

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:

- Pray for a neighbor each day this week.
- 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 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 5, 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 second topic, "The temple - risking righteous anger." All adults are welcome to join in the lesson and discussion at 10:45 in Asbury Parlor.

Discipleship Schedule Monday Bible Study will **NOT** meet on February 27, but will resume meeting in-person on **March 6** 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.

Dynamite Prayer: a 28 Day Experiment will begin today. This is a daily prayer guide that will show you how to begin a practice of "breakthrough prayer." We will join together on this 28-day adventure to learn how to be fueled by the dynamic power of the Holy Spirit. The journal will provide daily meditations, reflective questions, and a short breakthrough prayer. This 28-Day adventure will help move us through a holy Lent and carry us toward a powerful Easter experience. Copies of the book will be available at the back of the sanctuary. A \$15 suggested donation will help cover the cost of the books. Free versions are available to download on the Kindle app. Notify the church office if you would like a code.

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. These 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.

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



Donation QR Code

March 5, 2023
Second Sunday of Lent



Matthew 20:1-16 (CEB)

"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. After he agreed with the workers to pay them a denarion, he sent them into his vineyard.

"Then he went out around nine in the morning and saw others standing around the marketplace doing nothing. He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I'll pay you whatever is right.' And they went.

"Again around noon and then at three in the afternoon, he did the same thing. Around five in the afternoon he went and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you just standing around here doing nothing all day long?'

"'Because nobody has hired us,' they replied.

"He responded, 'You also go into the vineyard.'

"When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the workers and give them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and moving on finally to the first.' When those who were hired at five in the afternoon came, each one received a denarion. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more. But each of them also received a denarion. When they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, 'These who were hired last worked one hour, and they received the same pay as we did even though we had to work the whole day in the hot sun.'

"But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I did you no wrong. Didn't I agree to pay you a denarion? Take what belongs to you and go. I want to give to this one who was hired last the same as I give to you. Don't I have the right to do what I want with what belongs to me? Or are you resentful because I'm generous?' So those who are last will be first. And those who are first will be last."

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

PRELUDE "Here I Am to Worship" - Hughes

GREETING

*OPENING HYMN #430 "O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee" vs. 1, 2 & 4

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION Liturgist—Stephanie Raphael-Nakos

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

ANTHEM "See the Bread, See the Wine" - Althouse
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 20:1-16 (CEB)

INTERLUDE

"Holy, Holy, Holy" - arr. Charles W. Steele
Two Rivers Handbell Choir

SERMON

Strange Kingdom: Laborers in the Vineyard - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

HOLY COMMUNION

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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.

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

"You are My King" - Foote
* 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 5, 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: _____