

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

- |                                                    |                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> First time guest          | <input type="checkbox"/> Member                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Returning guest           | <input type="checkbox"/> Interested in membership or Baptism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Looking for a church home |                                                              |

### New Contact Information:

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

### Opportunities to serve

#### Saturday Meal Site opportunities to serve:

- Hosts: Someone who can Hand out meals in the parking lot.
- Clean-up crew. Come around 12:00-1:00pm.
- Provide grocery bags and/or socks for Meal Site & Operation Safety Net

#### Worship team opportunities to serve:

- Greeter—Greet people at the 5th Ave and Handicap Entrances.
- Usher—Greet people as they come into the service. Help with offering and Communion.
- Video—Get behind the camera to make a video recording of the sermon.
- Editor—Take the footage of the worship series and edit into a video to be posted on youtube.
- Sound—Help with the sound board, making sure mic levels are correct during worship.
- Slides—Help switch the slides during the service.

## May 2, 2021 Announcements

We are blessed by your presence, and pray that worship is meaningful for you. You are invited to note your attendance and mailing address on the blue attendance tear-off sheet found in each bulletin. This sheet may be left at your seat for the ushers to gather after service. We encourage family participation in worship. We can provide activity bags for children upon request. Please see an usher for more information. Ushers can also provide you with large print bulletins if needed. We extend a special welcome to you and trust you will experience God's presence today.

### Sunday School Classes

Children's Sunday School K—12th Grade @ 10:30am— in the back of the sanctuary

Swahili Bible Study Class @10:30am—Swahili Class Room

Adult Sunday School Class @ 10:30am— Epworth Hall and Zoom

**Discipleship Schedule Continues on ZOOM** Call in to (312)626-6799 or open the Zoom app and enter the Meeting ID: 961 006 728. Adult Sunday School at 10:30am, Monday Bible Study at noon and Wednesday Prayer & Devotion at noon.

**Ushers Needed** As we begin to gather again in the sanctuary on Sunday morning, there will be a need for more ushers. The usher duties at this time have been reduced due to our new COVID-19 procedures. If you are interested in learning more about being an usher please see an usher at the end of service or call the church office.

**Offering Counter Needed** Our Financial Secretary is in need of a volunteer to help count the offer on the 3rd Monday of every other month at 9 a.m. If you are a member of Two Rivers and would like to assist the church in this way, please contact Charlotte Peterson at char1728@aol.com or call the church office.

**New Online Giving Option at Tworiversumc.org** We're excited to share that we've launched a new way of giving online at Two Rivers Church through Tithe.ly, a safe and secure giving platform that allows you to give one-time or recurring gifts! Go to [tworiversumc.org/donate](http://tworiversumc.org/donate) or scan this QR Code with your smart phone camera and follow the steps to donate.



Network: Two Rivers Sanctuary  
Password: TwoRivers2013  
[www.TwoRiversUMC.org](http://www.TwoRiversUMC.org)



May 2, 2021  
Fifth Sunday of Easter



### Acts 15:1-18

Some people came down from Judea teaching the family of believers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom we've received from Moses, you can't be saved." Paul and Barnabas took sides against these Judeans and argued strongly against their position.

The church at Antioch appointed Paul, Barnabas, and several others from Antioch to go up to Jerusalem to set this question before the apostles and the elders. The church sent this delegation on their way. They traveled through Phoenicia and Samaria, telling stories about the conversion of the Gentiles to everyone. Their reports thrilled the brothers and sisters. When they arrived in Jerusalem, the church, the apostles, and the elders all welcomed them. They gave a full report of what God had accomplished through their activity. Some believers from among the Pharisees stood up and claimed, "The Gentiles must be circumcised. They must be required to keep the Law from Moses."

