

**\*HYMN**

*"Brightest and Best"*

#157 Black Hymnal

**\*THE BENEDICTION**

**\*CLOSING SONG**

*"God Be With You"*

God be with you till we meet again; by his counsel guide, uphold you.  
With his sheep securely fold you. God be with you till we meet again. Amen.

**\*POSTLUDE**

*"Echo Alleluia"*

Purcell

## Our 8:00 Sunday Morning Service



Church Council has decided to suspend the 8:00 service for now. The next 8:00 service will take place on Easter Sunday. At that time we will assess the feasibility of its return.

For now, all are invited to gather as one at the 10:15 a.m. service.

## ACME STORES COMMUNITY CASHBACK FUNDRAISER

### Final Call to Turn in Your Receipts

Acme shoppers, that have been saving their Acme receipts to help Northeast Ohio Shetland Sheepdog Rescue have until January 16 to turn in receipts dated from August 5 - December 25, 2021. Your receipts can be put in the offering plate or put into the box outside of the office or call Tim & Linda Hnath for a home pick up at 440-838-1432.

## *In Loving Memory*

**Memorial Service for Marylou and Shannon Best**

**Saturday, January 29**

**11:00 at RUCC**

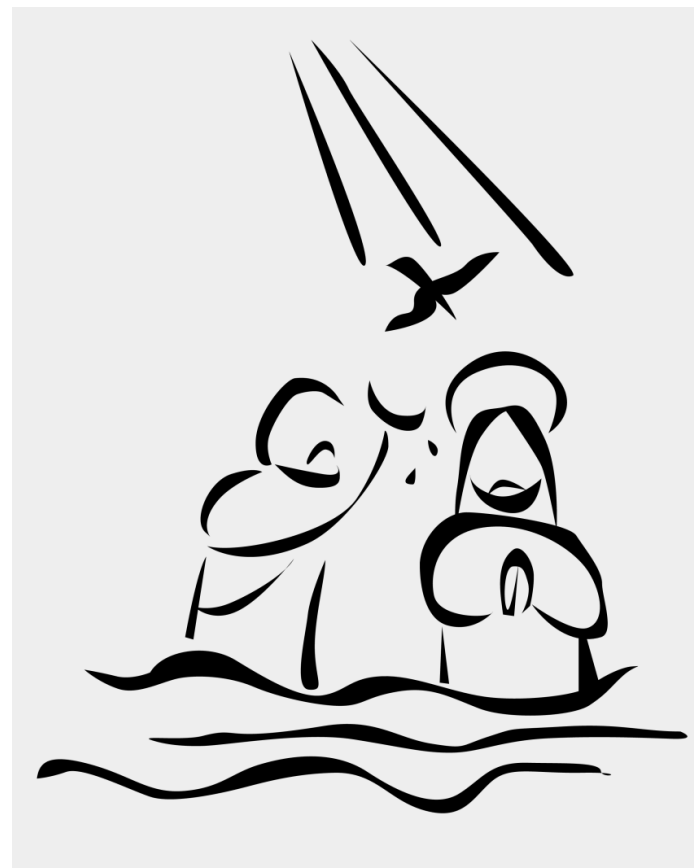
### **RICHFIELD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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*Our Sunday service bulletin is printed on 100% recycled paper*

## **Richfield United Church of Christ**



**January 9, 2022**

10:15 am Service

Guest Pastor: Rev. Charlene J. Smith  
Minister: Every Member of the Church

# ***Richfield United Church of Christ***

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

MINISTER: EVERY MEMBER OF THE CHURCH

GUEST PASTOR: REV. CHARLENE J. SMITH

READER: DIANA JULIEN

JANUARY 9, 2022

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE MEDITATION**      “Healer of Our Every Ill”      Haugen

**\*CALL TO PRAYER**      *Based on Psalm 29*

**Leader:** People of God, we desire to be refreshed, renewed and changed. Let us hear again the call we heard in baptism that encourages us and strengthens our resolve to be God’s people in faithfulness and peace-loving justice.

**People: Ascribe to our God, O heavenly beings, ascribe to our God glory and strength.**

**Leader:** Ascribe to our God a glorious name; worship our God in holy splendor.

**People: The voice of our God is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord thunders over the mighty waters.**

**Leader:** The voice of our God is powerful; the voice of our God is full of majesty.

**People: May our God give strength to the people! May the Lord bless the people with peace!**

**\*HYMN**      “On Jordan’s Bank”      #84 Red Hymnal

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION** (in unison)

Creating, Calling, and Faithful God, we come to this time and place to be with You, to worship You, and to learn from You. Your Spirit was above the waters of creation. Your Spirit was above the waters of the Red Sea as your people crossed from slavery to freedom. Your Spirit was over the waters of the Jordan River as John baptized Jesus, your beloved Son. May your Spirit be with us again this day. Water refreshes and cleanses, it both causes death and brings new life. So too, may your Spirit refresh and cleanse our souls, Let us die to sin, and rise to new life in You. Amen.

