

**Parents - Please escort your children to the restrooms.
Also, please keep your personal belongings with you at all times.
Thank you.**

§ 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 "Ich Ruf Zu Dir" *J.S. Bach*

The Service of Diminishing Lights

§ Call to Worship

Leader: We gather as God's people in a world divided and distressed.

***People:* Yet we gather as one people, united by God.**

Leader: We gather as God's people, journeying to Jerusalem.

***People:* Yet we gather as one people, steadfastly traveling forward together.**

Leader: We gather as God's people, frightened by whirlpools of worry, which spin us out of control.

***All:* Yet we gather as one people following in the unfailling steps of Jesus the Christ, whose name we praise.**

§ Opening Hymn UMH #117, vs. 1-4

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

Sharing of Joys and Journeys *Rev. Calvin Culpepper*
Pastoral Prayer

WE ARE NURTURED by GOD'S WORD

New Testament Reading Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

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.**

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"

§ Gospel Reading John 3:1-17

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

Leader: This is the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to John.

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

"God's Precious Gift!"

Rev. Calvin Culpepper

WE RESPOND to GOD'S WORD

Offering Our Gifts and Our Selves

Offertory "Everything Must Change" *Bernard Ighner*

Performed by Curly Thompson

§ Doxology UMH #95

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

WE ARE SCATTERED to SERVE

§ Closing Hymn UMH #369

"Blessed Assurance"

§ Benediction

See how Christ has loved us.

So now we are to love each other.

See how Christ has loved us.

So now we are to love the whole world.

See how Christ has loved us.

So now we are to live such love as the Good News for all life.

Response "Total Praise" *Richard Smallwood*

Performed by Curly Thompson

Postlude

"Pastorale on "Brother James' Air"" *Dennis R. Johnson*

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 worshipping God this morning. We are all one family. We pray you will be blessed and invite you to return!

During the months of March and April, the Nurture & Outreach Committee is collecting outdoor equipment on behalf of Haskell Elementary. They would like the congregation to consider donating items such as sidewalk chalk, balls, bubbles, and frisbees.

This year's Lenten Study is focusing on Adam Hamilton's book *Unafraid*. If you did not join the Lamplighters session at 9 a.m. today, you may join the session that begins at 11:30 a.m. in the Library.

Lenten Offering Folders are now available, as well as the special Easter edition of *Our Daily Bread*. You can find them in baskets in the Narthex or request them at the church office.

The next Mid-week Lenten Worship Service will be held March 11th at noon in the Chapel. We will explore the Fear of Lonliness. Lunch will be offered on the Lower Level in the Dining Room for a free-will donation following the service.

Today, we are taking a special offering to help us meet our Apportionment. You may make your check out to CSUMC with "Apportionment" on the memo line.

Parish Nurse Teresa Field is offering blood pressure checks before and after today's service.

The Domestic Violence Subcommittee will meet in the church Library tomorrow at 11:00 a.m. Anyone is welcome to attend. Please contact Barb Ferry at (815) 965-6518 for more info.

Next week a speaker from Royal Family Kids Camp will present during Sunday's service. Royal Family provides memorable camp experiences like rock climbing and zip lining to foster children who have known abuse and neglect in their lives.


Our Next Holy COW! Putluck is Wednesday, March 18th at 5:15 p.m. As always, please bring a dish to share and your own table service and drink. Published author Dustin Urness will give a special presentation at 6 p.m. He will discuss his literary journey, particularly his book *Disturbing Tales of Anguish and Horror*.

On April 1st, the UMW will hold their April Luncheon at 12:30 p.m. in the Dining Room following the Lenten Worship Service. Deanna Lacny of Rock House Kids is scheduled to speak. This luncheon will not be offered for a free-will donation, instead UMW requests you RSVP with Judy Mehren at (815) 988-6561 by Sunday, March 29th. Admission is \$7 per person. There is also a donation drive for Rock House Kids, so if you can, please donate money or one or several of the following items: warm blankets (twin/full size), fast food \$5 gift cards, Clorox wipes, Ziploc bags (gallon size), and lotion (4 - 8 oz bottles/tubes).

