



### Romans 5:1-5 (CEB)

Therefore, since we have been made righteous through his faithfulness, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. We have access by faith into this grace in which we stand through him, and we boast in the hope of God’s glory. But not only that! We even take pride in our problems, because we know that trouble produces endurance, endurance produces character, and character produces hope. This hope doesn’t put us to shame, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

### Ephesians 2:4-9 (CEB)

However, God is rich in mercy. He brought us to life with Christ while we were dead as a result of the things that we did wrong. He did this because of the great love that he has for us. You are saved by God’s grace! And God raised us up and seated us in the heavens with Christ Jesus. God did this to show future generations the greatness of his goodness that God has shown us in Christ Jesus.

You are saved by God’s grace because of your faith. This salvation is God’s gift. It’s not something that you possessed. It’s not something you did that you can be proud of. Instead, we are God’s accomplishment, created in Christ Jesus to do good things. God planned for these things to be the way that we live our lives.

#### Welcome Statement



From the beginning of the Jesus movement, followers of Christ declared that there is no Jew or Greek, no slave or free, nor is there male and female. We, the people of Two Rivers United Methodist Church join in this movement of the Holy Spirit and declare that we celebrate the diversity of our neighborhood and the world.



We welcome and affirm people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual and affectional orientation, who are also of every age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, family structure, and of every economic, immigration, marital, and social status, and so much more. We believe that the body of Christ is more vital in its ministry when the whole diversity of the human family may enjoy full participation and leadership in the Church.

We welcome all who have known the pain of exclusion or discrimination in the Church and society, and acknowledge the pain caused by the exclusionary policies of the United Methodist Church. We will continue to work toward a more inclusive Church and invite you to join us in following Jesus Christ on the Way, marked by greater hospitality, kindness, justice, peace, understanding, and mutual respect.

#### Announcements for May 26, 2024

Swahili Sunday School—10:45 am in the Swahili Class Room  
Adult Sunday School—10:45 am in the Asbury Parlor

**Discipleship Schedule** Monday Bible Study meets every Monday in Epworth Hall at noon. Wednesday Prayer & Devotion Time meets 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 dialing 312-626-6799. Once connected, dial the Meeting ID # 961 006 728, and you will join in the conversation.

**Peace with Justice Sunday** Gifts on Peace with Justice Sunday fund programs that advocate for peace and justice in the United States and around the world. These programs empower United Methodists to speak out for removing structures and systems that harm God’s children globally. A special Peace with Justice offering envelope is available in your Sunday bulletin. Thank you in advance for your contributions.

**Volunteers Needed for Pride Events** We are in need of volunteers to be at tables at two upcoming Pride events in the Quad Cities. We need parents and youth to provide a friendly presence at our table to help share the good news of a church that is affirming of all people. Here are the two upcoming events:

**May 31-June 1 - Pride at Schwiebert Park.** This Friday-Saturday event requires someone at the table on Friday evening and Saturday from 12-9 (we can have teams of people willing to be there). We have also been offered an additional space for some “programming,” which could include presentations, conversations, or prayer.

**June 15 - Bass Street Pride.** This is a Saturday event organized by our own Viminda Shafer. Last year this was our first event, and it was a great experience. Contact Pastor Robb or check the box on the blue tear-off sheet for more information.

| Date | Liturgist          | Ushers                                 | Assistant Greeter |
|------|--------------------|--|-------------------|
| 5/26 | Charlotte Peterson | Doug Stephens, Kevin & Brianna Pollock |                   |
| 6/2  | Ellie McCoy        | Dave Dehnel & Candy Canik              |                   |
| 6/9  | Donna Burroughs    | Gerry Etzel, Roger Pohlman,            |                   |

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

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

#### New Contact Information:

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

#### Opportunities to serve

##### Searching for interest in fellowship:

- I’m Interested in volunteering at a Pride event. May 31 - June 1 at Schwiebert Park June 15 at Bass Street Landing.
- I’m interested in attending a Ministries Fair to find out more about ways to serve.
- I’m interested in learning more about the Beloved Community sessions.

