



### Ripley Church Meetings:

- Board of Deacons: Sunday - Jan. 11th @ 10 am - Office
- Mission Committee: Wednesday - Jan 14th @ 6:00 pm - Location TBD
- Board of Trustees: Tuesday - Feb. 10th @ 5:30 pm - Office

### Ripley Mission/Church/Community Involvement:

- Quilting: **MONDAY** Jan. 12th @ 9:00 am
  - Saturday Soul Stitching - Saturday Feb. 14th @ 9:00 am
- Noisy Offering - Jan. 25th: Project to be Announced

### Ripley Annual Meeting: **Feb. 8th, 2026 after worship**

Weather Make Up: Feb. 15th, 2026 after worship

- Annual Reports are due to the Trustees by Jan. 18th
  - Reports can be turned in to Josh Youel, preferably by email to: [youelcj@gmail.com](mailto:youelcj@gmail.com)
- Question to Report Contributors should be asked by Feb. 1st to allow research and possible resolution before the meeting on the 8th

### Future Dates:

- Ash Wednesday: Feb. 18th, 2026
- Easter: April 5th, 2026



# Ripley United Church of Christ

## Celebration of Worship

January 11th, 2025  
Baptism of the Lord



### Welcome and Announcements

### Prelude and Candle Lighting

### Praise and Invocation (excerpted from Psalm 29)

One: Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**Many: Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name; worship the LORD in holy splendor.**

One: The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.

**Many: May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!**

### Call to Worship

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

**Many: Amen**

### \*Opening Hymn: "Down to the River to Pray" (insert)

### Confession:

One: In Christ, we are baptised, and born anew.

**Many: Still we hold on to our old sins, our old selves.**

One: Our scripture teaches that we are a new creation!

**Many: Still we fall short in thought, word and deed.**

One: Forgive us, Lord, our failings.

**Many: Teach us to see, serve and love 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: "Wings of a Dove"**

**Reading:** Matthew 3:13-17

**Message:** "Sacrament and Covenant"

**\*Response:** "Spirit of Love" (black hymnal #58) CCLI#: 4950127

**Offertory:** "Baptized" Mac Powell & Matt Maher CCLI #:7132907

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

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

### **Prayers of the People**

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

**\*Closing Hymn:** "When Peace Like a River" (black hymnal #438)

CCLI#: 7158581

**\*Benediction**  
**Postlude**

\* Please stand, in body or spirit

CCLI license number: 22384815, Size A; 22384822, Size A



Thank you for attending Ripley UCC. We're glad you came.

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

\*Reader today was Jhonny Watson

\*CE helper was Lindsey Coppoc

Find us online at [www.ripleyucc.org](http://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.

Pr. Jim is available to the community at 515-708-4343 (text is best) or  
[jimatripley@gmail.com](mailto:jimatripley@gmail.com)

Ripley offers its deepest condolences to the Bradley and Gaston family, who lost a patriarch this past week. Obit and details are at  
<https://www.overtonfuneralservices.com/obituaries/daniel-bradley>



## **Down to the River to Pray**

(traditional)

### **CHORUS**

As I went down to the river to pray  
Studyin' about that good old way  
And who should wear the starry crown  
Good Lord, show me the way

### **VERSE**

Oh fathers, let's go down  
Let's go down, let's go down  
Oh fathers let's go down  
Down to the river to pray

(repeat 4x, substituting "mothers," "sisters," "brothers," "sinners")

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