



John 6:56-59 (CEB)

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in them. As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me lives because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. It isn't like the bread your ancestors ate, and then they died. Whoever eats this bread will live forever." Jesus said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

Many of his disciples who heard this said, "This message is harsh. Who can hear it?"

Jesus knew that the disciples were grumbling about this and he said to them, "Does this offend you? What if you were to see the Human One going up where he was before? The Spirit is the one who gives life and the flesh doesn't help at all. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and life. Yet some of you don't believe." Jesus knew from the beginning who wouldn't believe and the one who would betray him. He said, "For this reason I said to you that none can come to me unless the Father enables them to do so." At this, many of his disciples turned away and no longer accompanied him.

Jesus asked the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?"

Simon Peter answered, "Lord, where would we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are God's holy one."

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 August 25, 2024

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

**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.

**Two Rivers Readers** The Two Rivers Readers will meet tomorrow, August 26 at 10:00 a.m. in the back of the sanctuary to discuss our next book, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling. As always, our group is safe and nonjudgmental, and our discussions are insightful, challenging, and a lot of fun. Please join us for a great discussion and tasty book themed treats!

**Parent Meeting** After worship this morning, Pastor Robb will be holding a Parent Meeting to discuss the upcoming kids and youth Sunday school options. If you have children in elementary, middle or high school please join the discussion.

**Jazz Sunday** Next Sunday, September 1, renowned QC trumpet player, Edgar Crockett will be joining us to add his upbeat and lively jazz sound to our worship service at 9:30. Don't miss this great annual Jazz Sunday!

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Assistant Greeter
8/25	Tamara Baugh	Dave Dehnel & Candy Canik	
9/1	Donna Burroughs	Brianna & Kevin Pollock	
9/8		Jerry Etzel, Roger Pohlman & Brianna & Kevin Pollock	

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

@RITwoRivers



Donation QR Code

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

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

New Contact Information:

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Opportunities to serve

Two Rivers Outreach Ministry opportunities:

- 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.)*
- Tech Support** -Video recording, editing, sound board and /or slides. Get behind the scenes and help create a meaningful worship experience for those in the sanctuary and those watching from home.

## GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE "The Love of the Lord" -M. Joncas/arr. J. Cotter

### GREETING

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We praise God, whose Word swept over the waters of creation, and breathed life into all things.

**All: Praise to the Lord Almighty.**

One: We praise God who provided manna in the wilderness when the people were delivered from slavery

**All: Praise to the Lord Almighty.**

One: We praise God, who still offers to us the Bread of Life, which is the gift of eternal life.

**All: Praise to the Lord Almighty. King of all Creation.**

\*HYMN #139 UMH "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" vs. 1, 2, 5

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (from Upper Room Worship Book)

**All: God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will.**

*(Pause for silent confession and prayer)*

One: Hear the good news, Jesus came to love the world, not to condemn it. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are a forgiven people.

**All: We are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.**

#### \*PASSING THE PEACE

PRAYER HYMN #599 UMH "Break Thou the Bread of Life" vs. 2

#### 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 glory forever. Amen.

## PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

MUSICAL OFFERING "Ave Maria" - Bach/Gounod

Marissa Elliott, soloist

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**All: Sustaining God, nourish us with the bread of life that comes when the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING John 6:56-69 (CEB)

SERMON "The Message Is Difficult!" - Rev. Robb McCoy

## RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

HYMN # 614 UMH "For the Bread Which You Have Broken"

#### INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

\*HYMN #130 UMH "God Will Take Care of You" vs. 1,2,4

*(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

One: When we are threatened by scarcity and feel the pain of hunger,

**All: We trust in Jesus who is the bread of life.**

One: When we search in the darkness, unable to find our way,

**All: We trust in Jesus who is the light of the world.**

One: When we are vulnerable and in need of protection,

**All: We trust in Jesus who is the gate for the sheep.**

One: When we are distracted by lies and tempted to wander off,

**All: We trust in Jesus the good shepherd, and know his voice.**

One: When we fear that death is the end, and all is lost,

**All: We trust in Jesus who is the resurrection and the life.**

One: When reality feels shattered, and truth is distorted by deception,

**All: We trust in Jesus who is the way, the truth, and the life.**

One: When we are isolated and alone, cut off from community,

**All: We trust in Jesus, who is the true vine. Amen**

\*DOXOLOGY #94 UMH

#### \*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE "Allegretto" - W. Boyce

\* You are invited to stand as you are able.  
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August 25, 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:

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