

WORSHIP IN THE PARK

We hope today's worship service was a positive experience for you. If you have questions or comments you would like to share with us concerning today's worship, please feel free to call any of the participating churches listed below. Also, please know you are always welcome at any of the regularly scheduled worship services held each week at our churches.

Bloom City United Methodist Church	549-2631
Boaz United Methodist Church	536-3603
Church of the Nazarene	647-4724
First Baptist Church	647-8662
Five Points Lutheran Church	536-3877
Grace Community Church	647-2222
Grand View Family Worship	647-3350
Peace United Methodist Church	647-4559
Richland Center Fellowship	647-7226
Richland Center Free Methodist Church	647-4141
St. John's Lutheran Church	647-3000
Trinity United Methodist Church	647-3203



Thank you for your demonstration of Christian Unity by participating in today's worship service and fellowship. Your presence is a great testimony to the power of Christ to unite hearts. God Bless you!



LABOR DAY WEEKEND WORSHIP IN THE PARK

10:00 a. m.

Sunday, September 5, 2021



dreamstime.com

OUR 16TH YEAR!

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OUR PASTORS:

Jan Star

Bloom City United Methodist Church
Boaz United Methodist Church

Jonathan Young

Church of the Nazarene

Ron Fruit

Rob Richards

First Baptist Church

Larry Engel

Five Points Lutheran Church

Leland Schmidt

Grace Community Church

Tom Coleman

Grand View Family Worship

Rey Diaz

Peace United Methodist Church
Trinity United Methodist Church

Mike Breininger

Richland Center Fellowship

Dale Kaufman

Richland Center Free Methodist Church

Michelle Elfers

St. John's Lutheran Church

Wayne Fife

Retired



Our thanks to all who helped to make our worshipping together a success! We appreciate your good work! God Bless!

We thank all of you who attended as well. Please have a safe holiday and drive safely when you leave.

The Worship Team Band Members are made up of musicians who love to play for the Lord. They are from the churches involved in this year's service. The Worship Leader for this group is led by Pam Peterson-Kintz (Peace United Methodist Church) and Glenn Alioto (Grand View Family Worship).

**Organizing churches for this year's
Labor Day Service in the Park event:**

Grand View Family Worship
St. John's Lutheran Church
Grace Community Church

**ORDER OF SERVICE
WORSHIP IN THE PARK
SEPTEMBER 5, 2021**

Please silence all electronic devices so we can all enjoy a more meaningful worship experience.

THEME: "RE-CONNECT"

*Welcome to worship on this Labor Day weekend.
We're pleased that you have joined us
as fellow workers in God's Kingdom.*

Welcome, Invocation

Pastor Larry Engel

Apostle's Creed:

Pastor Jonathan Young

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried;
he descended to the grave,

On the third day He rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,

and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty
from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Amen

Worship in Song

Hymn Medley: A New Name

Verse: I was once a sinner, but I came Pardon to receive from my

Lord. This was freely given, and I found that He always kept His word.

Chorus: There's a new name written down in glory. And it's mine. O yes, it's mine! And the white robed angels sing the story, "A sinner has come home." For there's a new name written down in glory. And it's mine. O yes, it's mine! With sins forgiven I am bound for Heaven, Nevermore to roam.

He Set Me Free

Chorus: He set me free, He set me free, He broke the bonds of prison for me.

I'm glory bound my Jesus to see, For glory to God, He set me free.

Verse: Once like a bird in prison I dwelt, no freedom from my sorrow I felt.

But Jesus came and listened to me and glory to God, He set me free.

Chorus

I'll Fly Away

Chorus: I'll fly away, O glory, I'll fly away; When I die, hallelujah by and by.

Verse: Some glad morning when this life is o'er. I'll fly away; To a home on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away.

Chorus

A Brief History of Worship in the Park

What started as a dream in 2004 between three area churches and their pastors: Pastor Chuck Hayes: Church of the Nazarene, Pastor Greg Marsh: Free Methodist Church and Pastor Tom Tarver: Peace United Methodist Church, became a reality in 2005 when we launched our very first "Worship In The Park" on Labor Day Sunday. Why would three pastors of different denominations want to have a worship service together? Well, a hope to see area churches come together in Christian unity, involve the community on a more spiritual level and lowered church attendance on Labor Day Sunday, are only three of the reasons.

Our purpose is twofold and has never changed. We want to honor Christ through Christian unity in a community worship setting and to foster the fellowship and harmony between community Christian congregations.

These three churches, with their dream, have now grown to twelve area churches becoming involved.

What originally started as a dream has become a reality! It is our hope to see that dream stay a reality for many more years to come. All it takes is team effort on the part of the churches and the community to keep us going strong. It's an awesome experience!

Pastor Chuck Hayes was the last pastor of the three to leave the area. The three pastors hoped the churches involved would continue with the dream and to grow. Worship in the Park is now a part of the Richland County Ministerial Association.

We've endured a few things since we opened. In 2007, we had to cancel the service altogether due to flooding in Krouskop Park. In 2008, it looked like a flood would cancel our plans again, however, the rains stopped and we had a wonderful sunny day. Then in 2020, COVID-19 pandemic invaded the world, but we are still able to have our worship service, just not in a park. Social distancing and face masks were the norm for our service that year. However, we got through it just fine and we still continue to hold our worship service.

