

§ Denotes when to stand as you are able

## WE GATHER to be NURTURED

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

*Ringing of the Bell - Please use this to begin focusing for worship.*

Prelude

### § Call to Worship

*Leader:* Here at Court Street United Methodist Church  
in Rockford, Illinois,

***People:* We gather to give our hearts, minds, souls,  
and all our energy in adoration to God.**

*Leader:* With grateful and expectant hearts,

***People:* We gather to praise God who gives living water,  
through whom the faithful flourish.**

*Leader:* Those who trust in you, O God,  
are like trees planted by the water,

***People:* Those who place their faith in you  
are like trees with deep roots,**

*Leader:* Those who receive their life from you  
are like green trees during a drought.

***ALL:* We praise you, God, for the life that has no end,  
through Jesus our risen Christ!**

*~ Adapted from a "Liturgy for Presbytery Sunday,"*

*Yellowstone Presbytery of Southern and Eastern Montana.*

### § Opening Hymn UMH #402 "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

Sharing of Joys and Journeys

*Rev. Calvin Culpepper*

Pastoral Prayer

**The Lord's Prayer, UMH #895**

## WE ARE NURTURED by GOD'S WORD

Reading from the Psalter, UMH #738, response #2 Psalm 1

Hymn UMH #657

**"This Is the Day"**

*The children are invited to come forward as we sing.*

Children's Message

*James L. Crow*

Hymn FWS #2129, vs 1

**"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"**

New Testament Reading

I Corinthians 15:12-20

*Please refer to your Bible's Table of Contents to locate this scripture.*

*Leader:* This is the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ.

***People:* Glory to you, O Lord.**

"It's Just Too Good!"

*Rev. Calvin Culpepper*

## WE RESPOND to GOD'S WORD

**Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves**

Offertory

"The Gift of Love"

*~ Hal Hopson*

### § Doxology UMH #94

**"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

## WE ARE SCATTERED to SERVE

### § Hymn of Sending Forth UMH #315

**"Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain"**

### § Benediction

*~Adapted from 1 Corinthians 15:20*

Hear the Good News! Christ has been raised from the dead!  
Christ is the first fruits of those who have died! Christ has died  
for us - Christ has been raised again from the dead, for us. Live  
as people of Christ. Spread this news of Christ's resurrection to  
all. Through the love of God our Creator, the mercy of Christ  
our Redeemer, and the great joy of the Holy Spirit, our Sustain-  
er. **Amen.**

Choral Response "Christ Be With Me" *~ Keveren*

Postlude

*You are invited to finish worship by listening to the Postlude.*

*If you wish to leave, you may do so,*

*leaving quietly so others may enjoy the Postlude.*

**Facetime by the Big Bell**



**We welcome you, visitor or member,** as we join in wor-  
shipping God this morning. We are all one family. We pray  
you will be blessed and invite you to return!

For February and March we are asking for **donations of  
activity books and word search books** to give to Haskell Academy stu-  
dents. These are very inexpensive at the Dollar Stores. It is hoped that  
we will get enough that some of the students can take them home to  
share with their families. Thanks, Court Street, for helping us fulfill this  
need. Please leave the books in the container in the Narthex. *Nurture  
& Outreach*

***Noisy Offering is happening today!!***

***This helps support Waffles & Worship***

***which occurs on the 1st Sunday of each month***

**The Domestic-Violence Sub-Committee will meet at 11:00 A.M. on  
Monday, February 18th in the Church Library prior to the Nur-  
ture and Outreach Committee meeting.** Anyone in the church con-  
gregation interested in attending this sub-committee meeting is wel-  
come to join us. We will continue to discuss objectives and events for  
the upcoming year. Your input is always welcome. Please continue to  
keep these victims of domestic violence in your prayers.

**Prayerfully consider joining in a small group study of Mike  
Slaughter's book, "Made for a Miracle," during Lent. Also, please  
consider facilitating a group.** Let the Church Office know if you are  
interested - you would meet the group at a time and place of your  
choosing. Whether you participate or facilitate, Lent begins with Ash  
Wednesday on March 6. Pastor Cal will be leading a group on Sundays  
at 11:30 in the Church Parlor. Books available for \$14 and other meet-  
ing times are being determined.

**Come to Court Street's Mardi Gras Cabaret on Friday, MARCH  
1,** at 6:00 p.m. An evening of Court Street members and guests, mu-  
sical and theatrical performances, games, and the GREAT GRILLED  
CHEESE GRILL-OFF. Dig out your purple, gold, and green clothing,  
don a mask, beads, and any glitzy jewelry, and join us in the Church  
Dining Room. Free-will offering will be taken. ***Anyone interested in  
performing at the festivities please see Mr. Jim by February 15.***

**Set aside Tuesday, MARCH 5,** from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. for our  
Shrove Tuesday PANCAKE SUPPER. In keeping with fun tradi-  
tion, we will serve pancakes and play games the night before ASH  
WEDNESDAY. Pancake flour, eggs, milk, butter, liquid shortening,  
and monetary contributions for sausage will be accepted before the  
day. Please check the signup sheet in the Narthex.

A much needed service to the church, **the office utilizes volunteers**  
to answer the phone, take care of people dropping in, sort the mail,  
proof publications, etc. Some days it's very busy, other days it's rather  
boring. You may bring a book to read to help keep yourself occupied  
during the 'down' times. *Call the Church Office (815) 962-6061 if you  
are interested in volunteering for Wednesdays!*

