Riverside Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2021 ~ Christmas Eve Welcome! We are glad you are here!

* Indicates please stand in body or Spirit.



WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine arr. McChesney

CHRISTMAS EXHORTATION

Christ is born! Adore him, honor him, and give him glory!

Christ is come down from heaven, receive him! Make of our hearts a stable!

Christ, the splendor of God's eternal Word, sustainer of the universe, light our lives with your presence and glory!

Christ is come down from heaven, receive him! Make of our hearts a stable!

Christ, born into the world for the liberation of all creation, moves us into perfect freedom, hope, joy, gentleness, and love.

Christ is come down from heaven, receive him! Make of Our Hearts a stable!

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent means coming. We are preparing ourselves for the days when, nations beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; when nations shall not war against nation any more. We light the candle of HOPE.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. We are preparing ourselves for the days when, the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. We light the candle of PEACE.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. We are preparing ourselves for the days when, the wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. We light the candle of JOY.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. We are preparing ourselves for the days when the Lord will give you a sign. Look! The young woman is with child and shall bear a son. She shall name him Immanuel, which means, God is with us.

We light the candle of LOVE.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

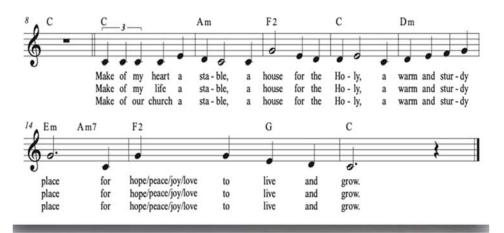
We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. We are preparing ourselves for the days when,

The people who walked in great darkness have seen a great light; Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined. We light the CHRIST candle.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Make of My Heart a Stable We now sing "CHRIST"



FIRST LESSON Isaiah 9:2-7 (OT p. 638)

Lisa Aulerich-Marciniak

* HYMN 144 In the Bleak Midwinter

SECOND LESSON Titus 2:11-14 (NT p. 215) Axel Haugland

* HYMN 145 What Child Is This

THIRD LESSON Luke 2:1-7 (NT p. 58)
Doug Harvin

* HYMN 132 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

FOURTH LESSON Luke 2:8-14 (NT p. 58) Steven and Andrew Staubus

CHRISTMAS HOMILY

OUR FAITHFUL RESPONSE

* HYMN 134 Joy to the World

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & 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.

THE OFFERTORY

THE OFFERING

THE DOXOLOGY 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 DEDICATION

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE Go, Tell It on the Mountain arr. Geschke

BENEDICTION

*THE CONGREGATION'S RESPONSE HYMN 122 Silent Night, Holy Night

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Advent Wreath Lighters: Kathryn and Lynda Nadkarni, Joanne Dybala

Liturgist: Susan Lynch Ushers: The Vogel Family

Thank you to the Chancel Choir and the acaBELLa Ringers for joining today's

Ministry of Music.

Flowers today are given in loving memory of our dad, Paul McCracken from

Linda Langer and Paula McCracken.

WORSHIP NOTES

Prelude: Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine; arr. McChesney ©public domain

Anthem: Before the Marvel of this Night; Schalk

Postlude: Go, Tell It on the Mountain; arr. Geschke © Hope Publishing

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"The Inn" worship series by Worship Design Studio. Adapted, used, livestreamed with permission. "Make of My Heart a Stable" by Amanda Udis-Kessler, used with permission. Hymns-songs licensed under OneLicense and

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Riverside Presbyterian Church

116 Barrypoint Road, Riverside, IL 60546 (708) 447-1520, rpcusa.org **DECEMBER 24, 2021**



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP —We will have a Christmas Eve service of Lessons and Carols featuring the acaBELLa Ringers and Chancel Choir at 4 pm.

DECEMBER 26— There will be worship at 10 am followed by fellowship.



REMOTE WORSHIP—Just as the supply chain has affected everything from cleaning products to Christmas gifts, so too, we're awaiting some technology to make live-stream a reality. In the meantime, Sara Vacek is recording and uploading worship to YouTube. Typically you will find it by 11:30 am on our

channel which is a link on the website.

FROM OUR TREASURER — IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN.....

It's December, so it's time to talk about the "state of the union" – that is the 2021 budget and 2022 pledging.

2021

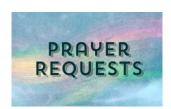
You will soon be receiving an update of your offerings through the end of November. Included in the update will be some suggestions for how you can help us balance the 2021 budget.

2022

Pledge cards are available in the sanctuary and the office for 2022. In making your pledge, we ask that you prayerfully consider increasing the amount by some fraction of the gifts you made to the Capital Campaign over the last 3 years. This is a relatively painless way of assuring the sustainability of our church missions and ministries as we face the challenges of the current and post-COVID era.



Virginia Yang Donna Ulrich Joyce Van Cura Jack Smith Monica Wood





LITTLE FOOD PANTRY NEWS—During this time of year, 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). Thank you for supporting our neighbors in need.

SUNDAYS WITH TED is on break until January 16.

MISSION TRIP —The mission trip to New Orleans through RHINO (Rebuilding Hope In New Orleans - www.rhinonola.org) has once again been postponed due to the virus surge.

NEED A RIDE/GIVE A RIDE—We're putting together a list of those who might like transportation to worship and those who might provide it. If you are either, please call or email the office.



CHRISTMAS OFFICE SCHEDULE—

Reverend Dean will be out December 27-31. The office will be staffed on an asneeded basis. In an emergency, call or text Reverend Dean 443-359-9553 or contact the office.

THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING is one of four church-wide special offerings of the PC (USA). It supports current and former church workers, their families, and offers education and leadership development at Presbyterian-related racial-ethnic colleges and other schools. Please give generously, or as you are able.



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 V

Wendy Seifert Joyce Van Cura Susanne Vogel Bridget Juister

Susan Lynch

Trustees Thom DeVries Paula McCracken

Fred Mitchell Tom Radigan

Doug Harvin Henry Vogel

Mike Heine Brad Staubus, President

Mission Statement

We gather as a church to:
Celebrate God's presence,
Nurture the Spiritual Life,
Carry the light of Christ into the world,
Serve God by serving others.

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116 Barrypoint Road, Riverside, IL 60546 (708) 447-1520, rpcusa.org Sermons available at https://vimeo.com/riversidepresbyterian

RPC Staff

Mary Jo Dean, Pastor, 443.359.9553, pastor@rpcusa.org
Linda Hutcheson, Office Manager, rpcoffice@rpcusa.org
Sally Sloane, Minister of Music, musikhse@comcast.net
Lynda Nadkarni, Minister of Mission & Outreach,
misionandoutreach@rpcusa.org
Ellen Hamilton, Treasurer, treasurer@rpcusa.org
Sara Vacek, Tech Manager, rpcvideo@rpcusa.org