

Riverside Presbyterian Church

September 18, 2022 ~ Blessing of the Animals

Welcome! We are glad you are here!

* Indicates please stand in body or Spirit.



MEDITATION BEFORE WORSHIP

'The moral progress of a nation and its greatness should be judged by the way it treats its animals.' (Mahatma Gandhi)

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Kendrick

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (Job 12: 7-10a)

L: But ask the animals, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you; ask the plants of the earth and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you.

P: Who among these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In God's hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of every human being.

*HYMN #664 (see insert)

Morning Has Broken

L: 'God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. And God blessed them. And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind, cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make humankind". And God blessed them. God saw everything that God had made, and indeed, it was very good.' (from Genesis 1)

*OPENING PRAYER

As we gather here today God, we thank you for a new day. We thank you and are calling to our minds that however you have made us, whether with chitin, scale, skin, fin, feather or fur, we desire the best for one another. We gather to express this in our prayers for blessing, asking that as all these lives are recognized and celebrated, you will be for us and for them both guardian and stay. Help us to grow in awareness of you and of each other. Help us to grow in mercy so that we may share blessing, life, and peace together in the common refrain, "Glory!". Turn us to care and to stewardship, so that we may pass to others the abundance of blessing and beauty that we have received and enjoyed. All this we ask through Christ in whom we live, move, and have being. Amen. (Silence is kept.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*THE PEACE OF CHRIST

L: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us greet one another with these words.

*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.

MINI MESSAGE

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Holy Lord, open our hearts and minds, so that as your words are read we can see you in new ways, and see ourselves in new ways through you. Help us to see your world ever more clearly through the lens of your love. Amen.

FIRST READING	Psalm 104:5-23	OT p. 555
ANTHEM	<i>Bless the Beasts and the Children</i>	De Vorzon/Botkin
SECOND READING	Psalm 104:24-28, 31	OT p. 555-6
REFLECTION	"Full of God"	

OUR FAITHFUL RESPONSE

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

*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

THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN #22 (see insert) *God of the Sparrow*

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN #544 *Bless the Lord (x2)*

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

POSTLUDE *Siyahamba* South African Hymn

WORSHIP NOTES

Prelude: *Shine, Jesus, Shine*; Kendrick

Anthem: *Bless the Beasts and the Children*; De Vorzon/Botkin

Postlude: *Siyahamba*; South African Hymn

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PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Greeter: Lynda Nadkarni

Liturgist: Jim Marciniak

Mini Message: Lynda Nadkarni

Thank you to the RPC Chancel Choir for joining us in today's Ministry of Music. It's great to have them back after a long summer!

Fellowship is hosted by the Staubus family.

Trustees of the Month: Lynda Nadkarni and Brad Staubus



Riverside Presbyterian Church

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

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

CHILDCARE DURING WORSHIP— Childcare will be available beginning September 25. Let the greeter know upon entering if childcare is desired from after the mini - message through the end of worship.



TRUSTEE WORK DAY — Saturday, September 24 from 9-11 am. We will be finishing some yard work, preparing for winter (yikes!), and changing preschool lights to LED. All that is needed is a good heart; no other experience necessary!

acaBELLa RINGERS — The acaBELLa Ringers have been a part of RPC since 2004. We are looking for a few individuals as substitutes. All adults or children as young as 4th grade would be welcome to join us. We rehearse Wednesday evenings from 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm . You do not need to be a member of RPC to join us. We have always had some ringers from the larger Riverside community as a part of our group. While we greatly appreciate any musical skills our members have, this is not a requirement. We will teach you as we go. Please contact Sally Sloane for more information. musikhse@comcast.net or 708/822-0655



RINGERS AND SINGERS - FIRST REHEARSAL NEXT WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st. Since 2006 RPC has been home to two children's choirs: The Riverside Ringers and the Riverside Singers. We meet Wednesdays during the school year from 4:15 - 5:15.

