



May 5, 2024

COMMUNION SUNDAY

We Gather Together

Prelude Sherry Steele

Welcome, Announcements, Joys and Concerns Rev. Valerie Oden

Introit *Where Two or Three are Gathered* MV 14

Call to Worship Holly Ruryk, Lay Leader

One: Friends, we are called to love one another, because love is from God.

All: Love ignited creation and gave us birth.

One: We are called to proclaim God's love in all that we say and do.

All: In all our relationships, may God's love be made known.

*Opening Hymn *Come, Children Join to Sing* VU 345

Children's Time Krystal Manuel

Children and youth are invited downstairs after this hymn. Youth will return to worship for Communion, children will remain downstairs today. There is a family room for wee ones behind the piano from which the service can be seen and heard and a volunteer will assist you.

*Children's Song *Jump for Joy* MV 48

*Passing the Peace (contactless)

As we pass the peace to one another, please consider using methods other than shaking hands: fist bump, elbow bump, hand over heart, hands clasped in bow. Thank you!

We Listen for the Spirit Stirring

Scripture Psalm 98, Refrain 1 VU 818
John 15: 9-17

Anthem *They'll Know We Are Christians* RUC Choir
by Peter Scholtes; arr. Lloyd Larson Katy Luyk, Director

Reflection "The Ultimate Four-Letter Word" Rev. Valerie Oden

*Hymn of Invitation *Bread of Life* MV 194

We Share at the Table

Please see Insert

We Go Forth to Serve

Stewardship Moment Holly Ruryk

Offering our Gifts

Offering plates can be found in the narthex. Electronic gifts are welcome by e-transfer to contactus@riverbendunited.org or on the church website. We give in gratitude for God's grace and in hope that peace may spread to all.

*Closing Hymn *Sent Out in Jesus' Name* MV 212

*Benediction

*Musical Response *Sent Out in Jesus' Name (Part 1 only)* MV 212

Postlude Sherry Steele

*denotes you are invited to stand as you are able and inclined

"VU" refers to the red hardback hymnal *Voices United*
"MV" refers to the spiral bound songbook *More Voices*

Welcome to Riverbend United Church. If you're new with us, we would love to meet you. Feel free to introduce yourself to your neighbour in the pew, and/or fill out a Welcome Card in the pews if you wish to be updated on upcoming activities or receive a call from our minister.

Thank you to Holly Ruryk, RUC Care Coordinator,
for helping lead today's service of worship.

New Members will be received soon. If you've been thinking of officially joining the church, please contact Valerie or the Office.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Riverbend United Church

May 5, 2024

Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to God.

Leader: Let us give thank for the gift of life.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Holy are you, God of life,
Creator of light, Giver of all life, Source of love.
You guide the sun, cradle the moon,
and toss the stars.
At your word the earth was made
and spun on its course among the planets.

**All: You breathe life into us and sustain us
along the way.
Even when we turn away from you,
You do not forsake us.**

Leader: Creator, Christ, and Spirit,
we praise you for your love revealed to us in Jesus,
who walks with us, our Wisdom, our Way.

**All: He shares our joy and sorrow,
invites us to be made whole,
feeds the hungry and sets the captives free.**

Leader: And so we join the song of all creation
proclaiming your goodness:

Hymn

MV 203

Blessing the Elements

A Prayer of Self-Giving

Leader: Loving God, we rejoice in the gift of your grace,
remembering Christ's life and death,
proclaiming his healing presence here and now.

**All: We offer ourselves to you that our lives
may proclaim the mystery of our faith:**

Hymn

MV 204

Prayer for Transformation

Leader: Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these gifts,
that we may be the body of Christ in the world,
a healing presence to all we meet.

**All: Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy spirit, all glory
is yours God of all, now and forever.**

Hymn

MV 205

The Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Music by Sherry Steele

*Please come forward as you are able and receive the bread, dip it in
the cup, then return to your seat by the outside aisle. Gluten free
bread is available at the centre serving station. We use grape juice.
If you wish to be served in your seats, please lift a hand
and the elements will be brought to you.*

Prayer After Receiving (Unison)

**For the gift of your grace, O God we are thankful. With
this meal, may we be nourished in your way of love, and
move from this place as the hands and feet of Christ in
this world, seeking justice always. Amen.**