

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.

## April 2, 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 sixth topic, "Gethsemane - risking temptation." 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.

**Welcoming Statement Workshop** As a part of our ongoing Reconciling Conversations, two writing workshops are scheduled in April. The first workshop will be at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, April 3. At this workshop, those who gather will craft our own welcome and mission statement. The Reconciling Ministries Network has a welcome statement, but we will work on our own statement that will reflect the needs of our particular congregation. Everyone is invited to participate in this writing workshop.

**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.

**Maundy Thursday Dinner Service** On April 6, people from Church of Peace UCC and Two Rivers will come together in our Epworth Hall for a unique experience of worship, fellowship, and community. All are invited to gather at 6:00 p.m. with a dish to share for a pot-luck dinner. At 6:30 we will begin dinner, share liturgy, prayers, singing, and reflections. The Bread and Cup of Communion will also be shared around the tables.

**Good Friday Stations of the Gospel** On April 7, the church will be open from 3:00-6:00 p.m. for our "Stations of the Gospel." This is a self-guided tour through the Gospel of Matthew with prayers and devotion. This is a chance for pilgrims to consider the journey that Jesus took from baptism to the Cross.

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



Donation QR Code

April 2, 2023  
Palm Sunday



### Matthew 21:1-17(CEB)

When they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus gave two disciples a task. He said to them, "Go into the village over there. As soon as you enter, you will find a donkey tied up and a colt with it. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that their master needs them." He sent them off right away. Now this happened to fulfill what the prophet said, Say to Daughter Zion, "Look, your king is coming to you, humble and riding on a donkey, and on a colt the donkey's offspring." The disciples went and did just as Jesus had ordered them. They brought the donkey and the colt and laid their clothes on them. Then he sat on them.

Now a large crowd spread their clothes on the road. Others cut palm branches off the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds in front of him and behind him shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" And when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up. "Who is this?" they asked. The crowds answered, "It's the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

Then Jesus went into the temple and threw out all those who were selling and buying there. He pushed over the tables used for currency exchange and the chairs of those who sold doves. He said to them, "It's written, My house will be called a house of prayer. But you've made it a hideout for crooks."

People who were blind and lame came to Jesus in the temple, and he healed them. But when the chief priests and legal experts saw the amazing things he was doing and the children shouting in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were angry. They said to Jesus, "Do you hear what these children are saying?"

"Yes," he answered. "Haven't you ever read, From the mouths of babies and infants you've arranged praise for yourself?" Then he left them and went out of the city to Bethany and spent the night there.

## GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

PRELUDE "Behold the Lamb of God" - Bob Bufford

GREETING

\*OPENING HYMN #278 "Hosanna, Lord Hosanna"

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION Liturgist—Dick Lee

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 "With the Waving of Palms" - Bock  
*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 21:1-17 (CEB)

MUSICAL OFFERING "And the Crowd Cried Out" - Jay Althouse  
*Olinda Gunther, soloist*

SERMON *Strange Kingdom: Triumphal Entry* - Rev. Robb McCoy

## RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

HOLY COMMUNION

Page 15

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 "Ride On, King Jesus" - Moses Hogan

\* 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

April 2, 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: \_\_\_\_\_