



Ripley Mission/Church/Community Involvement:

- Quilting: Thursday, Sept. 3rd @ 9:00 am
 - Saturday Soul Stitching - Saturday Sept. 12th @ 9:00 am
- Noisy Offering - August 30th - ThreeHouse Collaborative Campus Ministries

Ripley Church Meetings:

- Board of Deacons: Sept. 13th @ 10:00 am - Office
- Board of Trustees: Sept. 15th @ 5:30 pm - Office

Fall Sleep In Heavenly Peace Field Trip - Friday Sept. 11th

- Leave Ripley @ 7:30 AM - Car Pool sign up in the Kitchen
- Work from 9 to 11 AM - Picnic Lunch on Site for all participants
- Return to Ripley around 2:00 pm
- Something to do for all - Bed Building, Watching, Quilt Tying, Fellowship

Our Four-Year Bible Journey

On Sunday, September 13, Ripley will change from the *Revised Common Lectionary*, which has been choosing our scriptures the past several decades, to the *Narrative Lectionary*. The new structure starts at Genesis, then follows the main throughlines of the Hebrew Bible, the Gospel, and the New Testament that follows. Each year of this four-year cycle restarts at the beginning, takes a different path, and explores a different Gospel. Join us, as we dig deep into our most sacred scriptures, and engage the Message therein.

Faith Opportunities in our Area:

- Women's Retreat, Dysart Methodist, M & T Sept. 20/21 @ Hickory Hills Lodge
 - Invitations with details are on the back table
- ThreeHouse Collective Campus Ministries - Block Party, Sun. Aug. 30th 5 to 7
 - Flyer with more details on the back table



Ripley United Church of Christ Celebration of Worship

August 30th, 2026
Proper 17



Welcome and Announcements Prelude and Candle Lighting

Praise and Invocation (Excerpted from Psalm 105):

One: O give thanks to the LORD; call on his name; make known his deeds among the peoples.

Many: Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.

One: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

Many: Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually.

Call to Worship:

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

Many: Amen

***Opening Hymn:** "Great is Your Faithfulness" (black hymnal #423)

Confession

One: Our scripture calls us to trust in the Lord forever.

Many: We fail. We doubt. We do not cling to our faith.

One: Our Gospel commands we surrender our whole lives to follow Jesus.

Many: Instead we oppose his will. We ignore his words. We fail to follow the path he has laid.

One: Forgive us, God, our failings.

Many: Help us to become more like Jesus. To love God, love our neighbor, and love each other as He has loved us.

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: "He's Got the Whole World..."

Backpack Blessing (insert)

Reading: Matthew 16:21-28

Message: "Adversary, Opponent, Accuser."

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

Offertory:

***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)

***Benediction**

Postlude

* Please stand, in body or spirit

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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."

***CE helper today was Lindsey Coppoc

***Reader was Josh Youel

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.

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

