

## Announcements

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### Meetings:

- Board of Deacons: Today - Sunday, May 11th @ 10 am - Office
- Board of Trustees: Tuesday May 13th @ 5:30 pm - Office
- Mission Committee: Wednesday June 4th @ 6:30 - Office

### Mission/Church/Community Involvement:

- Noisy Offering - Today, April 27th - Storks Nest
- Quilting - Thursday May 1st @ 9:00 am
  - Soul Stitching is May 10th @ 9:00 am
- Lenten Project - raising funds for Storks Nest for donation for diapers, wipes etc. This project will remain open a bit longer until arrangements for delivery can be made. Feel free to continue your support if you feel moved to do so.
- Sleep In Heavenly Peace Build Day, Ames - June 21st - More info TBD

### Religious Education

- More volunteers are needed to spend time with our children during the second half of each service. More than babysitting, this is an opportunity to help our children interact with curriculum (stories of our faith, thematic coloring pages, puzzles with iconic images, etc) and to help them build a lifelong relationship with the church. You can be the person they remember as a loving, supportive, safe presence at Ripley. Talk to Jim or any deacon if you are interested.
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## Ripley United Church of Christ Celebration of Worship

April 27th, 2025  
Second Sunday of Easter



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### Welcome and Announcements Prelude and Candle Lighting

### Praise and Invocation (from Psalm 150):

One: Praise the LORD!

**Many: Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!**

One: Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

**Many: Let everything that breathes praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!**

One: Let us worship in the presence of a mighty and gracious God.

**Many: Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn:** "Praise to the Living God" (black hymnal #8)

### Confession:

One: Our Gospel tells us of the many and wondrous signs of the risen Christ.

**Many: We fail to see his majesty in the world around us.**

One: Our Gospel invites us to welcome the Holy Spirit.

**Many: We ignore the working of the Spirit within.**

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: "Praise Him!"

**Gospel:** John 20:19-31  
**Homily:** "Doubting Thomas, and the Rest of the Story"  
**\*Response:** "God of Grace and God of Glory" (black hymnal #436)

### Offertory

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

### Prayers of the People

#### Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

**\*Closing Hymn:** "Great Is Your Faithfulness" (black hymnal #423)  
**\*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 Josh Youel  
CE helper was Cindy Youel

Find us online at [www.ripleyucc.org](http://www.ripleyucc.org), or by searching "Ripley UCC" on Facebook. Or join us for refreshments downstairs after the service. An elevator is available by the south door for those who need it.

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

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*"God's love calls us to move beyond fear. We ask God for the courage to put on faith, hope and love as we go out into the world and become the word in body as well as spirit."*

-Pope Francis (1936-2025)

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

-traditional UCC greeting