

NAME: _____

- First time guest
- Returning guest
- Member
- Interested in membership or Baptism

New Contact Information:

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Opportunities to serve

Observe a Holy Lent:

- Dedicate yourself to a fast or to start a spiritual discipline that will draw you closer to God.
- Determine to attend the evening Vespers services on Wednesdays from 5:30-6:15.

Two Rivers Outreach Ministry opportunities:

- Donate an umbrella or poncho to the Little Free Pantry.
- Donate new or used household items to Operation Safety Net.
- Donate non-perishable food and hygiene products for our Little Free Pantry.

Worship team opportunities to serve:

- Liturgist** – Assist Pastor with readings and communion during worship.
- Greeter**– Greet people at the West parking lot.
- 4th Sunday Usher**—Open the church for Sunday worship, make coffee, greet people as they come into the service, and help with offering and Communion.
- Tech Support** Video recording, editing, sound board and /or slides.

March 26, 2023 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 placed in the collection bowl at the front of the sanctuary at the end of the 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.

Adult Sunday School—10:45 am in Asbury Parlor
Family Sunday School—10:45 am starts in Epworth Hall
Swahili Sunday School—10:45 am in the Swahili Class

Adult Sunday School The Adult Sunday School Class continues its Passion Week study with the fifth topic, "The Last Supper -- risking the loss of friends." All adults are welcome to join in the lesson and discussion at 10:45 in Asbury Parlor.

Discipleship Schedule Monday Bible Study meets in-person every week in Epworth Hall at noon. Wednesday Prayer & Devotion Time also continues to meet on Facebook Live and Zoom at noon every week. Zoom Meeting ID # for Wednesday is 961 006 728. The Zoom meeting can also be joined by phone simply by dial 312-626-6799. Once connected, dial the Meeting ID # 961 006 728, and you will join in the conversation.

Wednesday Night Vespers Every Wednesday night in Lent (from March 1-April 5) there will be a service in the sanctuary from 5:30-6:15. This will be a time to reflect on the day and "check-in" with your spiritual journey through the Lenten season.

Youth after Vespers Kids and Youth are invited to come to the Vespers service from 5:30-6:15, and then remain with Pastor Robb for a time of Bible study, discussion, and games. We will stay from 6:15-7:30 and take a closer look at the events of the last week of Jesus' life. Then we will have time for active games, group activities, and fun team-building.

Two Rivers Readers The Two Rivers Readers will meet tomorrow, March 27 at 10:00 am in the back of the sanctuary to discuss the book, the *Revised and Updated Living Faithfully: Human Sexuality and The United Methodist Church*. As always, our group is safe and nonjudgmental, and our discussions are insightful, challenging, and a lot of fun. We'd love to have you join us!

Amani Café Pop-up Postponed The proposed date for the first Amani Café pop-up restaurant has been delayed. It will not take place on the original date (April 2). The group needs more time to get certified and work out some details of the plan. A late April date is still possible.

Network: Two Rivers Sanctuary
Password: TwoRivers2013
www.TwoRiversUMC.org



Donation QR Code

March 26, 2023
Fifth Sunday of Lent



Matthew 25:31-46(CEB)

"Now when the Human One comes in his majesty and all his angels are with him, he will sit on his majestic throne. All the nations will be gathered in front of him. He will separate them from each other, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right side. But the goats he will put on his left.

"Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who will receive good things from my Father. Inherit the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world began. I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.'

"Then those who are righteous will reply to him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? When did we see you as a stranger and welcome you, or naked and give you clothes to wear? When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

"Then the king will reply to them, 'I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me.'

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Get away from me, you who will receive terrible things. Go into the unending fire that has been prepared for the devil and his angels. I was hungry and you didn't give me food to eat. I was thirsty and you didn't give me anything to drink. I was a stranger and you didn't welcome me. I was naked and you didn't give me clothes to wear. I was sick and in prison, and you didn't visit me.'

"Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and didn't do anything to help you?' Then he will answer, 'I assure you that when you haven't done it for one of the least of these, you haven't done it for me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment. But the righteous ones will go into eternal life."

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

PRELUDE "Come Lord Jesus" - Angrisano/Tomaczek

GREETING

*OPENING HYMN #157 "Jesus Shall Reign" vs. 1, 3, & 5

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION Liturgist—Charlotte Peterson

All: Strange, mighty, and loving God, you are strange to us because in our sin, we have trouble understanding what perfect love looks like. It is difficult for us to be a part of your Kingdom of Heaven because we are born into a system powered by greed, power, fear, and scarcity. Your Kingdom is strange because it disturbs our comfortable concepts of how the world operates. Forgive us for misunderstanding. Forgive us for missing the signs of your Kingdom all around. Forgive us for falling short of the perfect love. Heal us, and help us to dwell in the mystery, grace, and wonder of the Kingdom of Heaven that is at hand.

Pause for silent reflection and confession

One: Hear the good news: Forgiveness does not come just seven times, but seven times seventy. God's mercy is wider than we can ever imagine. Forgive yourself because you are forgiven.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

PRAYER HYMN #142 "If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee" vs. 1

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.

ANTHEM "Gentle Shepherd" - Dresie
Two Rivers Sanctuary Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Holy and gracious God, the stories that Jesus told about your Kingdom are strange. Fill us with your Spirit as we dwell in the mystery of your parables and journey together in a Holy Lent. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Matthew 25:31-46 (CEB)

INTERLUDE "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley" - arr. T. Waldrop
Two Rivers Handbell Choir

SERMON *Strange Kingdom: Last Judgement* - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONSE HYMN (See Screens)"We Give Thee But Thine Own" vs. 1, 3 & 5

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

*OFFERING HYMN #269 "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" vs 1 & 5
(all are invited to place your offering in the offering container at the front of the sanctuary as we sing our Offering hymn)

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: Lord Jesus, you revealed to us the mystery of your strange kingdom with stories of forgiveness, subverted fairness, invitation, preparedness, and judgment. We thank you for these glimpses into the Kingdom of Heaven. We thank you for the forgiveness you offer that defies worldly logic. We thank you for the many ways you guide us in a Holy Lenten season. Thank you for your continued provisions on our journey. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY #95

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE "Christ in Me Arise" - Thomson

* 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

March 26, 2023



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. They will also be prayed for by first name only during our Wednesday online prayer service.

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: _____