

Parents -Please escort your children to the restrooms.  
Thank you.

§ Denotes when to stand as you are able

## WE GATHER to be NURTURED

Prelude "Let There Be Peace"  
"Go In Peace"  
Council Choraleers & CSUMC Children's Choir  
Martin Leonard, solo  
Dorothy Paige-Turner, director

Ringing of the Bell

Please sign registration sheets and pass to others in your pew.

### § Crown of Thorns "I AM the True Vine"

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the true vine and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch that does not bear fruit he takes away and every branch that bears fruit, he prunes that it may bear more fruit. Abide in me, a branch cannot bear fruit on its own, so neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine and you are the branches. This is my commandment that you love one another just as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than that one lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends. I chose you."

People: The world said, "Who gives you authority to do these things? Is it lawful to pay a tax to Caesar or not?"

Leader: And the world lied and cheated, plotted and schemed to do away with the One who would have chosen them,

People: Who would have been their friend,

Leader: Who loved them,

People: And would lay down his life for them.

Leader: The days of Lent grow darker as the cross comes into focus,

People: Where the One with the greatest love laid down his life for us, his friends.

### § Opening Hymn FWS #2170 "God Made from One Blood"

verse 1: All                      verse 4: Men  
verse 2: Women                verse 5: All  
verse 3: All

Sharing of Joys and Concerns                      Rev. Calvin Culpepper  
Prayers of the People  
The Lord's Prayer, UMH #895

## WE ARE NURTURED by GOD'S WORD

Scripture Lesson - Old Testament p. 12      Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18  
Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.  
People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn FWS #2129                      "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

Children's Message                                      James L. Crow

Hymn FWS #2270, refrain                              "He Has Made Me Glad"

Gospel Song FWS #2137, verse 1                      Chancel Choir  
"Would I Have Answered When You Called"

§ Scripture Lesson - New Testament p. 77                      Luke 13:31-35  
Leader: This is the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Response FWS #2137, verse 2  
"Would I Have Answered When You Called"

Sermon "Faith Seeking Understanding"      Rev. Calvin Culpepper

## WE RESPOND to GOD'S WORD

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves  
Offertory "Blest Be The Tie That Binds" ~ Ludwig Lenel

### § Doxology #95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

## WE ARE SCATTERED to SERVE

§ Hymn of Sending Forth UMH #141  
"Children of the Heavenly Father"

§ Benediction  
As we go forth from this place on our Lenten journey, let us be mindful that the cross of Christ calls us to rise to our greater selves. Pick up the cross, my friends, and follow faithfully this week in the footsteps of the one who has gone before: the one who is, who was, and who forever shall be, Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

Postlude "Matin Gothique"                      ~ Gordon Young

### Fellowship Time in the Narthex

Chancel Flowers are given...  
...in memory of Craig & Billee Summa by Georgalee George.

In keeping with the idea of sacrifice, the worship committee has decided to have only a plain wooden cross and candlesticks on the altar. For those desiring to memorialize or honor someone or an event with flowers, they will be placed in front someplace where they can be seen, just not on the altar.

Don't forget to check the calendar on the back for additional events.



We welcome you, member or visitor, as we join in worshipping God this morning. We pray you will be blessed and invite you to return!

The Gospel of John is the most deeply spiritual of the four gospels. John notes that his aim in writing the gospel is that readers will not only believe in Jesus Christ, but that they "may have life in his name." You'll follow the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus through the Gospel of John and understand the context of some of the best-known verses in the New Testament. Study with Pastor Cal at 11:30 a.m. on Sundays in the Parlor. Purchase your book for \$13 in the Church Office.

Did you put your cross down? Pick it back up by coming to a 30 minute worship at noon this Wednesday in the Chapel. Stay afterwards for a light lunch in the Dining Room for a free-will donation.

Holy COW (Church On Wednesday)! on Feb. 24th!

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

- Rev. Rhoads' class in the Library - Adults

5:30 - 6:00 p.m.

- Dinner by Diane in the Dining Room for only \$3.50/person

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

- Men's Fellowship Group in the Parlor
- "Living Lent" Study in the Dining Room

Each session in this Bible study includes Bible readings, prayers, questions and discussion starters related to these words to consider while living Lent as Easter people: Ponder, Purpose, People, Proclaim, Praise, and Pain. Purchase your book for \$5 in the Church Office.

The Scrip committee thanks you for your purchases in 2015. We want to ask you to keep Scrip purchases in mind for your regular shopping needs. Some of our biggest returns come from: Chili's -11%, Backyard Grill-10%, The Olympic- 10%, Culver's- 10%, Panera Bread-9%, The Olive Garden/Red Lobster -9%. You can always stop by the church office during normal business hours to purchase Scrip cards. Consider buying a card or two to have on hand, such as AMC, for when you want to go to the movies.

Thanks to Nancy Stanis, Gwen Culpepper and the Mission Committee for signing up to help with the LAST CRISIS CENTER MEAL that we will prepare and serve on March 9, 2016. If anyone else wants to join the team, please sign your name on the list in the Narthex or call Barb Ferry at 815-965-6518. Thanks to all of those who have faithfully participated in this mission.

The Rockford Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is presenting a program on Wedding Music. We invite you to the event on Monday, Feb. 22, at 7:00 PM to be held at Christ Methodist Church on Alpine & Highcrest in Rockford. James Marck will be leading it with Greg Buchberger, Wayne Hatwich, Ron Weber, Tim Anderson, and the Mendelssohn Chorale. It is free and open to all, especially those who might be getting married, those who help plan wedding services, and those who in general, like festive music.



