

Riverside Presbyterian Church

September 22, 2019 ~ Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ask an usher for audio hearing units

Please silence our cell phones.

Childcare for children through preschool is available upstairs.

* Indicates please stand in body or Spirit.



Prodigal Son

In artist Mary McCleary's retelling of Jesus's parable of the prodigal son, the feast that celebrates the prodigal's return becomes a Texas-style family barbecue. Seventeen figures fill the large image. A couple dances as a man plays the fiddle. Women bring platters of fruit and pour lemonade. One young boy takes a forbidden sip of beer. The father, a middle-aged rancher with an ample belly, looks lovingly at his newly returned son, decked out for the occasion in a pink sequined cowboy shirt. The disconsolate elder son looks on from the background.

WE PREPARE

CHIMING THE HOUR

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SHARING OUR JOYS & CONCERNS

* PASSING THE PEACE (Responsive)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

WE GATHER

PRELUDE *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* arr. Smith & Hustad

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Do you feel it?

God's kingdom is beneath our feet.

We live in the new creation shaped by God out of our brokenness.

Do you know it?

God's reconciling love in Christ has shattered our ways of viewing people.

**No longer do we label our sisters and brothers,
we welcome them with open arms.**

Do you believe it?

God has made everything, including us, new,

and sends us forth to share this good news with everyone!

* HYMN 667

When Morning Gilds the Skies

* INVITATION TO PRAYER

* PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (Unison)

**On this very day, Waiting God, we admit all the lengths to which
we go so we might avoid you. You offer us that kingdom of joy and
wonder, yet we would hide in places where temptation waits. You
invite us to feast on your grace and peace, but we stubbornly refuse,**

because you also welcome those we call 'outsiders.' We are quick to see all the mistakes that those around us make, but hope you will ignore our foolish choices.

Celebrating God, before we come to our senses, we find you running towards us, sweeping us up in your arms, tears of grace mingling with our cries of confession, a mighty river washing away our sinful ways to restore us to new life. In Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, we find no limitations on your grace, no reservations about your love, but a feast that overflows with wonder, a place we can finally call home. (Silent prayers)

* ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

* SUNG RESPONSE 447

We Are Forgiven

WE LISTEN

TIME WITH CHILDREN
SUNG RESPONSE 188 vs 1

Children are invited forward
Jesus Love Me

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE

Luke 15:1-3, 11-31

MEDITATION

* HYMN 774

There Is Now a New Creation

WE RESPOND

INVITATION TO OFFER OUR GIFTS

ANTHEM

Gaudeamus Hodie

Natalie Sleeth

* SUNG RESPONSE 609

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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 22

God of the Sparrow

* BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* arr. Smith & Hustad

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Liturgist: Matt Lisle

Ushers: Connie Kelly and John Haugland

Fellowship Time is hosted by Men's Forum.

Flowers are given by the Wynn-Jackson family in loving memory of Daren Jackson.

Trustees of the Month: Hank Vogel and Thom DeVries

ANNOUNCEMENTS



BLESSING THE ANIMALS SERVICE — This year we are joining with our friends from Ascension Lutheran Church for a joint Blessing of the Animals Service, Sunday, September 29 at 4:00 pm at RPC. Please bring your lawn chair and your pet or a photo of your pet.

5TH SUNDAY WORSHIP AS MISSION — Sunday, September 29. We will gather at RPC at 9:30 am and carpool to the Boulevard. There will be activities for all ages and physical abilities. For those who wish to work outside please bring gardening gloves and tools. Others may choose to sort clothes in the clothing closet or visit and play bingo with the residents.

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY Donation for the week: Soup.

SHARE THE HARVEST Gardeners — Crops are coming in, and the need has never been greater. Please bring the bounty of your garden to church on Sunday or Monday morning. A box will be left on the bench by the church office. THANK YOU!

NOTE FROM TRUSTEES — Please lock all exterior doors when you leave the church. Doors have been left unlocked overnight. If in doubt, lock the door!

HUMAN SCENE — is discussing the Book of Ecclesiastes, Sundays at 9:00 am in the Parlor.

CARERS SEPTEMBER TRUNK — BEDS-Plus in LaGrange, which provides safe overnight shelter and services to homeless people. Please donate: Decaf ground coffee, drink mixes—lemonade, cider, cocoa, napkins, paper towels, dish detergent, 13 & 30-gallon garbage bags.

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING — A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness.



