



Richardson Park United Methodist Church

Celebrating Over 100 Years of Ministry

The mission of Richardson Park United Methodist Church is to help people experience the amazing love of God and develop a vital relationship with Jesus Christ

And He said to them,
“Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.”
Mark 16:15 NRSV



Casey Houtz, Pastor

Welcome to RPUMC Worship Service

“We greet you with the love and peace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.
We are a church committed to God’s mission and purpose for the world.
We pray you are blessed in worship with us this morning.”

September 13, 2026

16th Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Please rise in spirit or body*

PRELUDE

"Center Of My Joy"/"Sinner Saved by Grace" *W. Gaither*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER (in unison)

Liberating God, we worship you. We praise you for delivering your people of old from enslavement in Egypt by opening up a new and unexpected future before them. They experienced your grace and mercy in awesome and life-sustaining ways, which must have been like an impossible dream coming true. Through these acts, you showed your compassion for the weak and powerless of this world. We praise and adore you for opening up a new future for us when your love and compassion, your mercy and grace became enfleshed in Jesus Christ. He delivered us from the bondage of evil and sin through his death on the cross. The impossible once more became reality when love defeated evil once and for all. We pray that this time of worship will be a true offering of our wonder and praise that you should care for us so deeply and so faithfully. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Followers of Christ, we live in a world where we hurt one another, where sin divides us one from another and makes us enemies instead of neighbors.

Many: Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us.

One: The divisions in our world seem like too much to overcome, and we wonder if this forgiveness thing really works anymore. Maybe it worked for Jesus, but not for us.

Many: Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us.

One: We find ourselves tempted by easy answers and quick solutions, reticent to do the slow and difficult work of reconciliation.

Many: Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us.

One: In this place, may we encounter Christ who meets us in the places where we want to give up, where we despair that life-giving change is even possible, with abundant grace to sustain us on the journey.

Many: God, form us today as people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

"Rise, Shine, You People"

UMH 187

CALL FOR JOYS & CONCERNS WITH PASTORAL PRAYER

One: ...God, in your mercy,

Many: Hear our prayer.

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 14:19-31
Romans 14:1-12
Matthew 18:21-35

SERMON

What About Forgiveness?

HYMN

"Lord, I Want to be a Christian"

UMH 402

APOSTLES' CREED**INVITATION TO OFFERING****RECEIVING OF TITHES & GIFTS*****DOXOLOGY**

"All Things Come of Thee"

UMH 588

OFFERTORY PRAYER (in unison)

Merciful Deliverer, you part the waters when we feel trapped and forgive debts too great to repay. In the face of fear and brokenness, you lead us with compassion and grace. May the gifts we bring today reflect our deep gratitude for your mercy. Let them support ministries of reconciliation and acts of healing, justice, and welcome. Teach us to lead not with judgment, but with generosity, recognizing that what we have, we hold by your mercy. Bless these offerings and bless us as stewards of your kin-dom, always seeking to build a world where grace is not rare but abundant. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

UMH 327

BENEDICTION**CONGREGATIONAL "AMEN" & RECESSIONAL****POSTLUDE**

"Let the Heavens Be Glad!" *R. Merrifield*

*The flowers at the Altar this morning are given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of my parents, Richard and Alvretta Crozier
by Cherie Krebs.*



Prayer Requests



- KC, Mia, Manda, Franny, grandkids, Joey, Annette, Steph, Kortni
- Shirley Delpizzo and family, Steven, Tonja, Natalie, Hillary, Sharon, Amanda, Mozes
- Cassandra King, Rebecca King, James King, Mindy King, Tundra King, Yukon King, Trixie King, Diane Button, Linda Silva
- Darryl and Jeanne Remedio; John and Donna Mahoney; Gary and Sue Pinkowski; Don and Crissy Montgomery; Gene and Tracy Filliben; Millie Bradshaw & family; the Wolski family; Pastor Tony and Anne; Sam Rosado; Don Moyer; our armed forces; all law enforcement, fire fighters and EMTs; the United States; Isreal; justice; liberty
- Haley DeJesus, Efrain DeJesus, Jr., Madeline Torres
- Joey Anderson, John and Joanne Cooper, Rosalind Congo, Cheri Anderson
- Eric, Wayne Daimon, Przywara family, Heather, Michael, Mike, Scott, Hayes family, Devon, Gracie, patience, our country
- Sonya Ryan, David Simons, Morgan Zeisloft, Ed Ide, Rich Locke

SERVING TODAY:

WORSHIP LEADERS: KATHY ROGERS AND MIA MARTIN

MUSICIAN: JANET BRUSH

HEAD USHER: DAVE ROGERS

GREETER: MARIE WALKER

AUDIO/ VISUALS: DENNIS JOHNSON, BRENDA TUCKER,
and JANET DICKERSON

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE 9/6/26:

WORSHIP: 42

Richardson Park United Methodist Church

11 N. Maryland Ave.

Wilmington, DE 19804

302-654-0961

Pastor: pastorcasey@rpumchurch.org

Church Office: rpumc@rpumchurch.org

<https://www.facebook.com/rpumchurch>