|-----------------------|---------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| 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 Mertenich | Organist | | andrew.mertenich@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 |