

Welcome to
Riverside Presbyterian Church

October 1, 2023

Please silence your cell phones.

* Please stand in body or Spirit. **Bold** indicates congregational response.



WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE

Largo (Concerto in F minor)

Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Ex. 1: 8-2:10; Ps. 124; Rom. 12: 1-8; Matt. 16: 13-20)

Our help is in the name of the Lord our God,
the Maker of heaven and earth,
who comes to our aid in times of need,
who gives us the courage to do what we know is right,
who invites us to turn away from the influences of the culture around us
and confess Christ alone as Savior and Lord.

This is our God!

Let's worship together.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

*HYMN #610

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

The Pharaohs of the world decree death to the foreigner.
The powers of fear and hate rage. In the face of evil
Forgive us our complacency.

The burning bush flickers beside us. The presence of God invites us.
In the presence of the holy
Forgive us our lack of notice.

The Red Sea waters stand at attention.
The threshold of grace is breath-taking. In the company of grace
Forgive us our reticence to embrace life. (Silence is kept.)

***THE GLORIA PATRI (# 581)**

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

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

(based on Exodus 3: 1-15; Psalm 105: 1-6, 23-26; Rom. 12: 17-21)

The blazing fire of God's presence refines us, but in mercy it does not
destroy us. God does not repay evil for evil, but comes to deliver us and
restore us to life.

Sisters and brothers,your sins are forgiven;be at peace.
Amen

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

(Please greet those around you with a sign of Christ's peace.)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*Children PreK-5th grade are invited to Faith Formation at this time and will be
brought back for communion. Younger children may go to childcare .*

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING	Exodus 1:8-22	OT p. 49
SECOND READING	Exodus 2:1-10	OT p. 49
SERMON	"Midwives of Justice"	

OUR FAITHFUL RESPONSE

*HYMN #526 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (THE APOSTLES' CREED)

**I believe in God the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE OFFERING & OFFERTORY

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

arr. Kirkland

*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.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION FOR OFFERING

Holy God, good beyond all that is good, fair beyond all that is fair,
in you is calmness, peace, and concord.

With these gifts we ask that you would heal the dissensions that divide us from one another and bring us back to a unity of love, bearing some likeness to your divine nature.

Through the embrace of love and the bonds of godly affection, make us one in the Spirit by your peace which makes all things peaceful.

We ask this through the grace, mercy, and tenderness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

INVITATION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Responsive)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to our God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We join together to praise you and give you thanks, saying:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

And now we pray the prayer that Jesus taught:

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.

COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN #346 *For the Healing of the Nations*

*BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Thank you to Mary Ann Sadilek for joining today's Ministry of Music.

Greeter: Susan Lynch

Liturgist: Doug Asbury

Children's Moment: Lynda Nadkarni

Fellowship today is hosted by Sara Vacek and family.

Trustee of the Month: Henry Vogel

WORSHIP NOTES

Prayer of the Day (BCW, a prayer from Zaire). Assurance of Forgiveness ©Nathan Nettleton LaughingBird.net. Prayer of Dedication (BCW, Dionysius of Alexandria, died 264).



To sign up for the weekly emailed announcements, contact the church office, rpcoffice@rpcusa.org or 708-447-1520

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear RPC,

As our new committees continue to ramp up in October I encourage you to reflect on our church's stated mission: "We gather as a church family to celebrate God's presence, nurture the spiritual life, carry the light of Christ into the world, and serve God by serving others." It can also be summarized in five words: fellowship, worship, spirituality, witness, and service.

What part of this mission do you get most excited about? Is there a slice of our collective calling that resonates with you, that gives you life?

Consider this advice from the 20th century theologian, Howard

Thurman: "Don't ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive."

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Mark

OUTREACH & HOSPITALITY MEETING — TODAY, 11:30 am in the fellowship hall. This committee's meetings are open to all, and all are encouraged to join in when available, no commitment required. Stick around this Sunday to help us work on things like a prayerground, a church logo, nametags, social media and website design.

Devin Zander, Donna Ulrich, John Lynch, Lloyd Bradbury, Jack Smith, Greg Reichle Scott Aulinskis, as he undergoes treatment for brain cancer. Scott is a friend of the Zanders.

Bill Scanlon, a member of Men's Forum, as he recovers from an injury.



WHO MOVED THE BAPTISMAL FONT?

For those who are interested, Pastor Mark has written an article explaining the placement of certain objects in the sanctuary. Scan the QR code to view the pdf.



