

Welcome to
Riverside
Presbyterian Church

December 18, 2022

4th Sunday of Advent

Children's Christmas Pageant

Please silence your cell phones.

Childcare is available for children 1st
grade and younger after the Mini
Message.

*Indicates please stand in body or Spirit.



All are invited to share gifts in the offering plates located at the end of the aisles before worship. The plates will be brought forward prior to the Doxology.

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE *Go Tell It on the Mountain* arr. Manz

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH Lisa Krefft

CHORAL INTROIT

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.

And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Isaiah 40:3-5)

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord!

People: Lift every valley, lift every voice.

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord!

People: **And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.**

*HYMN 105 *People, Look East*

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Great God, as we behold the birth of Jesus again, we are mindful of how we have failed to receive the fullness of that gift. The story points us to your glory, yet we struggle to join in the song of praise and thanksgiving. We are distracted and confused, so focused on things that matter little that we overlook the good news of great joy that you have prepared. Tell us again that the Savior is born. Tell us again that we are forgiven. Tell us again that our lives can be abundant in faith, hope and love because of what you have given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Silence is kept.)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*THE GLORIA PATRI (# 581)

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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Setting the Stage

Carol of the Cello arr. McGhee

Jaden Zander

The Journey

O' Holy Night by Adam

Norah Lougachi

The Birth

Light of Hope, Light of Peace by Patterson

Ringers & Singers

Now What?!

OUR FAITHFUL RESPONSE

*HYMN # 108 (v. 1,2,4,6) *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

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.

THE OFFERING & OFFERTORY

ANTHEM

Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine

arr. Miller

*THE DOXOLOGY *"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"* #606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above ye heavenly host; Praise God, praise Christ, praise Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYERS OF DEDICATION

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN #110

Love Has Come

*BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Hark the Glad Sound II

Bouman

CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING —There will be a Called Congregational Meeting following Worship today for the purpose of electing elders, deacons, trustees, and members-at- large of the 2023 nominating committee.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE PAGEANT

Narrators - James Long, Claire Staubus, Elly and Sophie Dickerson; Elizabeth and Zacheriah - Deb and Jon Jansky; Mary - Olive Sahlas; Joseph - Reese Jackson; Jesus - Ava Premkumar; Herod - Luke Staubus; Wisemen - Ryan Jackson, Drake Sahlas, Emmitt and Camden Dickerson; Angels - Avery Long, Mabel McClain, Holiday Kirkhoff, Camila Magana, Brooke Habersat, Harper Foley and Eleanor Zeman; Shepherds - Andy Staubus and Gavin Vogel; Animals - James McClain, Lee Habersat, Carson Machak, Charles Zeman, James and Jude Premkumar, Johnny and Ace McGlennon

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Greeters: Bret and Tyler Jackson

Advent Wreath Lighter: Lisa Krefft

Liturgist: Elizabeth Musick

Thank you to Norah Lougachi and Jaden Zander for joining today's Ministry of Music.

Fellowship is hosted by Lynda Nadkarni and Carrie Staubus.

Trustees of the Month: Brad Staubus and Tom Radigan

WORSHIP NOTES

Prelude: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*; arr. Manz

Children's Anthem: *Light of Hope, Light of Peace*; Patterson

Anthem: *Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine*; arr. Miller

Postlude: *Hark the Glad Sound II*; Bouman

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Liturgy written by John Wurster for Presbyterian Outlook.

Contact information for Rev. H. Scott Matheny: 630-926-8028
hscottm@elmhurst.edu



Riverside Presbyterian Church

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

DECEMBER 18, 2022

2023 PLEDGE DRIVE UNDERWAY— Your gifts are critical to sustain the faithful mission and ministry of our congregation. Our message to you is "**Pray daily for energy, enthusiasm, love.** Pray for RPC to continue to recover from the pandemic, and return to being a vital, thriving community of joy-filled servants of Jesus Christ." When you have had a chance to thoughtfully consider our request, we ask that you make a pledge to support RPC in 2023. You can do so either on our website (look for our new pledge card online) or asking the office for a pledge card. Glory to God, who can do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by his power at work within us. (Ephesians 3:20)



TAKE THE SURVEY **HOLY COW! WE NEED YOUR OPINIONS!** As part of its information gathering to find a new pastor, the PNC has engaged Holy Cow! Consulting to conduct a survey of the congregation (the Congregational Assessment Tool) to insure that we gain clarity about who we are at RPC, what we are being called to do, and how well we are doing it. We will be emailing or snail mailing the survey to the entire congregation (not just one per household). Please take some quiet time, as soon as your schedule permits, and thoughtfully answer the questions, which are primarily multiple choice. It is SO important that we have as close to 100% participation as possible. **DEADLINE: DECEMBER 18.**

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP —We will have a service of Lessons and Carols featuring the acaBELLa Ringers, Ringers & Singers and Chancel Choir at 4 pm.
CHRISTMAS DAY — 10 am Carols and Cocoa



CONFIRMATION CLASS—Confirmation Class will kick off on Sunday, January 22 at 11:00 am. Confirmands and a parent are required to attend. The confirmation class is for all youth who are freshman or older. Please see Lynda or Doug for more information.

