



### Meetings:

- Board of Trustees: Tuesday March 18th @ 5:30 pm - Office
- Mission Committee: Wednesday March 26th @ 6:30 - Office
- Board of Deacons: Sunday, April 13th @ 10 am - Office

### Mission/Church/Community Involvement:

- Quilting - Thursday March 20th @ 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 - March 30th
- Noisy Offering - March 30th- 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. March 19th - Lenten Supper @ 6:00 followed by Message
- Wed. March 26th - Lenten Supper @ 6:00 followed by Message
- 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. March 19th - St. Luke's Lutheran Church
  - Wed. March 26th - St. Paul's Catholic Church
  - Wed. April 2nd - United Presbyterian Church
  - Wed. April 9th - Ripley United Church of Christ
    - David C. is organizing
  - Thur. April 16th - Clutier Community Church
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# Ripley United Church of Christ Celebration of Worship

March 16th, 2025  
First Sunday in Lent



### Welcome and Announcements Prelude and Candle Lighting

### Praise and Invocation (adapted from Psalm 27)

One: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?  
**Many: The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

One: When evildoers assail me... they shall stumble and fall.  
**Many: Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear.**

One: Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!  
**Many: Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path.**

**\*Opening Hymn:** "Blessed Assurance" (Black Hymnal #473)

### Confession:

One: Our faith calls us to be citizens of Heaven  
**Many: Too often, we choose to serve the kingdoms of Earth.**

One: Our Gospel demands a path of love, grace, justice and inclusion

**Many: We fail to nurture these things in ourselves.**

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 - "Jesus Is the Rock"**

**Reading:** Philippians 3:17-4:1

**Homily:** "Citizens of Heaven"

**\*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**

**\*Closing Hymn:** "God's Eye is on the Sparrow" (black hymnal #475)

### **\*Benediction Postlude**

\* Please stand, in body or spirit



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

Reader today was Denis Winklepleck, Jr.  
CE helper was Lindsey Christie

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 in person to Jim or any Deacon, or by following this QR code:

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.*

