



LIFE TOGETHER

In the church

SERMON SERIES
**PRAYER
CARDS**



1 Everybody Has Their Own Idea of Community

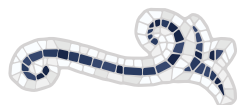
¹² Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. ¹³ Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. ¹⁴ And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone. ¹⁵ Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else.

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:12-18 (NIV)



Inspirational Hymn



*Thus new patterns for Christ's mission
In a small or global sense
Help us bear each other's burdens
Breaking down each wall or fence
Words of comfort words of vision
Words of challenge said with care
Bring new power and strength for action
Make us colleagues free and fair.*

Jane Parker Huber

"Called As Partners in Christ's Service"



BIG IDEA

Community is actually not an ideal we are to seek for, but more specifically, it is something that we regularly choose to be engaged in by serving one another instead of seeking to have our own desires fulfilled.



Prayer

Heavenly Father,

We come before you with hearts filled with gratitude for the precious gift of the Christian community that you have made possible for us. You have knit us together as a family of believers, bound by the common thread of faith in your Son, Jesus Christ.

We thank you for the fellowship that strengthens us in times of joy and sorrow. We find encouragement in knowing that we are not alone on this journey of faith.

Grant us the grace to bear one another's burdens, the humility to serve each other, and the patience to walk alongside one another through the troubles of life. May our Christian community be a refuge for the weary, a place of healing for the broken, and a source of hope for those who are lost.

In your precious and powerful name, we do pray, Amen.

Rev. Ho-Ming Tsui

Lead Pastor



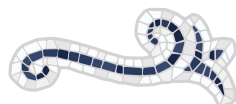
2 “Fellowship” ... What is it Really?

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2:42-47 (NIV)



Inspirational Hymn



*Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God's own choosing.
You ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name,
from age to age the same;
and he must win the battle.*

Martin Luther
“A Mighty Fortress”



BIG IDEA



Christian community should strive to spend time together in the Word and in prayer. This is why at RHCCC we encourage brothers and sisters to gather to worship as a Christian community and join small group or fellowship.



Prayer

Our God Three in One,

We come before you with grateful hearts,
acknowledging your presence among us and the gift of fellowship
you have granted us in the body of Christ.

Lord, we thank you for the bond of love that unites us as a
community. Help us to love one another genuinely, to bear each
other's burdens, and to encourage one another in our faith journeys.

Father, we pray for the spirit of hospitality within our church family.

As we break bread together, both in the physical and spiritual sense,
we ask for your blessing upon our meals and our shared communion.

May these moments deepen our connection with you and with each
other, fostering a sense of family and belonging.

Finally, Lord, we pray for the growth of our church community.

May we not only grow in numbers but also in spiritual maturity,
bearing fruit that glorifies your name. Empower us to be a light in
our neighborhoods, workplaces, and beyond, so that others may be
drawn to the fellowship we share in Christ.

In Jesus' name, we pray.

Amen.

Rev. Kelly Tam
English Worship Pastor



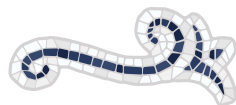
3 Time in Solitude + Time with Others

²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV)



Inspirational Hymn



*His yoke is easy; His burden is light.
I've found it so; I've found it so.
He leadeth me by day and by night,
Where living waters flow.*

R.E. Hudson
“His Yoke is Easy”



BIG IDEA



If we are not doing well spiritually in our personal devotional time with the Lord, this will hinder the fellowship in the community.



Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for choosing us to become your children and adopting us into your holy family through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. In spite of our wickedness, you redeemed us and forgave all our sins through the blood of Jesus. You gave us the Holy Spirit as your guarantee that you have indeed purchased us to become your own people.

Thank you for your sustaining grace through your Word, through prayer, and through the community of believers you have placed us in to share life together.

Holy Spirit, teach us and mold us both in times of solitude, and in times of fellowship with other believers. Teach us to be silent when alone with you that we may hear what your heart wants to say to us. Teach us to speak when in fellowship with believers, only words that will help build each other up.

May you always be glorified and pleased in every situation, whether alone with you or together with our family of believers.

In Jesus' precious name, Amen.

Rev. Reuben Foncardas
English Lead & Fellowship Pastor



4 Relationships That are Built on Servanthood

⁵ In your relationships with one another,
have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God
something to be used to his own advantage;

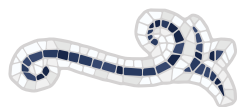
⁷ rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!

Philippians 2:5-8 (NIV)



Inspirational Hymn



*Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.*

Frances R. Havergalm
"Take My Life, and Let it Be"



BIG IDEA



“Let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak,
slow to anger, do nothing from rivalry or conceit,
and in humility look to the interests of others
before your own.” (Phil. 2:3-4)



Prayer

Lord,

You were completely humiliated,
so we could be fully known, yet fully loved.

Please help us to decrease, so You can increase in our lives.
Help us to not seek great things for ourselves, but to consider
others better than ourselves. Help us not to care for our own needs,
but rather, for each of us to care for others' needs.

Instead of us humans trying to be god, help us look to the only
God who became human, our Lord Jesus Christ who came in the
flesh, to make Himself nothing by being the greatest slave of us all!
Thank you, Jesus, for joyfully enduring the horrific cross til death,
so that we could be completely forgiven and set free
from our guilt and many sins.

May we stand firm in one Spirit, striving together as one for the sake
of the gospel, without fear of those who hate us, as a sure sign of
their coming destruction but also of Your marvelous salvation.

Please help us by your Spirit to love others as You have loved us,
by washing each other's feet.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Pastor Stephen Hsu
English Missions Pastor



5 Confession & Communion – Two Keys of Relationship

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

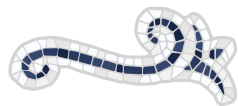
⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

1 John 1:5-10 (NIV)



Inspirational Hymn



*Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer!*

Joseph Medlicott Scriven
"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"



BIG IDEA



The regular confession of sin to each other in the body of Christ will help strip away our pride and help us hold each other accountable. Communion is the space where we can reflect on our sins against God and one another, remember our gracious Saviour and where we can receive forgiveness, accountability and restoration in His presence.



Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

We come to you as people who have want to confess our sins to you because you are faithful and just, and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. Lord, we also confess, we may not always even know what sin is. We may not always be aware of what has wronged you or wronged each other in community. Lord, give us eyes to see and ears to hear and minds to reflect.

May we live righteous lives that show we have been changed by Christ, our Lord & Saviour. Send us brothers and sisters to encourage us and walk with us on this journey of life. Send Your Spirit and others to graciously speak truth into our lives, help us see when we have sinned against You and others, and help them model forgiveness like Jesus does for us.

Lastly, we pray that as we confess our sins to you and one another, we may no longer feel shame and restored in fellowship and relationship. We desire communion with You and one another Lord.

Thank you for your ocean of grace and we pray you keep sanctifying us, for Your sake and so we can model to others the love of Christ to the world.

We pray these things in Jesus' name,

Amen.

Rev. Shu-Ling Lee
DTM Markham Lead Pastor