THEOLOGY ON TAP Video Series during September. We will view documentary shorts followed by discussion. We will meet in the upstairs parlor. Reservations are needed as we are catering the meal. The cost is \$10 per person. If you would like to join us for

conversation and not eat you are welcome to attend.

Monday, Sept —6:30 *To Breathe Free*. "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free." *To Breathe Free* follows the 5-year journey of a Syrian family fleeing the war in Homs to the refugee camps in Jordan and starting a new life in Washington, D.C. Using home movies, phone video, family photos and interviews with family members and former refugees, this short documentary gives an intimate and unique perspective not seen in current media reporting on the refugee crisis. *To Breathe Free* captures the intersection of individual narratives from a family fleeing the Vietnam War in 1970, to the Syrian Conflict in 2017, to the families who help create a new home in our nation's capital, giving voice to our common humanity and the struggle that binds people together.

GLORY TO GOD HYMNALS — Our new hymnals are in the sanctuary! You can support the music ministry by sponsoring one (or more) in honor or in memory of a friend or family member. What a nice way to thank someone for their dedication to RPC! Forms are available outside the office or you may email Lynda Nadkarni at lmn@floros.org for online ordering/payment instructions.



Connie Kelly will turn an old hymnal in to a beautiful work of Art for a \$10 donation to the hymnal project. You can contact her at consueloak@sbcglobal.net or 708-772-1767.

PRESCHOOL NEWS —The Preschool year is off to a terrific start! The children are getting to know each other and learning our routine. We are talking about emotions and how different experiences make us feel. We are also learning about what makes a good friend.

The first theme for our project-based enrichment program is sharks. We have talked about what we already know about sharks, what we would like to learn about sharks, walked to the library to do research on sharks, measured out the length of 4 different kinds of sharks and lots more! The kids are really enjoying it.

WOMEN'S CIRCLE for Fellowship and Study — meets **Wednesday, September 25** at 10:00 am in the Social Hall. All women are welcome. Come for coffee, fellowship and study as we discuss "*Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments*" by Eugenia Anne Gamble. What would it mean to consider the Ten Commandments not as a harsh list of what not to do but, instead, as a "love letter" from a loving God? A fresh embrace of the Ten Commandments may ultimately contribute to the restoration of ourselves and our communities and the furthering of the gospel in the world. Lesson Two led by Joyce Van Cura. Scripture: Exodus 20:7 and Matthew 7:21-23.

2020 CHURCH TRIP June 12-June 24, 2020 — We are traveling to Turkey and Greece. For more information, talk to Reverend Jackson.



SAVE THE DATE — October 25: Trivia—Halloween Theme

FREE LECTURE AT RPC — Frederick Law Olmsted Society Lecture at RPC on Friday, September 27, 7:00 pm. Free Lecture: "City in a Garden, New England Roots" by Blair Kamin, Pulitzer-prize winning Chicago Tribune architecture critic, and author Barbara Mahany. Reserve a free ticket at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4274816>.

REVEREND JACKSON ON VACATION — September 30 to October 13. Contact the church office with any pastoral needs.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP — will normally meet the second Sunday of the month at 9 am. Please check the calendar outside the Christian Education office.

THIS WEEK

Today

10:00 am Worship
10:15 am Sunday School
11:00 am Fellowship
11:15 am Mission Committee
11:15 am Support & Endowment

Monday

5:30 pm Volleyball
6:30 pm Theology on Tap

Tuesday

6:30 am Men's Forum
7:00 pm Finance Committee

Wednesday

10:00 am Women's Circle
2:00 pm Staff Meeting
4:15 pm Ringers & Singers
6:30 pm acaBELLa Ringers
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday

6:30 am Women's Forum

Sunday

10:00 am 5th Sunday at
The Boulevard
4:00 pm Community Pet Blessing

Riverside Presbyterian Church

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

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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2019 CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Elders	2019 Jeanine Buttimer Patti Friend Susan Lynch Lisa Aulerich- Marciniak	2020 Frank Gangware Martha Heine Lynda Nadkarni Dennis Zander	2021 Gwen Heine Allan Halline Matt Lisle Mary Ann Sadilek, Clerk
Deacons	Ellen Hamilton Sandy Kappmeyer Steve Teune	Lloyd Bradbury Charlie Juister Sally Sloane Jeanne Smith	Deb Jansky Serina Ranft Wendy Seifert
Trustees	Cyril Friend Fred Kitch Brad Staubus	Patti Perry Doug Harvin Hank Vogel	Thom DeVries Fred Mitchell