Lloyd Bradbury
John Lynch
Jack Smith
Monica and James Wood
Duci Musick, daughter-in-law of Elizabeth Musick



CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR OUR REFUGEE FAMILIES – The AlHaffar family is Muslim yet are interested in Christian and American cultural traditions at holiday time. The Muaro family is Christian. We’d like to support both families at the holidays with cards of well wishes. The cards can include pictures or notes and optional small gift cards from Walgreens, Jewel/Osco, Target or Ross Dress for Less. Please put the family name on the outside of the card and place them in Lynda’s mailbox outside the library.

SUNDAYS WITH TED—6:00 p.m. We will meet via Zoom.

Here is the link you can click on order to join our session, as well as the passcode you will be asked to type in when the box opens requesting it: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85685182676>



[j/85685182676](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85685182676)
[pwd=MUU4b0J2Y3FiV3luQm1jTnBqODBrZz09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85685182676), Passcode: 448942. You can access a clickable link on the RPC website, or request one via email from Doug Asbury. **12/18** —Lauren Zalaznick on “The Conscience of Television”
12/25 to 1/15/23 — No TED Talks while Doug is away.

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 as you are able.



SHOP AND SUPPORT THE PRESCHOOL —

Purchasing gift cards for the Holidays? Hundreds of retailers have joined RaiseRight, offering gift cards with up to 12% of the profits donated directly back to the preschool in the form of cash. They have sooo many name brands! You can even purchase Mariano’s gift cards to do your own grocery shopping and the Preschool will receive 4% back. Download the app or go to www.raiseright.com and use enrollment code 8AFCE1BL55L23

ANNUAL REPORT REMINDER — All annual reports are due on or before Wednesday, December 21. Contact the office if you have any questions or need detailed instructions.

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD HELPERS —Doug Asbury will be away from December 21 to January 15. Speak to him if you could help with filling the Little Food Pantry on Fridays or pick up bread from Jimmy John's on Ogden. Call or text him at 847-436-8286 or email him at dougasbury@gmail.com.



PRESCHOOL NEWS —The preschool families invites the church family to our Christmas Show on Thursday, December 22 at 9:00 am. in the sanctuary. A reception will follow in the social hall.

150th BIRTHDAY—As we wind down the 150th year, there are still ways you can support the efforts and have a beautiful keepsake! There are lobes of stained glass that have been beautifully framed by Jon Jansky available for a donation of \$200 (small) and \$250 (large). Several are on display in the social hall. For \$25 or more, there are a just a few suncatchers available, also in the social hall. And when you donate, please take envelopes off the wall!



WORSHIP AT CALEDONIA —Sunday, December 18 at 2:30 pm. Contact Steve Marcus (847-224-5590) if you can help or for more information.

DAILY DEVOTIONALS — Copies of the January-February Upper Room are in the rack outside the office and at the back of the sanctuary.



MESSIAH — Alleluia! Thank you God for giving us such an outstanding group of volunteers at Riverside Presbyterian Church, who are always there to help, spread joy and happiness. The support that we were so blessed with is so heart-warming during this Christmas season. Thank you everyone for a successful Handel's Messiah and Wassail Bowl Reception evening.

—Deb and Jon Jansky

You can mark your calendar for December 17, 2023 to enjoy next year's performance!

THIS WEEK

Today

10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Called Congregational Meeting
11:15 am Fellowship
2:30 pm Worship at Caledonia
6:00 pm TED Talk

Monday

5:30 pm Volleyball

Tuesday

6:30 am Men’s Forum
7:30 pm Session Meeting

Wednesday

4:15 pm Ringers & Singers
6:30 pm acaBELLa Ringers
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday

7:00 am Women’s Forum
9:00 am Preschool Holiday Show

Saturday

4:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship

Sunday

10:00 am Carols and Cocoa

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Sermons available at
Youtube.com
Riverside Presbyterian, IL

Our 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.

RPC Staff

Rev. H. Scott Matheney, Visiting Pastor
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2022 CHURCH LEADERSHIP

	2022	2023	2024
Elders	Ben Dickerson Ellen Hamilton Serina Ranft	Lisa Aulerich Marciniak Sandra Kappmeyer Jon Jansky	Susan Lynch Carrie Staubus Mary Beth Wynn Mary Ann Sadilek, Clerk
Deacons	Thom DeVries Steven Teune	Nancy Dvorak Elizabeth Musick Marilyn Slanec	Jim Marciniak Steve Marcus Wendy Seifert
Trustees	Paula McCracken Tom Radigan Brad Staubus, President	Doug Harvin Henry Vogel	John McGlennon Lynda Nadkarni Will Vogel