TODAY'S WORSHIP

**Greeter:** Bess Koehn                      **Liturgist:** Ray Rhoads  
**Ushers:** The Stanis Team              **Sound Tech:** Brian Meligan  
**Video Tech:** Steve Ripley              **Van Driver:** Bob Lutmer  
**Fellowship Hostess:** Sue Cram

**Court St. United Methodist Church at Work This Week**

Sunday	2nd Sunday in Lent
02/21	8:30 am The God We Can Know Study in the Parlor
	9:00 Sunday School in Room 104, Nursery
	9:00 Lamplighters in Room 209
	9:30 Blood Pressure Check in the Narthex
	10:00 Worship Service in the Sanctuary
	11:15 Fellowship Time in the Narthex
	11:15 Blood Pressure Check in the Narthex
	11:15 Children's Choir in Choir Room
	11:30 The Gospel of John Study in the Parlor
	1:00 pm Praisin' & Prayin' Puppets
	1:00 Youth Homework 2nd Floor Computer Lab
	2:00 Dowel Rod Ministry
	3:00 Youth Group in the Youth Center
	3:00 Confirmation Class in the Dining Room
	4:00 CSUMC Book Club @ Lorna's, 4347 Applewood Ln., LP
Mon 02/22	9:00 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
Tue 02/23	8:00 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
	9:00 Quilters in Room 206
	9:00 History & Archives in Room 201
	9:00 "Ugly Bag Ladies" in Room 205
	10:30 Staff Meeting in Staff Conference Room
	11:00 Adult Computers, Computer Lab, 2nd Floor
	1:00 pm Stewardship Committee in the Library
	5:30 Council Choraleers in the Chapel
	6:00 JuBellation Rehearsal in the Choir Room
	6:15 Knitting Group @ Jan's, 4250 Ahlstrand Dr.
	7:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Choir Room
	7:00 Grace Awakening in Room 205 & 209
Wed 02/24	8:00 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
	9:30 Early Head Start in Room 100 & the Parlor
	12:00 pm 30 minute Worship in the Chapel
	12:30 Lenten Lunch in the Dining Room for free-will donation
	4:00 Holy COW! -- **see announcements**
Thu 02/25	8:00 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
	9:30 Early Head Start in Room 100
	1:00 pm Chimes stuffing in the Library
Fri 02/26	8:00 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103
	10:00 Early Head Start in Room 100
	10:00 Image Class in the Library
	12:00 pm Nurture & Outreach in the Dining Room
	1:30 Early Head Start in Room 100
Sat 02/27	
Sunday	3rd Sunday in Lent
02/28	8:30 am The God We Can Know Study in the Parlor
	9:00 Sunday School in Room 104, Nursery
	9:00 Lamplighters in Room 209
	10:00 Worship Service in the Sanctuary
	11:15 Fellowship Time in the Narthex
	11:15 Children's Choir in Choir Room
	11:30 The Gospel of John Study in the Parlor
	11:30 Christian Ed Team in the Dining Room
	1:00 pm Praisin' & Prayin' Puppets
	1:00 Youth Homework 2nd Floor Computer Lab
	2:00 JFON Clinic on the 2nd Floor
	2:00 Dowel Rod Ministry
	3:00 Youth Group in the Youth Center
	3:00 Confirmation Class in the Dining Room

MINISTRY STAFF AT COURT STREET

The Congregation	Ministers
Calvin Culpepper	Pastor
cculpepper@courtstreetumc.org	
Miriam Castro-Rodriguez	Deacon
Ryanne Ludington	Christian Education Director
RyanneLudington@courtstreetumc.org	
James L. Crow	Director of Arts Ministries
JamesCrow@courtstreetumc.org	
Teresa Field	Parish Nurse
TeresaField@courtstreetumc.org	
James Marck	Director of Music
JamesMarck@courtstreetumc.org	
Diane Lutmer	Nursery
Verlette Gorman	Church Co-Administrator
ChurchAdmin1@courtstreetumc.org	
Lorelle Wandell	Church Co-Administrator
LorelleWandell@courtstreetumc.org	
Derek Coffman	Maintenance Engineer
Maintenance@courtstreetumc.org	
Sean Smith	Custodian

**Communion Special offering** - The Local Mission Committee will report what they do with your monthly contributions in The Chimes. Your contributions the 1st Sunday of every month at Communion will be greatly appreciated to further our local outreach.

Court Street United Methodist Church  
 215 North Court Street Rockford, IL 61103  
 Church Office: (815) 962-6061 Church Fax: (815) 962-9754  
 www.courtstreetumc.org

**WELCOME!** February 21, 2016  
*We're glad you're worshipping with us this morning! Please fill out this card if you are a visitor to our church or if you have changed your address or phone number. Place completed card in the offering plate as it is passed.*

I'm a visitor.  
 Please note my address change.

Name (s): Mr./Mrs./Miss/Ms. \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about Court Street? \_\_\_\_\_

Children:  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_ grade \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_ grade \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_ grade \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (w) \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

If you do not wish to keep any part or all of your bulletin at the the end of service, please give it back to an usher and we will recycle it.  
 Thank you for helping our environment!



ORDER OF WORSHIP  
 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE

Worshipping  
 While  
 We  
 Walk



"Blessed is the one  
 who comes in the name  
 of the Lord."

LUKE 13:35, NRSV

Welcome to Court Street United Methodist Church



We are a people called United Methodists.  
 Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

The mission of Court Street United Methodist Church is to be a welcoming, nurturing, and serving community of Christ.

2nd Sunday in Lent  
 February 21, 2016