

Name _____

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

New Contact Information

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Ways to Serve

OUTREACH

- Donate coats, gloves, hats and boots or monetary funds to our Winter Wear Ministry. Write "Coat Drive" on the memo line of your check or on your envelope.
- Donate monetary funds to our Hygiene Bag ministry. Write "Hygiene" on the memo line of your check or on your envelope.
- Donate food and/or funds to Two Rivers Meal Site, Operation Safety Net and Little Free Pantry ministries.
- Volunteer on Saturdays at Meal Site, set up, serving, cleanup, or all of the above.
- Donate snacks for kids Sunday school class (goldfish crackers, fruit snacks, pretzels, etc.)

WORSHIP

- Liturgist** – Assist Pastor with readings and communion during worship.
- Video** - Work the camera in balcony to improve YouTube video
- 4th Sunday Ushers** —Open the church for Sunday worship and make coffee. Take offerings in bank bag to bank depository.



RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK

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 history of 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 March 22, 2026

Swahili Sunday School—10:45 am in the Swahili Classroom

Kids & Youth Sunday School - 10:45 am in the Sanctuary

Adult Sunday School - 10:45 am in Asbury Parlor

Discipleship Schedule

Monday Bible Study meets at noon in Epworth Hall. 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.

The Chosen Lenten Study This Lent, you are invited to experience the fifth season of *The Chosen* together on **Thursday** evenings at 5:30. We will begin with dinner, watch an episode while we eat, and then have a discussion afterwards. The first four seasons are available to watch for free at <https://www.byutv.org/the-chosen> or on *The Chosen* app.

Palm Sunday Movie in the Sanctuary at 11:00 a.m. After worship next Sunday, we will gather together to watch "The Upper Room," a movie that is a part of the television series "The Chosen." This will be a one-room-Sunday school event. People of all ages are invited to come to gather in the Sanctuary for a showing of "The Chosen: The Upper Room," a two-part episode depicting the events of the last supper.

Guest Wifi



Online Giving



Follow us @RITworivers



March 22, 2026 - The Fifth Sunday of Lent
Matthew 27:27-44

The governor's soldiers took Jesus into the governor's house, and they gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. ²⁸ They stripped him and put a red military coat on him. ²⁹ They twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They put a stick in his right hand. Then they bowed down in front of him and mocked him, saying, "Hey! King of the Jews!" ³⁰ After they spit on him, they took the stick and struck his head again and again. ³¹ When they finished mocking him, they stripped him of the military coat and put his own clothes back on him. They led him away to crucify him.

As they were going out, they found Simon, a man from Cyrene. They forced him to carry his cross. ³³ When they came to a place called Golgotha, which means Skull Place, ³⁴ they gave Jesus wine mixed with vinegar to drink. But after tasting it, he didn't want to drink it. ³⁵ After they crucified him, they divided up his clothes among them by drawing lots. ³⁶ They sat there, guarding him. ³⁷ They placed above his head the charge against him. It read, "This is Jesus, the king of the Jews." ³⁸ They crucified with him two outlaws, one on his right side and one on his left.

Those who were walking by insulted Jesus, shaking their heads ⁴⁰ and saying, "So you were going to destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, were you? Save yourself! If you are God's Son, come down from the cross."

In the same way, the chief priests, along with the legal experts and the elders, were making fun of him, saying, ⁴² "He saved others, but he can't save himself. He's the king of Israel, so let him come down from the cross now. Then we'll believe in him. ⁴³ He trusts in God, so let God deliver him now if he wants to. He said, 'I'm God's Son.'" ⁴⁴ The outlaws who were crucified with him insulted him in the same way.

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE "The Old Rugged Cross" - arr. Amy Potter

GREETING

LENTEN REFLECTION "Solidarity" by Bell Hooks

*HYMN #286 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded (all)

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (adapted from a Prayer of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, seedbed.com)

All: O God, early in the morning I cry to you. Help me to pray and to concentrate my thoughts on you; I cannot do this alone. In me there is darkness, but with you there is light; I am lonely, but you do not leave me; I am feeble in heart, but with you there is help; I am restless, but with you there is peace. In me there is bitterness, but with you there is patience. I do not understand your ways, but you know the way for me. Speak to me in this moment. Breathe into me your words of life and grace.

Pause for silent confession and reflection

One: Through Christ we are restored to liberty. We are enabled to live now. We may stand before God and humanity as forgiven and freed.

All: Lord wherever this may lead us. Whatever this day may bring, your name be praised. Amen

*PASSING THE PEACE

THE DIMINISHING LIGHT

One: We begin with six lights, and as we approach the Cross, the lights have been extinguished by betrayal, agony, denial, and shame.

All: Today the light is extinguished by cruelty.

One: They beat and whipped him, and placed a crown of thorns on his head. They cast lots for his clothes. They wanted to do more than kill him, they wanted him to suffer such shame that no one would claim him. No one would remember him. They wanted to erase him.

All: The people shouted insults. "So you're going to tear down the Temple and rebuild it in three days?" The leaders mocked him, "He's the King of Israel, so let him come down... He trusts God, so let God deliver him now."

One: And there he hung, naked and bloodied. Erased.

All: Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

PRAYER SONG #2275 FWS "Kyrie Elieson" (which means "Lord have mercy")

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

ANTHEM "And When It Was Evening" - Ken Litton
Two Rivers Sanctuary Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: O God, your word is a lamp before my feet, and a light for my journey. As we venture into the darkness of Lent, may your light illumine our path. Amen

SCRIPTURE – Matthew 27:27-44 (Common English Bible)

SERMON "Mocked, Beaten, Crucified" - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN #298 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (all)

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

*OFFERTORY #163 UMH "Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know" v. 1-4
All are invited to place your offering and the detached part of the bulletin in the offering basin at the front as we sing

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Anointed One, as we journey toward the Cross this Lenten season, we look deep into the heart of betrayal, denial, and shame. It is not an easy road, yet we trust that hope remains. Even as the darkness creeps, the light still shines, and the darkness will not overcome it. For this, we give you thanks.

These are the things we offer—a longing for renewal, an honest reflection, a restatement of our priorities, and a desire to remain steadfast.

Receive also this gift of prayers, presence, and treasure. They are our sincere and humble response to the magnificent glory that you offer to us.

In Christ's holy name, and with the sure and certain hope of Resurrection, we pray. Amen.

DOXOLOGY #95 UMH

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE "Our God Reigns" -arr. Fred Bock

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK

March 22, 2026

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 publish this prayer.

Prayers for the community/world:

Prayers for myself:

**=please rise if you are able*

*UMH = United Methodist Hymnal (red book) FWS = Faith We Sing (black book).
Music used with permission under CCLI License:*