



Ripley Church Meetings:

- Board of Deacons: Sunday - Sept. 14th @ 10 am - Office
- Board of Trustees: Tuesday Sept. 23rd @ 5:30 pm - Office

Ripley Mission/Church/Community Involvement:

- Quilting - TBD @ 9:00 am
 - Next Saturday Soul Stitching - TBD
- Sleep In Heavenly Peace Work Day - Ames - Sept. 13th
 - Lunch will be provided on site by the Mission Comm. We will be using the previously given funds to put together a picnic for our volunteers as well as any others that are there for the day.
 - Bring a lawn chair and enjoy burgers and picnic fare.
 - If someone would like to bring some cookies or bars that would be great. Let Patty or Laura know.
- United Presb Church Blood Drive - Sept. 18th - 12:30 pm to 5:30 pm
 - Traer Memorial Building
- Noisy Offering - Sept. 28: "PS" - Project Share - TMU
- Fall Gathering - Nov. 2nd - Services @ 9:00 AM
 - Join us for entertainment and meal after worship

Open Mic - Parsonage Series @ The Parsonage

- Wednesday, **September 10th** - Open Mic @ 6:30
Featuring Robert Maharry

Your Help is needed:

- Need a Ride to Church? - Contact Pastor Jim
- Can you Give a Ride to Church? - Contact Pastor Jim

Memories of Yesteryear!

- Reverend Otto F. Moede was Pastor of Ripley 1935-1936
- His Daughter, Louise Lex, who lived in our Parsonage and attended Ripley during that time, will visit our church on **September 21st**.
- Louise's daughter, Andrea, has written a biography of Louise's amazing life. Copies will be available for sale after the service.



Ripley United Church of Christ Celebration of Worship

September 7th, 2025
Season After Pentecost (Proper 18)



Welcome and Announcements Prelude and Candle Lighting

Invocation (excerpted from Psalm 139)

- One: O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
Many: Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.
- One: I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Many: Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.
- One: Let us worship in the presence of a mighty and loving God.
Many: Amen

***Opening Hymn:** "Holy, Holy, Holy" (black hymnal #277)

Confession:

- One: The Gospel calls us to love God above all else.
Many: Too often, we are distracted by the things of the world.
- One: We chase false joy.
Many: We do not foster lasting hope.
- One: Forgive us, God, our failings.
Many: Teach us to grow as we are called.

Communion

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: "Focus on the Good"

Reading: Luke 14:25-30

Homily: "Focus"

***Response:** "Be Now my Vision" (black hymnal #451)

Offertory

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

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Prayers of the People

Invitation

One: Our faith is one of extravagant welcome. We honor God's table, open to all.

Many: We gather with all Creation.

Prayer

One: God be with you

Many: And also with you

One: Lift up your hearts

Many: We lift them up to God

One: Let us give thanks to God

Many: It is right to give thanks and praise

One: God of all creation, we give thanks for your continuous care. We praise the living, mortal example of your son, Jesus Christ, who offers a path to salvation. We honor the Holy Spirit, who reminds us of your truth, your presence and your promise.

Many: God of Love and Grace, the whole Universe speaks to your Glory. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God. Hosanna!

Setting the Table

One: We remember that on the night of his betrayal and desertion, Jesus gathered the disciples for the feast of Passover. Jesus took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to the disciples, saying, "this is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, he took the cup, saying, "Drink this, all of you."

This is the blood of the New Covenant, which is poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Many: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

One: This table is God's table, open to all creation. These elements are the body and blood of Christ, broken and poured for you. This faith we share is the Spirit, which unites us in Holy Communion. For this, we give thanks.

Many: We proclaim our continuing faith in the Good News of Jesus Christ, and offer our lives in service.

One: Let us pray the words Jesus taught us:

Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Call to the Supper

One: The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

One: The cup is the communion of the blood of Christ.

One: Jesus, Lamb of God

Many: have mercy on us.

One: Jesus, bearer of our sins

Many: have mercy on us

One: Jesus, redeemer of the world

Many: give us your peace

One: The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things

are ready.

Sharing the Elements

One: Take and eat, this is the body of Christ, broken for you.

Many: Amen!

One: Take and drink, this is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you.

Many: Amen!

***Closing Hymn:** "Because He Lives" (Red hymnal #358)

***Benediction**

Postlude

* Please stand, in body or spirit
CCLI number: 7117726; CCLI license number:
22384815, Size A; 22384822, Size A



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

- Our Reader today was Jhonny Watson
- CE Helper was Lindsey Coppoc

Find us online at www.ripleyucc.org, or by searching "Ripley United Church of Christ" on Facebook. Or join us for refreshments downstairs after the service. An elevator is available by the south door for those who need it.

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

