



Ripley Mission/Church/Community Involvement:

- Quilting: Thursday, Sept. 10th @ 9:00 am
 - Saturday Soul Stitching - Saturday Sept. 12th @ 9:00 am
- Noisy Offering - Sept. 27th - 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
- Those that plan to participate in the build must sign up ahead of time online at the following link: <https://x.gldn.io/e/Q6TEp3ONR5b>
Patty will send this electronically via email this next week to anyone signed up.

Our Four-Year Bible Journey

Next 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
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Ripley United Church of Christ Celebration of Worship

September 6th, 2026
Proper 18



Welcome and Announcements Prelude and Candle Lighting

Praise and Invocation (Excerpted from Psalm 119):

One: Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end.

Many: **Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.**

One: Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.

Many: **Turn my heart to your decrees and not to selfish gain; be gracious to me according to your word.**

Call to Worship:

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

Many: **Amen**

***Opening Hymn:** "We Gather Together" (black hymnal #421)

Confession

One: Our scripture calls us to covenant with each other.

Many: **We fail to overcome our grievances and differences, letting them overcome us instead.**

One: We are meant to be one in the Spirit, one in the Lord.

Many: Instead we reject, we isolate, we build barriers among our fellow travellers on the Christian path.

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: "The More We Get Together"

Reading: Matthew 18:15-20

Message: "...a Gentile and a Tax Collector"

***Response:** "They'll Know We Are Christians" (red hymnal #429)

Offertory:

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

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Prayers of the People

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:** "The Church's One Foundation" (black hymnal #386)

***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."

***CE helper today was Josie Hulme

***Reader was

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

Communion

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