LOOSE COIN OFFERING—Today we dedicate all loose coins in the offering plates to the Presbytery of Chicago Hunger Fund. In lieu of loose coins, indicate Presbytery Hunger Fund in the memo line of a check or online.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY—Today is designated as World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our unity in Christ with other churches around the world. All are encouraged to contribute to the Peace & Global Witness Offering, which helps the church to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace God's mission of reconciliation to those around the corner and across the globe. <https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/peace-global-witness/>

RIVERSIDE-AREA REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT VOLUNTEER MEET & GREET

HAPPY HOUR – Wednesday, October 4, 6-7:30 pm at La Barra Restaurant in Riverside. Join us for a special evening to meet up with fellow volunteers with a common mission to help in refugee resettlement efforts! Appetizers and non-alcoholic drinks will be provided. RSVP to lynda@rpcusa.org

CHATS WITH CHILDREN —In Faith Formation we are catching up with the adult sermons about women in the Bible. Ask one of the kiddos why Sarai laughed and if it's ok to laugh at God. Ask them what Lot's wife turning into a pillar of salt means for them. And after this week, what the story of Leah and Rachel means as well as when we should listen to authority vs. when we should listen to our hearts (Shiphrah & Puah).

SHOE DRIVE — We are collecting gently used and new shoes for children and adults through the end of October. Please put them in the barrel outside the office. Our goal is 2,000 pair so share with your friends and neighbors!

SUNDAYS WITH TED & FRIENDS —6:00 p.m. In person and via Zoom. Contact Doug Asbury for more information at douglasbury@gmail.com.

10/ 1 —Margaret Levi - How Labor Unions Shape Society

10/8 — Warren Valdmanis - What Makes a Job “good” and a Case for Investing in People

HELP FORM THE FAITH OF OUR CHILDREN! — Volunteering for Faith Formation is as easy as 1, 2, 3. 1) Read the weekly story from the Bible. 2) Ask open-ended questions and marvel in their thoughtful answers. 3) Lead an activity. See Lynda if you can follow three easy directions – she’ll provide all the materials for you – and know you’re helping our children to grow!

THEOLOGY ON TAP—Theology on Tap is back. We will meet on Third Thursdays, 6pm. More information soon.

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY — Item of the month is **canned fruit**. Any variety. Consider buying a case of 12! We have a blessing of an abundance of produce which led to the purchase of an additional outdoor refrigerator for the LFP. We’re hoping 10 donors will each contribute \$100 towards it’s purchase, but any donation is most welcome.

Also, we are looking for help to fill the LFP on Mondays and Fridays. Contact Doug Asbury for more information, douglasbury@gmail.com or 847-436-8286.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT—We are working to raise \$5,000 to fully sponsor the next family and have an exciting update! A challenge grant has been made which means for every \$1 contributed, \$1 will be matched. \$2,500 seems easier, or at least faster, so let’s see what each of us can contribute. Make a note in the memo line of a check or select refugee resettlement when giving on line. Literally ever dollar matters!

PRESCHOOL — Preschool students love a good book! If you're free from 9:40-10:20 am some day, volunteer as a guest reader. They will love you for it!



THIS WEEK

Today

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Fellowship

6:00 pm Sundays with TED

Monday

5:15 pm Volleyball

Tuesday

6:30 am Men's Forum

7:00 pm Deacons Meeting

Wednesday

4:15 pm Ringers & Singers

6:30 pm acaBELLa Ringers

7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Sunday

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Fellowship

2:30 pm Worship at Caledonia

6:00 pm Sundays with TED

Riverside Presbyterian Church

116 Barrypoint Road, Riverside, IL 60546

(708) 447-1520, rpcusa.org

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

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2023 CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Elders	2023	2024	2025
	Lisa Aulerich Marciniak	Susan Lynch	Betsy Gardner
	Jon Jansky	Carrie Staubus	Ellen Hamilton
	Sandra Kappmeyer	Mary Beth Wynn	Serina Ranft
			Mary Ann Sadilek, Clerk
Deacons	2023	2024	2025
	Nancy Dvorak	Jim Marciniak	Thom DeVries
	Elizabeth Musick	Steve Marcus	Paula McCracken
	Marilyn Slanec	Wendy Seifert	Open
Trustees	2023	2024	2025
	Doug Harvin	John McGlennon	Deb Jansky
	Henry Vogel	Lynda Nadkarni	Tom Radigan
	Open	Open	Open