Our thanks to all of you who came today to worship with us and help keep the dream alive. Whether you were part of the service or not, your presence means a lot to all of us involved.

We thank you very much! God Bless!

Happy Labor Day!

LYDIA'S HOUSE MINISTRIES

Lydia's House Ministries was established by the churches in Richland Center area and now operates as an independent corporation with an IRS 501(c)(3) status and operates the following ministries.

Lydia's House Shelter

A 15 day shelter for homeless people in emergency circumstances that provides shelter, food, spiritual care, and assistance with housing and employment.

A Child's Place

A 90 day shelter for homeless people with children providing shelter, food, spiritual care, and professional assistance and training for families to become independent in housing and food.

A Family's Place

A 2 year housing transition program for homeless families that are trained in finances, education, family care, employment, and other areas that will help people break the cycle of homelessness.

The Youth and Family Initiative

An advisor works with children and families in the Richland Middle School to help people apply the principles of Christ in their lives and families.

These ministries help hundreds of people each year with no government funding. The entire budget of Lydia's House Ministries comes from the donations of caring people with the love of Jesus extended to those in need.

Please help support Lydia's House Ministries. Today's offering will be given to aid in their very worthwhile ministry.

Blessed Assurance

1: Blessed assurance Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain: This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

2: Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight:
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. **Refrain:**

3: Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. **Refrain:**

Reckless Love

1: Before I spoke a word You were singing over me
You have been so, so good to me
Before I took a breath You breathed Your life in me
You have been so, so kind to me

Chorus: (And) O the overwhelming never-ending reckless
Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found
Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it
Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless
Love of God

2: When I was Your foe still Your love fought for me

You have been so, so good to me
When I felt no worth You paid it all for me
You have been so, so kind to me

Chorus (And) O the overwhelming never-ending reckless
Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found
Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it
Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless
Love of God

Bridge: There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up
Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down
Coming after me

Chorus

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Communion

Pastor Michelle Elfers

At the Cross

1: Alas, and did my Savior bleed and did my Sovereign die
Would He devote that sacred head for such a worm as I?

Chorus: At the cross, at the cross, where I first saw the
light, And the burden of my heart rolled away. I was there
by faith I received my sight, and now I am happy all the
day!

2: Was it for crimes that I have done He groaned upon the
tree? Amazing pity grace unknown. and love beyond

degree! **Chorus:**
And behind you
And beside you
All around you
And within you
He is with you
He is with you
In the morning
In the evening
In your coming
In your weeping
And rejoicing
He is for you
He is for you

Tag. He is for you. He is for you. Amen.

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About the Speaker: Ron Fruit

Ron Fruit was born and raised on a Richland County dairy farm. He graduated from Richland Center High School in 1974.

His work at WRCO Radio in Richland Center started while he was still in high school. Ron and his wife Beth have owned and operated WRCO since 1994. He was inducted into the Wisconsin Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 2014.

Ron and Beth live in Richland Center. They have four children and six grandchildren.

Ron grew up attending the Ask Ridge Baptist Church which was adjacent to the family farm. He was baptized at the First Baptist Church in Richland Center where he now serves as a lay pastor, sharing the pulpit with Rob Richards.

Chorus 1: I'm going back to the Father back to the One
Who offers forgiveness for all that I've done
As He runs to embrace me He calls me His son
And I'm home. *Repeat*

Chorus 2: So I'm going back to the Father back to the place
Where all of my sin and shame is erased
By His unfailing love and unending grace
And I'm home

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Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Mike Breininger

The Blessing

Verse. The Lord bless you
And keep you
Make his face shine upon you
And be gracious to you
The Lord turn his
Face toward you
And give you peace (2x)

Chorus. Amen. Amen. Amen (2x)

Verse (1x)

Bridge. May his favor
Be upon you
And a thousand generations
And your family
And your children
And their children
And their children
May his presence
Go before you

3: Well might the sun in darkness hide, and shut his glories
in. When Christ the mighty Maker died for man the
creature's sin.

Chorus: At the cross, at the cross, where I first saw the
light, And the burden of my heart rolled away. I was there
by faith I received my sight, and now I am happy all the
day!

At The Cross (Love Ran Red)

Chorus: At the cross, at the cross
I surrender my life
I'm in awe of You, I'm in awe of You
Where Your love ran red and my sin washed white
I owe all to You, I owe all to You (Jesus)

Bridge: Here my hope is found
Here on holy ground
Here I bow down here I bow down
Here arms open wide
Here You saved my life
Here I bow down here I bow (down)

Chorus

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Songs. Thankyou Music. Worship Together Music. worshipttogether.com songs. (For use solely with the
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Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Worship in Scripture:

Luke 15:11-32

Pastor Michelle Elfers

The Parable of the Lost Son

¹¹ Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons.

¹² The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them.

¹³ “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

²¹ “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

²² “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a

feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate. ²⁵ “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷ ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

³¹ ““My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’

Sermon The Prodigal Son

Pastor Ron Fruit

Back To The Father

Chorus 1: I'm going back to the Father back to the One
Who offers forgiveness for all that I've done
As He runs to embrace me He calls me His son
And I'm home. Repeat

Chorus 2: So I'm going back to the Father back to the place
Where all of my sin and shame is erased
By His unfailing love and unending grace
And I'm home

Bridge: I am loved by You You approve of me I am home
I have found in You my identity I am home. Repeat