\*Congregation may stand

**\*ASSURANCE OF GOD’S CALL** (Pastor only)

**\*THE GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READING**      Isaiah 43:1-7

**SCRIPTURE READING**      Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

**SERMON**      Rev. Charlene J. Smith

**\*HYMN OF REFLECTION**      #164 Black Hymnal  
“Arise, Your Light Is Come”

## **SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS PASTORAL AND LORD’S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

## **PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS**

**The Offertory Sentence**

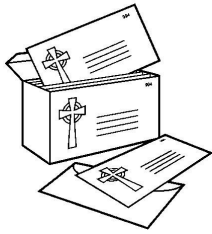
**The Offertory**      “Prayer”      Southbridge

**\*THE DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heav’nly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (Praying Together)

Faithful God, bless us in our baptismal calling to be in ministry of showing hospitality to others. We offer the gifts that we have been given to be used for the lifting up of those who are hurting, and for the building of your Kingdom on Earth. Receive and multiply our gifts for life-giving ministry. Amen.



## 2022 Giving Envelopes

The 2022 giving envelopes are in the Fellowship Hall for you to pick up.

## Help Wanted

### Church Treasurer

Amy Shepker has announced her resignation as of 1/31/22 as our church treasurer. If you are comfortable paying bills and crunching numbers, contact Dave Hakos to find out more details about this paid position.

### Retirement Village Manager

The Retirement Village Board is seeking a *Village manager* and to compile a list of *“Handy People”* to be called upon to perform odd jobs and /or maintenance for the Retirement Village. See the green bulletin insert for more information.

**Our Annual Congregational Meeting**  
In person and online  
**Sunday, January 30**  
Following the 10:15 service



*Annual reports are due in the office  
before January 12.*

### Meetings This Week

Scout leaders in Gathering Room: Today at 7 pm  
The Worship & Parish Ministry Board: Monday at 5:30 pm on ZOOM  
Church Council: Monday at 7 pm on ZOOM  
Bell Choir practice: Wednesday at 7 pm  
Retirement Village Board: Thursday at 7 pm

## The Baptism of Jesus

When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. Luke 3:21 (NIV)

Words are taken from Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 (NIV).



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L P Q S P I R I T O P P W G M
U B S O M N L L F E R O A V C
M U U L E K N L J L A U T M K
E Z Z V Y O E U E V Y S E P U
U L A Z O R G A S Q I P R B X
C E E T I R K P U W N V W M M
H Y R F U L W C S L G L B J N
S J Y Z D Q H D U Q V R X I F
H T O K U X J F O L A O E W R
A O M H O Y R H K Q H T I Z J
D A L B N E P V Z Q U U T C M
B O Z Y W I M C H R I S T F E
K V V O A S X S P E O P L E Q
K E P E X D O P E N E D P V S
B A P T I Z E U Z V F V L D S

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Spirit	John	voice	Christ	fire
opened	Jesus	dove	powerful	water
people	praying	heaven	Holy	baptize

### Hobbitts Preschool Early Registration

All current Hobbitts families and church members may now register for the 2022-2023 school year. Registration forms are available in the school office and on the table in the Hobbitts hallway and should be turned in before February 4 at 9:00 am.



## Welcome Rev. Charlene J. Smith

We welcome Rev. Charlene J. Smith as our guest pastor today.

Rev. Charlene retired in 2013 after 25

years of service with the national offices of the United Church of Christ. She is an author and has been an editor and is currently serving on the Association council and on the ministerial team at East View UCC in Shaker Heights.

### Thank You for Your Donations

We have filled another back pew with donations for the arriving refugees. Thank you for your generous giving.

**If you would like to make a cash donation,** visit our church web page to support Jack Miller's project to aid Afghan refugees. Jack, of our youth group, has set up a funding site with help from Graham Ball, of the US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants, as his sophomore school project. Just click on the blue button that says **Help Afghan Refugees.**



It's time to once again get out your cameras to record your talent for our **Virtual Talent Show!**

If you can sing, dance, sew, bake, juggle, or balance a

book on your head, we want to share your talent with the rest of the RUCC family! Please submit your entry by February 21 to:

YouthDirectorRUCC@gmail.com

We had so much fun doing this last year, we hope to include you in the 2022 Virtual Talent Show. **You can still view the amazing performances of 2021 on our Facebook page.**



## Prayer List

Ian King, Nolan Luther, Marilyn Pay and family  
Rosemarie and Dick Sprague,  
Anne Taylor, Ray Barker, Mary Jones,  
Ruby Kover, Ethel Stanko, Nicholas and Teresa Lindsey.

### **Request for prayers from congregation members**

All essential workers; Stephanie Sak, cousin of Ceec Bard;  
Ted Shook, father-in-law of Kelly Sikora Shook; Ernie Miller;  
Joey LaRock, grandson of Paul & Michal Swan; David Pay, son of

Marilyn Pay; Will, brother of Joe & Sue's daughter-in-law; Ann Markunas; Russ King; Tammy, friend of Tim & Linda; Kate & Jeremy Plants; Molly Oldham; Helen Reineck, sister-in-law of Joe Reineck; Marion Kovacs, sister of Larry Harsey

## Birthdays and Anniversaries This Week

**Happy Birthday** this week to Kathy Kiska, Lilly Miller, Stuart Myers, Rev. John King and Jody Shankland.

**Happy Anniversary** this week to Meagan & Sam Haas and Sally & John Gill.



## 2022 Coffee Hour Calendar

A new calendar for Coffee Hour hosts is posted on the *We Can Make It Happen* bulletin board.

## Flowers for the Altar 2022

**Share a special event or memory in your life by donating flowers for the altar.**

A new flower calendar has been posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for 2022. Select a date and the office will call you the week before your Sunday.

Vases from Countryside Florist are \$30 and they deliver to the church; pick up flowers or plants from your choice of suppliers; bring in a vase of flowers from your garden; ask about our silk flower arrangements made by Michal Swan.

