



August 31, 2025

*“Sometimes I have loved the peacefulness of an ordinary Sunday.
It is like standing in a newly planted garden after a warm rain.
You can feel the silent and invisible life.”
-Marilynne Robinson in Gilead*

We Gather Together

Prelude Tyson Kerr

Welcome Rev. Dr. Catherine MacLean

The Life and Work of the Church

Introit *Morning Has Broken* VU 409

Call to Worship Riffing on Psalm 8

One: When I look at your heavens,

**All: the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have
established;**

One: When I listen to the breath of Spirit,

All: the voices of compassion, the winds of change;

One: When I laugh in the deep refuge of friendship

All: the safety of love, the divinity of joy;

One: I recall you have made us a little lower than God

**All: and crowned us with stewardship and
affirmation;**

One: May your Spirit move.

All: May your Spirit move.

Opening Prayer (Unison)

**Day by day, Holy One, day by day the sun rises, and the
moon moves through its courses, and the wind blows,
and the tides rise. Every day, Holy One, we hold our
loved ones in our hearts and the travails of the world in
our prayers. In the morning of this day, Holy One, we**

**bring awe and worry for our personal daily living. In this
moment, Holy One, we have in our hands the strength to
open doors and the grace to be holy to one another.
Bless us. Amen.**

*Opening Hymn *And on this Path* MV 8

We Listen for the Promise of New Life

Scripture Reading Ezekiel 2:9-3:3 Itohan Tessy Igiebor

Solo *As the Moon* by Christopher Grundy TLUS 50
Tyson Kerr

Reflection “On honey and bad words” Rev. Dr. C. MacLean

*Hymn of Response *Spirit God, Be Our Breath* MV 150

We Share in Prayer

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Prayer Hymn *Put Peace into Each Other's Hands vs. 1* MV 173

Silent Prayer / Pastoral Prayer / The Lord's Prayer

We Offer our Lives

Offering Our Gifts

*Offering plates can be found in the foyer. Gifts designated to St.
Paul's will go there. Electronic gifts to Riverbend 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.*

*Parting Hymn *River* MV 3

*Benediction

*Postlude Tyson Kerr

**Indicates you are invited to stand as able
VU refers to the red hard bound hymnal, Voices United*

MV refers to the small paperbound hymnal, More Voices

***Welcome to this partnership worship service
between Riverbend United Church and St. Paul's
United Church. In July, we worshiped together at St. Paul's.
Throughout August, we worship together at Riverbend.***

We're glad you're here!

Fellowship and lemonade follow worship immediately
in case you can stay a few minutes.

***Grocery cards are available for purchase after the service.
Thanks for supporting the church in this way.***

"Empathy is the mother tongue of human beings." - Payam Akvahan



Riverbend United Church

Sunday, August 31, 2025

10:30 a.m.