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

MINISTRY STAFF AT COURT STREET

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| The Congregation | <i>Ministers</i> | |
| Calvin Culpepper | <i>Pastor</i> | cculpepper@courtstreetumc.org |
| Ryanne Ludington | <i>Christian Education</i> | ludingtonryanne@gmail.com |
| James L. Crow | <i>Arts Ministries</i> | JamesCrow@courtstreetumc.org |
| Krysta Tilges | <i>Arts Ministries Assistant</i> | |
| Jack Armstrong | <i>Director of Music</i> | gogo234@att.net |
| Andrew Mertzenich | <i>Organist</i> | andrew.mertzenich@gmail.com |
| Teresa Field | <i>Parish Nurse</i> | TeresaField@courtstreetumc.org |
| Bert Cromwell | <i>Nursery</i> | |
| Nancy Mertzenich | <i>Nursery Assistant</i> | |
| Verlette Gorman | <i>Administrator</i> | ChurchAdmin1@courtstreetumc.org |
| Tiffany Wilken | <i>Pub. Secretary</i> | Communications@courtstreetumc.org |
| Mike Smith | <i>Maintenance Engineer</i> | Maintenance@courtstreetumc.org |

 **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

TODAY'S WORSHIP

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Greeter: Bess Koehn | Ushers: The DuWayne Stanis Team |
| Sound Tech: Ryan Welk | Video Tech: Steve Ripley |
| Van Driver: Bruce Shindel | Acolyte: Jeriel Bragori |
| Liturgist: Lorelle Wandell | Facetime Hosts: The Breakfast Club |

Court St. United Methodist Church at Work This Week

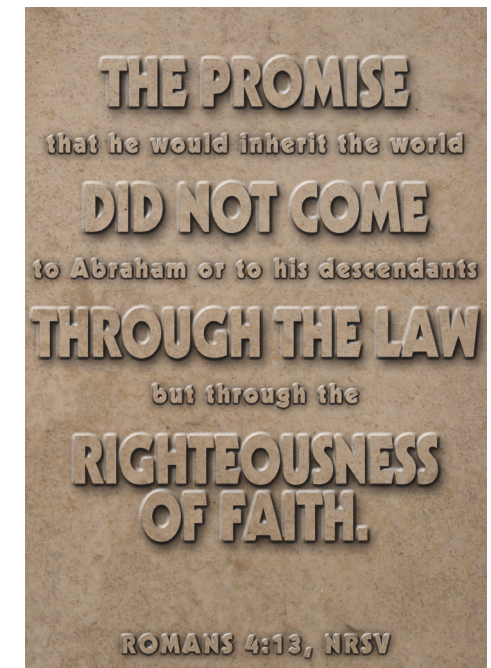
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|------------------|---|
| Sun 03/08 | 2:00 am Daylight Saving Time Begins |
| | 9:00 Sunday School in 104, Balcony West |
| | 9:00 The Lamplighters, Library |
| | 10:00 Worship Service in the Sanctuary |
| | 11:15 Facetime by the Big Bell |
| | 11:30 Youth Choir in the Choir Room |
| | 11:30 Lenten Study in the Library |
| Mon 03/09 | 8:30 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103 |
| | 11:00 Domestic Violence Subcommittee, Library |
| | 12:00 pm Nurture/Outreach Committee, Dining Room |
| | 5:30 Worship Committee, Parlor |
| Tue 03/10 | 8:30 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103 |
| | 9:00 Quilters in Room 206 |
| | 9:00 History & Archives in Room 201 |
| | 9:00 Busy Bag Ladies in Room 205 |
| | 2:30 pm Staff Meeting in Staff Conference Room |
| | 4:00 RUM Exec. Board, JustGoods |
| | 5:30 Trustees, Library |
| | 6:00 JuBellation in the Balcony |
| | 7:00 Chancel Choir in the Choir Room |
| | 7:00 Grace Awakening in Room 202 |
| Wed 03/11 | 8:30 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103 |
| | 9:30 Early Head Start in Room 100 |
| | 12:00 pm 30-Minute Worship Service |
| | 12:30 Lenten Luncheon, Free-Will Donation |
| Thu 03/12 | 8:30 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103 |
| | 9:30 Early Head Start in Room 100 |
| | 10:00 Painting in the Art Room 204 |
| | 1:00 pm The Journeymen in the Parlor |
| | 5:30 Jeremiah Development, Elsewhere |
| | 6:00 Chatterbox Supper, Famous Dave's |
| | 6:30 Praise Team Rehearsal, Dining Room |
| Fri 03/13 | 8:30 am MAYA's House in Rooms 102 & 103 |
| | 10:00 Early Head Start in Room 100 |
| | 1:30 pm Early Head Start in Room 100 |
| Sat 03/14 | 8:00 am Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment 3rd Floor |
| | 8:30 UMM Breakfast |
| Sun 03/15 | 9:00 am Sunday School in 104, Balcony West |
| | 9:00 The Lamplighters, Library |
| | 10:00 Worship Service in the Sanctuary |
| | 11:15 Facetime by the Big Bell |
| | 11:30 Youth Choir in the Choir Room |
| | 11:30 Lenten Study in the Library |
| | 4:00 pm CSUMC Book Club, Betty Doran's |

ORDER OF WORSHIP
 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE

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Forward in Faith



Growing

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.

*Second Sunday in Lent
 March 8, 2020*

WELCOME! March 8, 2020

We're glad you're worshiping 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 _____