

River Source - Your Guide to Worship

3rd Sunday in Easter--April 15, 2018



Welcome. We are so glad you are here.

*Everything you need to participate in worship is projected on the screen.
If you read music, it is available on the usher stand in the hallway. Ask an usher or help yourself.*

Acts 9:1-19a

⁹Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Here's what to expect at River of Hope:

GIFT - Generations In Faith Together. Worship is intentionally intergenerational. "Sunday School" happens within worship. You'll speak ancient words in new ways and sing old hymns that never get old. We practice the story together. We are actively engaged in questions, prayers, and singing together. We learn so much from each other when we worship together. It's a gift, isn't it? Remember, this isn't about excellence or perfection, it's about participation.

Come as you are. Well, you're already here. It doesn't matter what you wear or what kind of shape your spiritual life is in. God meets you and loves you where you are.

Where everybody knows your name? Name tags are awkward, right? We all wear them - not just the visitors. It's an effort to be open and to show this is a safe place to be called by name.

We like kids. No kidding. We think kids are leaders in worship, always teaching us how to live. Parents, please breathe easy. We are with you.

Pray Ground. Stay in worship with your kids. Join them on the pray ground. If it all falls apart, take to the halls. We'll pray for you. 😊

Communion. You are welcome, without exception. If you are hungry and thirsty for unbounded grace, mercy, and forgiveness through Jesus Christ, you are welcome at Christ's table.

Connection Cards. For regulars and visitors to use to communicate and pray. We won't use your info to bother you.

Financial Offering. Giving generously is part of an active faith life. It looks different for each person. River of Hope depends on your giving and is grateful for how and what you share.

- There is a card reader located at the back of the worship space. There are instructions with it. Go ahead and use it.
- Go online to riverofhopehutchinson.org. Click on "give."
- You can support Laundry Love by putting money in the watering can.

On the way out...You'll be handed the Weekly River News that includes prayers to pray and scripture to read for the week, along with a calendar and other goings-on in our life together.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHER

Music to Prepare Us
Gathering Songs
*Introduce Theme of the Day
Welcome 101
No Longer Strangers Prayer
Practice Saying Hello
Confession
Promise of Forgiveness
Greeting
Prayer of the Day

WORD

Hymn of Praise
Acts 9:1-19
Wade in the Word
Sermon
Prayers of the People
Offering + Singing

SEND

What is Our Purpose?
Milestones!
Blessing
*Sending Song
*Sending Charge
Music to Send You Out to Serve

**Kids are invited to participate throughout worship, but especially in these spots.*

You are invited to pray at the prayer stations at any time during worship today.