Children from ages 5 - 12 are welcome to join our group. We work on vocal techniques, following musical scores, learning to read rhythms, working together in a musical ensemble, hand chime ringing techniques, ensemble discipline, percussion instruments including xylophones, and following a conductor. Please contact Sally Sloane if you have a child interested in joining us musikhse@comcast.net or 708-822-0655. There is no tuition for joining the group—no fees whatsoever.

Susanne and Will Vogel
Ginny Yang
Joyce Van Cura
Jack Smith
Monica and James Wood
Stephen Musick, son of Elizabeth Musick
Duci Musick, daughter-in-law of Elizabeth Musick



WORSHIP AT CALEDONIA (The Scottish Home) Today, Sunday, Sept. 18 at 2:30 pm—Worship at Caledonia resumes. We are looking for volunteers who enjoy brightening someone's day. Contact Steve Marcus for more information.



Faith Formation

FAITH FORMATION KICK OFF — September 25!
Calling all children and youth to worship on September 25 after which PreK - Second grade will experience stories of the Bible with Connie Kelly and Lynda Nadkarni. Third - Fifth grade students will participate in a scavenger hunt through the church. Junior and Senior High will meet with Lisa Aulerich-Marciniak to play a game and brainstorm ideas for activities we'll enjoy together this year. Please RSVP to the church office so we have enough supplies.

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>



<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85685182676>
[pwd=MUU4b0J2Y3FiV3luQm1jTnBqODBrZz09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85685182676?pwd=MUU4b0J2Y3FiV3luQm1jTnBqODBrZz09), Passcode: 448942. You can access a clickable link on the RPC website, or request one via email from Doug Asbury. **9/18** — Kathryn Kolbert—The End of Roe v. Wade—and What Comes Next **9/25** — Yuval Noah Harari—Why Humans Run the World

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY —Every morning the food pantry is stocked, by noon it is mostly empty and stocked again, and by the evening fairly depleted. Can you help our food insecure neighbors by picking up some extra canned goods when you go shopping this week? Thank you!

AGING WELL NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY RESOURCE & HEALTH FAIR — Thursday, September 22, 10 am—1 pm at the North Riverside Village Commons, 2401 S. DesPlaines Avenue, North Riverside.

AMERICAN RED CROSS FIRST AID/CPR/AED TRAINING — Sunday, 9/18, 2:30-5:00 pm OR Saturday, 9/24, 9:30 am-Noon, \$22 per participant — Pack 24 and Troop 24 Leaders invite members of RPC to join them for this important training event. Interested people can email pack24riverside@gmail.com to sign up for one of the two training dates. Participants can decide to take the “Adult & Pediatric” or “Adult Only” class. Some online work will need to be completed prior to the in-person class at RPC. Space is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.



PRESCHOOL NEWS—Special Guest readers included our very own Marilyn Slanec and Janan Cain. Marilyn read *I Am Not a Dog Toy*, about a stuffed toy that finds it's ok to be different, and Janan read her book *The Way I Feel*. The theme for our first two weeks is All About Me and My Feelings.



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING—By giving to the Peace & Global Witness Offering, one of the special offerings of the PC(USA), we work to share Christ’s peace with one another, beyond our doors, beyond our community and across boundaries. Together we are building God’s house where everyone is welcome; where all can find compassion, peace and justice. Please mark your donation “Peace & Global Witness Offering”. Envelopes are in the back of the sanctuary and in the church office.



REFUGEE UPDATE - Our new family continues to explore and enjoy Chicago! Please continue to pray for their smooth transition to Chicago.

THIS WEEK

Today

10:00 am Worship-Animal Blessing
11:00 am Fellowship
2:30 pm First Aid Training
2:30 pm Worship at Caledonia
6:00 pm Sundays with TED

Monday

7:00 pm Finance Committee Mtg

Tuesday

6:30 am Men's Forum

Wednesday

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

Thursday

7:00 am Women's Forum

Sunday

10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Fellowship
11:00 am Faith Formation
6:00 pm Sundays with TED

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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. Mary Jo Dean,
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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 Susanne Vogel	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