

WE GATHER

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

The calls are always there, God, to be more, have more, do more,
Every corner of our lives needs to be filled with something,
Every step, every word, every thought must be pregnant with meaning
and purpose, We need to prevail, triumph, win the race!

Except no one ever wins. Not really. We run as fast as we can to stand still, and so many get left behind, broken, poor, depleted.

Perhaps, in this Advent waiting time, we can learn to let go, slow down, open up;

Perhaps we can begin to clear away some of the clutter, and open up a space within us for silence, for stillness, for hope, for the Holy.

And maybe, just maybe, as we create this open space we will find more room in our lives

For generosity, for laughter, for connection, for caring, for love, for life.

* HYMN (see insert)

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

* INVITATION TO PRAYER

* PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (Unison)

Lord, we confess that we are not whole people. We also confess that you alone can make us whole. We pray therefore, that this morning, we would stretch out our hands towards you and find wholeness to forgive each other and find the desire to reach out to others in loving kindness.

Silence is kept

*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

* HYMN 581

Glory Be to the Father

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, Amen.**

WE LISTEN

MINI MESSAGE

Children are invited to stay in worship; activity bags are available.

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE
Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalm 25: 4-5

HYMN (see insert) *Make of My Heart a Stable*

MEDITATION *A Story of Innkeeping*

WE RESPOND

INVITATION TO OFFER OUR GIFTS AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ANTHEM *Dancing into the Promise* Carter

* HYMN 606 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures
here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom
come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our
daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

WE DEPART

*HYMN 121 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Hark the Glad Sound V* arr. Bouman

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Advent Wreath Lighters: Jon & Deb Jansky

Liturgist: Lynda Nadkarni

Mini Message: Lynda Nadkarni

Usher: Jon and Deb Jansky

Fellowship Time please join us in the social hall for coffee and treats.

Worship Notes

Prelude: *Chant on O, Come, O, Come Emmanuel*; arr. Behnke © Concordia

Anthem: *Dancing into the Promise*; Carter

Postlude: *Hark the Glad Sound V*; arr. Bouman © Concordia

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Riverside Presbyterian Church

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Riverside, IL 60546

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NOVEMBER 28, 2021

WELCOME MARY JO —Pastor Mary Jo will begin her ministry by leading worship on the 1st Sunday of Advent, November 28th.

We will have a celebration brunch right after worship on December 5th.

Please join in the welcome!

As she joins us at RPC, Mary Jo is asking for prayers for Light Memorial Presbyterian Church, the pastorate she has left in Sidney, Nebraska.

Donna Ulrich

Joyce Van Cura

Jack Smith

Monica Wood

Prayers for peace and comfort for family and friends grieving the death of Georgia Kanatas, mother-in-law of preschool teacher, Joan Kanatas.





CHRISTMAS PAGEANT IN WORSHIP — December 12 as part of worship, we will have a good old-fashioned pageant. At 9 am, we will fit for costumes and do a run through. Then have a break and a snack before the 10 am service. We hope children of all ages will participate!

Secure your role at missionandoutreach@rpcusa.org.

SUNDAY MORNING CONVERSATIONS — Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in hybrid form. You are invited to arrive at 9:00, enter through the south door to the sanctuary and come down the hall to the library for discussion of the morning's scripture. Those who wish to join remotely may do so by logging on at 9:00 a.m.

<https://tinyurl.com/RPCworship>



Called Congregational Meeting

CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING —There will be a called meeting of the congregation following worship on December 19 for the election, ordination

and installation of elders, deacons, trustees, and members-at-large of the 2022 nominating committee.

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY NEWS—With the Christmas and New Year's holidays coming up, it's more important than ever to remember those who rely on our Little Food Pantry for added sustenance. Donations are welcome, especially of canned goods with protein such as canned meats, beans, soup with meat, whole meals (like ravioli).

Also, some of our regular volunteers will be travelling during the holidays. If you would be willing to substitute for stocking the cabinet or doing the Aldi's or Jimmy John's pickups, let Deb Jansky (Aldi's), Lynda Nadkarni (LFP), or Doug Asbury (Jimmy John's) know. They can tell you what is required and work with you on scheduling. Thank you for supporting our neighbors in need.



DAILY DEVOTIONALS — Copies of the November-December Upper Room are in the rack outside the office.

RPC IS A MATTHEW 25 CHURCH

The Matthew 25 churches, more than 1,000 strong, are churches in the PCUSA who are committed to one or more of



these actions: **Building congregational vitality** by challenging people and congregations to deepen their faith and get actively and joyfully engaged with their community and the world. **Dismantling structural racism** by advocating and acting to break down the systems, practices and thinking that underlie discrimination, bias, prejudice and oppression of people of color. **Eradicating systemic poverty** by working to change laws, policies, plans and structures in our society that perpetuate economic exploitation of people who are poor. To learn more about how other churches are responding to the call, join the [Matthew 25 Facebook Page](#). Share your ideas about how we might respond with Matt Lisle or Lynda Nadkarni.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT — RPC and Ascension expanded the efforts to include people from outside the churches for the purposes of supporting refugee families. The group of about 150 people continues to expand every day! You can join at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/riversiderefugeeresettlement>. We have almost all the items we need for the refugee family apartment and half the funding! As co-sponsors we agree to providing 6 month living expenses for the family. You can support those efforts at <https://www.classy.org/campaign/co-sponsorship-riverside/c368545>. When we are matched with a family, there will be more known needs – food, cleaning supplies, clothing – and assistance for a move-in and set-up day. Questions? See Lynda or email missionandoutreach@rpcusa.org.



