

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.**

\* HYMN 341

*Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine*

\* BENEDICTION

\* CHORAL BENEDICTION

\* POSTLUDE *Prelude XXI (from Well-Tempered Clavier) Bach*

\* *You are invited to stand if able.*

**PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE**

*Thank you to Mary Ann Sadilek for joining the music ministry today.*

*Acolyte: Harriet Juister*

*Ushers: John Haugland, Connie Kelly, Keith, Rosalyn and Ellie Pearson*

*Liturgist: Steven Teune*

*Andrew Ministers: Patti Halline and Beverly Aieta*

*Flowers this morning are given by Betsy Gardner.*

*Coffee Fellowship — Join us after the service in the Social Hall for a Mimosa Brunch.*

*Fellowship hosted by the Youth Group. Free will donations for brunch will go*

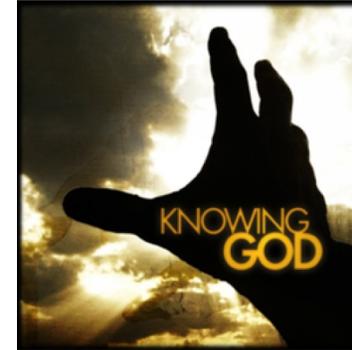
*getting us to Arkansas and back for our Mission Trip to Heifer Ranch. Thank you for your support!*

*Trustees of the Month: Nancy Jensen and Thom DeVries*

Welcome to  
**Riverside Presbyterian Church**

May 21 ~ Sixth Sunday of Easter

Ask an usher for audio hearing units. ~ Please silence your cell phones.  
Childcare is available for children 1st grade and younger in the upstairs childcare room.



WELCOME

**WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE (Responsive)  
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

PRELUDE & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

*Song Without Words, Op. 30, No. 6*

*Mendelssohn*

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Come to worship, people of God, with praises on your lips.

**We glorify the One who holds our hands when we slip.**

Come into the presence of the One  
who calls us into this sacred space.

**Where the doors to grace are thrown open so all may enter.**

Come and hear the stories of the One who loves you.

**We will tell of the joy and of the love,  
of the peace and of the hope which is ours.**

\* HYMN 483

*Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above*

\* PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison)

**When it doesn't seem to do any good, Creator God, we dare to be your people, to love those the world would have us reject; to be just in the face of every reason to mistreat; to be unafraid of whatever awaits us.**

**When all the odds seem stacked against us, Jesus, we dare to live as your sisters and brothers, serving others with our hands and hearts; sharing in the burdens of our world; refusing to leave justice orphaned with no hope.**

**When the wind seems to be knocked out of us by the blows of life, Eternal Companion, we dare to breathe joy upon those caught in the net of hopelessness; peace into all the broken places around us; wonder for all those who have lost sight of you. Amen.**

\* HYMN 579

*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 FOR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children are invited forward

HYMN 294

*Wherever I May Wander vs 2*

**Throughout the whole creation, I see God's loving care  
For everyone in every land, God's children everywhere.**

**Wherever I may wander, wherever I may be,  
I'm certain of my Maker's love; God's care is over me.**

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 68:1-10  
Acts 17:22-31

SERMON

\* HYMN 275

*God of Our Life*

### WE RESPOND IN FAITH

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Union, from Touch of Holiness)

**God's love frees me to be the person I am without having to become more attractive, more intelligent, more popular. God's love frees me to live in confidence, not needing to be self-absorbed, but ready to listen and to hear the stories of others. God's love frees me to take risks, to surprise even myself with courage, sometimes to fall flat on my face – but always to move onward with the knowledge that God is encouraging me. God's love frees me to view the world not from the standpoint of wealth gained or ambition achieved, but from the perspective of relationships lived and human love shared. God's love frees me to put my sins behind me, to know that no sin is too great or too small to be left open and healed by God's gentle touch. Thanks be to God!**

INVITATION TO OFFER OUR GIFTS

ANTHEM

\* HYMN *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow with Alleluias*  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Praise God in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word and Spirit one.  
Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS