

# River Source - Your Guide to Worship

11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost—August 5, 2019



**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 15:1-21

Then certain individuals came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.” And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to discuss this question with the apostles and the elders. So they were sent on their way by the church, and as they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, they reported the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the believers.<sup>[a]</sup> When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. But some believers who belonged to the sect of the Pharisees stood up and said, “It is necessary for them to be circumcised and ordered to keep the law of Moses.” The apostles and the elders met together to consider this matter. After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “My brothers,<sup>[b]</sup> you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that I should be the one through whom the Gentiles would hear the message of the good news and become believers. And God, who knows the human heart, testified to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us; and in cleansing their hearts by faith he has made no distinction between them and us. Now therefore why are you putting God to the test by placing on the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear? On the contrary, we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.” The whole assembly kept silence, and listened to Barnabas and Paul as they told of all the signs and wonders that God had done through them among the Gentiles. After they finished speaking, James replied, “My brothers,<sup>[c]</sup> listen to me. Simeon has related how God first looked favorably on the Gentiles, to take from among them a people for his name. This agrees with the words of the prophets, as it is written, ‘After this I will return, and I will rebuild the dwelling of David, which has fallen from its ruins I will rebuild it, and I will set it up, so that all other peoples may seek the Lord— even all the Gentiles over whom my name has been called. Thus says the Lord, who has been making these things known from long ago.’<sup>[d]</sup>

Therefore I have reached the decision that we should not trouble those Gentiles who are turning to God, but we should write to them to abstain only from things polluted by idols and from fornication and from whatever has been strangled<sup>[e]</sup> and from blood. For in every city, for generations past, Moses has had those who proclaim him, for he has been read aloud every sabbath in the synagogues.”

## Here's what to expect at River of Hope:

While Pastor Laura is on sabbatical...

We welcome Pastor Donna Olsen to River of Hope today to bring us the Good News! Pr. Donna is a new Hutchinson resident and is living into retirement. We give thanks to God for you, Pr. Donna. Thank you to Kelly Johnson for leading worship today. You can find her serving as secretary of the River Table and living a full life with her family. Thank you, God, for Kelly's life of faith.

**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](http://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 15:1-21  
Wade in the Word  
Sermon  
Prayers of the People  
Offering + Singing

## FEAST

\*Setting the Table  
Thanksgiving at the Table  
The Lord's Prayer  
Communion + Singing  
Prayer after Communion

## 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.*