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### Meetings:

- Board of Deacons: Sunday, April 13th @ 10 am - Office
- Board of Trustees: Tuesday April 15th @ 5:30 pm - Office
- Mission Committee: Wednesday June 4th @ 6:30 - Office

### Mission/Church/Community Involvement:

- Quilting - Thursday April 3rd @ 9:00 am
  - Soul Stitching is April 12th @ 9:00 am
- Lenten Project - raising funds for Storks Nest for donation for diapers, wipes etc.
- One Great Hour of Sharing Offering - Today - March 30th
- Noisy Offering - Today - Storks Nest - Lent Offering for 2025

### Religious Education

- Confirmation will be scheduled Spring/Summer 2025 for youth aged 13 and up. Please see Jim if you know a young person who might be interested.

### Lent 2025 Plans:

Ripley will offer Wednesday night Lenten Meals and Service in the Fellowship Hall. Come enjoy supper (free will offering) @ 6:00 pm and services in the Fellowship hall will start about 6:30 pm.

- Wed. April 2nd - Lenten Supper @ 6:00 followed by Message
- Wed. April 9th - Lenten Supper @ 6:00 followed by Message
- Thur. April 17th - Maundy Thursday service - No Meal - Information TBA
- Thur. April 18th - Good Friday Service - No Meal - Information TBA
- Sunday April 20th - Easter Breakfast followed by Easter Services

### Men's Lenten Breakfast:

Wednesday mornings at 7:00 am - Come for food, fellowship and reflection

- Wed. April 2nd - United Presbyterian Church
- Wed. April 9th - Ripley United Church of Christ
  - David C. is organizing
- Thur. April 16th - Clutier Community Church

### Announcement: Communion Sunday - April 13th

- April 6th - "Mission Sunday" Come to worship and hear about things our members have been up to and our plans for 2025.
  - April 13th - We will celebrate communion on this day for the month of April.
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# Ripley United Church of Christ Celebration of Worship

March 30th, 2025  
Fourth Sunday in Lent



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## Welcome and Announcements Prelude and Candle Lighting

### Praise and Invocation (adapted from Psalm 32)

One: Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

**Many: Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.**

One: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered

**Many: Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

One: Let us worship in the presence of a just and loving God.

**Many: Amen**

**\*Opening Hymn:** "What Wondrous Love Is This" (Black Hymnal #223)

### Confession:

One: Our faith calls us to repent, and reconcile ourselves to God and each other.

**Many: Our pride prevents us from reaching out.**

One: Our Gospel teaches the prodigal son, the loving father, and the ever-possible return to Grace.

**Many: We ignore the lessons our scripture offers.**

One: Forgive us, God, our failings.  
**Many: Teach us to serve as we are called.**

### **Silent Prayer**

#### **Assurance:**

One: Hear the Gospel! Our God is a gracious and loving God.  
**Many: By His grace, we are forgiven**

One: By His love, we are set free  
**All: Amen**

### **Passing the Peace/ Children's Procession**

Our scripture teaches that the Kingdom of God belongs to those who enter it like a child. As our children come forward, it is our custom to greet each other from our places, then sing the children to the front with the traditional song "This Little Light of Mine." If you are worshiping with us online, please feel free to say hello in the comments, so we know you are here.

### **Children's Celebration - "Sharing Song"**

**Reading:** 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

**Homily:** On Grace, and Reconciliation

**\*Response:** "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" (black hymnal #472)

### **Offertory**

**\*Presentation of our Offerings:** Doxology (black hymnal #780)

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

### **Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer**

### **Quilt Blessing (insert)**

**\*Closing Hymn:** "Softly and Tenderly" (black hymnal #449)

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

\* Please stand, in body or spirit



Thank you for attending Ripley United Church of Christ.  
We're glad you came.

CE helper today was Lindsey Christie  
Reader was Denis Winklepleck Sr.

Find us online at [www.ripleyucc.org](http://www.ripleyucc.org), or connect to us in person over refreshments downstairs after the service.

Prayer requests can be submitted online at <https://tinyurl.com/3n324nvk>, in person to Jim or any Deacon

*No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.*





## Blessing the Quilts

### 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God.*

One: Our church has many hands

**Many: Blessed be those who sew, who join together the fabric of our community.**


One: Our church has many hearts.

**Many: Blessed be those who give, who use their time and their talents to create enduring testaments to their love of neighbor.**

One: These quilts are destined for infant and elder, the homeless, the homebound, the infirm, the victimized.

**Many: These quilts are destined to comfort the afflicted and care for the stranger in all stages and phases of life.**

[over]



One: As we lay hands on these quilts and ask God to bless them, let us remember the love with which they were made, the warmth they will bring, and the compassion with which we send them into the world.

[the congregation lays their hands on the quilts nearest to them]

One: The Gospel tells us the righteous will ask, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the Lord will answer, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me."

One: Creator God, who fashioned the heavens and the earth, we ask your blessing on these, the gifts our congregation has created.

**Many: We ask that you fill the hearts of those who receive them with the Spirit in which they were made.**

One: Keep them warm, keep them safe, keep them loved.

**Many: Amen**