The **WOMEN'S CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY** will meet on Wednesday, December 1 at 10:30 am in the Parlor. Joyce Van Cura will lead us in Lesson 4 of the book "What My Grandmothers Taught Me" about Ruth and "Loyal Love." All women are welcome to join in. We look forward to the gathering! If you cannot attend in person, here is the log in information: <https://tinyurl.com/rpcbiblestudy>
Dial by your location 1(312) 626-6799

USHERS NEEDED — Thank you to the people who have signed up to be a Liturgist or host fellowship. Still desired are ushers for December 5, 12 and 19. Please see Sandy Kappmeyer or the office to sign up.



JR/SR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS —The next get together for the Jr/Sr High Youth Group will be after worship, during fellowship on Sunday, December 5th. We'll meet for food, games and conversation, including floating initial ideas for next summer's mission trip. Any high school student wanting to attend the summer mission trip will need to participate in events, including fundraisers, during the year. Part of our conversation will be about what your participation might look like.

November 28 - December 19, 2021

Christmas Joy

By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor God's gift of Jesus Christ by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

Rev. Stewart Pattison is a recent recipient of a gift from this offering. You can see his testimonial about it on our Facebook page. Your contribution may be made online or with a note on the memo line of your check. Thank you for supporting church workers and future leaders!

SUNDAYS WITH TED meets in person in the upstairs RPC parlor and via Zoom starting at 6:30 p.m. on Sundays to view the TED Talk and discuss it, ending by 7:30 p.m. <https://tinyurl.com/sundayswithted> Email Doug Asbury with questions at dougasbury@gmail.com.

*Programs are subject to change.

Nov. 28 —Anjali Kumar—My failed mission to find God-and what I found instead.

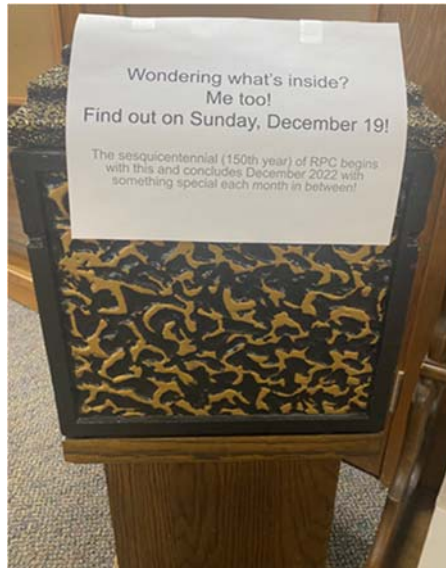
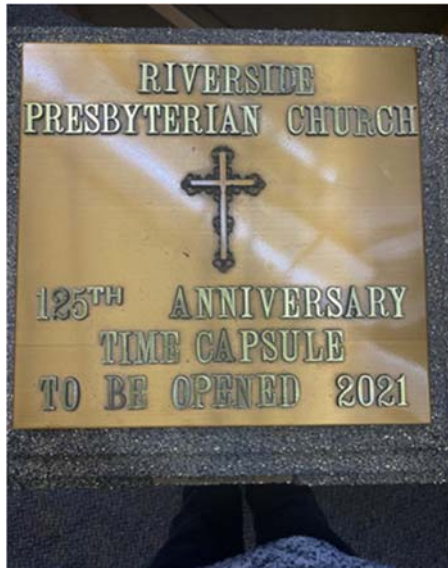
Dec. 5 —"When God talks back" by Tanya Luhrmann



SAVE THE DATE — The next community meal will be Sunday, December 19 following worship.

RPC 150th ANNIVERSARY & TIME CAPSULE OPENING DECEMBER 19

Have you seen our growing display about that 150th anniversary? Do you have any artifacts to contribute? It's going to be fun to celebrate the history of RPC beginning with the opening of the time capsule from our 125th anniversary. It will be during fellowship on December 19. RPC was founded on December 15, 1872. We are working on an event or activity for each month of our 150th year culminating in December 2022. See Lynda Nadkarni if you have any ideas or want to lend a hand.



2021 CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Elders	2021	2022	2023
	Gwen Heine	Ben Dickerson	Lisa Aulerich Marciniak
	Allan Halline	Ellen Hamilton	Sandra Kappmeyer
	Matt Lisle	Serina Ranft	Jon Jansky
			Mary Ann Sadilek, Clerk
Deacons	Deb Jansky	Susanne Vogel	Bridget Juister
	Wendy Seifert		Susan Lynch
	Joyce Van Cura		
Trustees	Thom DeVries	Paula McCracken	Doug Harvin
	Fred Mitchell	Tom Radigan	Henry Vogel
	Mike Heine	Brad Staubus, President	