##### Two Rivers Outreach Ministry opportunities:

- Donate household items to Operation Safety Net. (pots, pans, dishes, etc.)
- Donate Grocery Bags to our Saturday Meal Site & Operation Safety Net.
- Donate non-perishable food and hygiene products to 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.
- 2nd & 4th Sunday Ushers**—Open the church for Sunday worship and make coffee. Take offerings in bank bag to bank depository. (Must be a member of the church in good standing for at least 6 months.)

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



Donation QR Code

## GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE “America the beautiful” - Samuel A. Ward/arr. Fred Bock

### GREETING

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from John Wesley Sermon #43

One: What is salvation?

**All:** It is not the soul going to paradise. It is not a blessing which lies on the other side of death, or in the other world. It is not something at a distance. It is a present thing, a blessing which, through the free mercy of God, we now possess.

One: What is faith?

**All:** It is the two-fold operation of the Holy Spirit to both open and enlighten the eyes of our soul to the eternal world, piercing through the veil which hangs between time and eternity. Clouds and darkness rest upon us no more, but we see the glory which shall be revealed.

#### \*HYMN #181 UMH

“Ye Servants of God”

#### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

adapted from John Wesley Sermon #43

**All:** God of Grace, it is folly to think that all sin is gone. We wish that it was utterly rooted out of our heart. We know it to be true however, that sin has been suspended, not destroyed. Temptations are often revived, showing that sin was stunned before, but not dead. We now feel two principles, our desire to be of the Spirit, and our nature that opposes the will of God. So we come to you in confession, allowing the gradual work of sanctification to take place. We are enabled by the Spirit to move onward toward perfection.

*(Pause of silent confession and prayer)*

One: You shall not be disappointed for your hope. It will come. It will not tarry. This hour. This moment. Expect it by faith. Expect it as you are. Expect it now. Do you believe that we are sanctified by faith?

**All:** I do believe. We are forgiven by Christ and justified by faith. Amen.

#### \*PASSING THE PEACE

CHILDREN’S MOMENT #699 UMH “Come, and Let Us Sweetly Join” vs. 1

PRAYER HYMN #355 UMH

“Depth of Mercy” vs. 1

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

## PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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

### SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 5:1-5 & Ephesians 2:4-9 CEB)

### SERMON

“Grace Upon Grace (upon Grace)”- Rev. Robb McCoy

## RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

### RESPONSE HYMN #561 UMH

“Jesus, United by Thy Grace” vs. 1, 2, 5

### INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

### RECOGNITION AND PRAYER FOR GRADUATES

#### \*HYMN #413 UMH

“A Charge to Keep I Have” vs. 1-3

*(All are invited to place your offering and the detached part of the bulletin in the offering container at the front of the sanctuary as we sing)*

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in the grace of God that precedes all things. God’s creative energy is working in all and through all things. While creation has gone amiss through sin, God’s grace is yearning for us all to return to love. I believe in the grace of God that justifies through faith. Through faith, God’s grace can begin to repair the breach that was created by sin. I have decided to follow Christ, so I am renewed, forgiven, and empowered to walk on Christ’s path.

I believe in the grace of God that sanctifies me daily. Every day I am a new creation, formed in God’s image and molded by Christ’s love. It is the sanctifying grace of God that will move us on to perfection and into the glory of eternal life, not just in the hereafter, but as we live and breathe. Amen.

#### \*DOXOLOGY #94 UMH

#### \*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

### POSTLUDE

“Joyful, Joyful we adore thee”

- Beethoven

\* You are invited to stand as you are able.  
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May 26, 2024



### PRAYER MINISTRY

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Prayers for our Church and its ministry:

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

Prayers for people I know:

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

- I have permission to publish this prayer.  
 I do not have permission to share this prayer.

Prayers for the community/world:

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

Prayers for myself:

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