The apostles and the elders gathered to consider this matter. After much debate, Peter stood and addressed them, "Fellow believers, you know that, early on, God chose me from among you as the one through whom the Gentiles would hear the word of the gospel and come to believe. God, who knows people's deepest thoughts and desires, confirmed this by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us. He made no distinction between us and them, but purified their deepest thoughts and desires through faith. Why then are you now challenging God by placing a burden on the shoulders of these disciples that neither we nor our ancestors could bear? On the contrary, we believe that we and they are saved in the same way, by the grace of the Lord Jesus."

The entire assembly fell quiet as they listened to Barnabas and Paul describe all the signs and wonders God did among the Gentiles through their activity. When Barnabas and Paul also fell silent, James responded, "Fellow believers, listen to me. Simon reported how, in his kindness, God came to the Gentiles in the first place, to raise up from them a people of God. The prophets' words agree with this; as it is written,

After this I will return,  
and I will rebuild David's fallen tent;  
I will rebuild what has been torn down.

I will restore it  
so that the rest of humanity will seek the Lord,  
even all the Gentiles who belong to me.

The Lord says this, the one who does these things  
known from earliest times.

## GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

Prelude "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" - Clarinet Duet

### Greeting

#### Psalm 22:25-31

I offer praise in the great congregation because of you; I will fulfill my promises in the presence of those who honor God. Let all those who are suffering eat and be full! Let all who seek the Lord praise him! I pray your hearts live forever! Every part of the earth will remember and come back to the Lord; every family among all the nations will worship you. Because the right to rule belongs to the Lord, he rules all nations. Indeed, all the earth's powerful will worship him; all who are descending to the dust will kneel before him; my being also lives for him. Future descendants will serve him; generations to come will be told about my Lord. They will proclaim God's righteousness to those not yet born, telling them what God has done.

Psalm Song "O Love!" - Richard B.C.

#### Prayer of Confession

God of Resurrection, we are witnesses to great things, and yet we too often live as if we have not seen your power. Forgive us for living as Saturday people, convinced that death and fear have won the day; and not as Easter people, empowered by your loving Spirit. Forgive us for hiding in fear, comfort, bitterness, selfishness, and status quo and empower us for justice, love, compassion, and new life.

*(Pause for silent reflection and confession)*

One: Hear the good news, when the women went to the tomb, they found it empty and two mysterious figures proclaimed, "He is not here. Christ is risen!"

All: He is risen indeed! We are forgiven by the living and risen Christ, Amen.

#### \*Passing of the Peace

Hymn #2220 in FWS "We Are God's People"

### Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

#### Prayer for Illumination

All: Holy God, open our hearts to the story of your love. Open our minds to new ways of knowing you. Open our doors for all whom you would welcome. Amen.

Scripture Reading Acts 15:1-18

Sermon Council at Jerusalem -Rev. Robb McCoy

## RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

#### Offering Reflection and Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy and Gracious God, we give you thanks. You have given us all. You have given us your breath of life. You have given us your Son to show us the Way. You have given us your forgiveness. You have given us your Spirit. We now return to you our breath, our strength, and our faith. Use us for your Kingdom, empower us through your grace. Amen.

Holy Communion See screens for Call and Response

Hymn #304 "Easter People Raise Your Voices"

\*Blessing and Dismissal (Please wait for ushers to dismiss each row)

Postlude "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" - Clarinet Duet

Hymnal music provided by Mark Swessinger, baritone and Nancy Schwegler, piano  
\* You are invited to stand as you are able.  
FWS - The Faith We Sing (black hymnal)  
UMH - United Methodist Hymnal (red hymnal)  
Words of anthem/hymn reprinted under CCLI License

May 2, 2021



## PRAYER MINISTRY

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Who would you like to see this prayer?

- Pastor Only.** Only the pastor will see this prayer. He will most likely see it and be in prayer for it on Monday morning.
- Prayer Chain.** These prayers will be sent to those who have signed up for prayer chain email. Names only will be printed in newsletter if it is an ongoing need.

Please be in prayer for:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please pray for this:

- For this week only.
- Until \_\_\_\_\_
- This is an ongoing need.

I am interested in being a part of the Prayer Chain:

Email: \_\_\_\_\_