

## Riverside Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2022 Christmas Eve



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 *Christmas Medley* arr. Keller

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH The McClain Family

CHORAL INTROIT

WELCOME

\*THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.

**And also with you.**

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

With eyes wide open and our ears on edge,

**we look for shepherds and listen for the songs of angels.**

In the light of winter's moon, with the Southern Cross lighting the way,  
**we gather outside the door of a mystery, wondering if we dare to enter.**

With folks and friends we love, with strangers we have just met,  
**we gather, becoming the holy family for this time and in this place.**

\*HYMN #133                      *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

#### OPENING PRAYER

#### THE CHRISTMAS STORY IN WORD & SONG

THE FIRST READING                      Luke 2:1-7                      NT p. 58

MUSICAL REFLECTION                      *Light of Hope, Light of Peace*                      Patterson

THE SECOND READING                      Luke 2:8-12                      NT p. 58

MUSICAL REFLECTION                      *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*                      arr. Kinyon

THE THIRD READING                      Luke 2:13-15                      NT p. 58

MUSICAL REFLECTION                      *Jesus is Born Tonight*                      Schalk

THE FOURTH READING                      Luke 2:16-21                      NT p. 58

\*HYMN #115                      *Away in a Manger*

#### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

One: We believe in telling the story—

**All:    The story of a loving and merciful God,  
          Who will not let God's people go;  
          The story of a baby who grew up and changed the world;  
          The story of our faith.**

One: We believe in speaking up—

All: **For our neighbors, for the oppressed,  
For the overlooked and marginalized.**

One: We believe in speaking out—

All: **Against violence, greed, abuse, fear,  
Scarcity mindset, and bigotry.**

One: We believe in passing the mic—

All: **So that we are not the only ones speaking,  
So that we can lift up the voices of those around us,  
So that we too might listen and learn.**

One: We believe in the good news of the gospel.

All: **We believe that this good news is too good to keep to  
ourselves.  
We believe that those who dream cannot keep silent. Amen.**

\*HYMN #119                    *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

MEDITATION

BRINGING FORWARD THE OFFERINGS

\*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.**

\*HYMN #134                    *Joy to the World*

MUSICAL REFLECTION    *Go Tell It on the Mountain*                    arr. Geschke

BENEDICTION

WE SHARE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*(As we sing the carol please pass the light of Christ to those in the pew next to you.  
It is our Christmas prayer that in the dark streets of our world the light of Christ will  
shine forth peace, love and Good News.)*

HYMN #122                    *Silent Night, Holy Night!*

### PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

**Greeters:** Lynda Nadkarni and Brad Staubus

**Advent Wreath Lighters:** The McClain Family

**Liturgists:** Elizabeth Musick and Susan Lynch

**Thank you** to the acaBELLa Ringers, the Riverside Ringers & Singers and the Chancel Choir for joining today's Ministry of Music.

**Flowers** today are given in memory of my dad, Paul McCracken, with love from Paula McCracken.

**Trustees of the Month:** Brad Staubus and Tom Radigan

### WORSHIP NOTES

Prelude: *Christmas Medley*; arr. Keller

Musical Reflection: *Light of Hope, Light of Peace*; Patterson

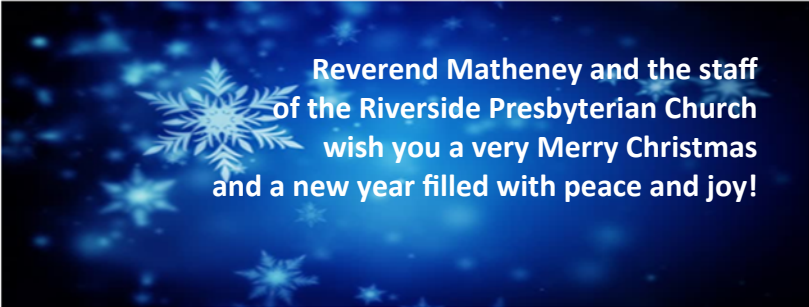
Musical Reflection: *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*; arr. Kinyon

Musical Reflection: *Jesus is Born Tonight*; Schalk

Musical Reflection: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*; arr. Geschke

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



Reverend Matheney and the staff  
of the Riverside Presbyterian Church  
wish you a very Merry Christmas  
and a new year filled with peace and joy!



## Riverside Presbyterian Church

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

**DECEMBER 24, 2022**



**CHRISTMAS DAY** — 10 am Carols and Cocoa

**2023 PLEDGE DRIVE UNDERWAY— if you have not done so, please consider making a pledge for the 2023 general budget.** Your gifts are critical to sustain the faithful mission and ministry of our congregation. Our message to you is "***Pray daily for energy, enthusiasm, and love.***" You can pledge 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)



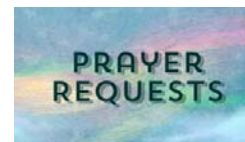
**HOLY COW!** Thank you for your participation in the Holy Cow survey. The survey is now closed. We will report results at a later date.



**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.

**SUNDAYS WITH TED—12/25 to 1/15/23** — No TED Talks while Doug is away.

Kathy Wynn, mother of Mary Beth Wynn  
Lloyd Bradbury  
John Lynch  
Jack Smith  
Monica and James Wood  
Duci Musick, daughter-in-law of Elizabeth Musick  
Edward Hand, brother-in law of Elizabeth Musick



**150<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY**—As we wind down the 150<sup>th</sup> 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 few suncatchers and church ornaments available, also in the social hall. And when you donate, please take envelopes off the wall!



**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? 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](http://www.raiseright.com) and use enrollment code 8AFCE1BL55L23



**ANNUAL REPORT REMINDER** — All annual reports were due Wednesday, December 21. If you did not hand your report in, please do so as soon as possible. Contact the office if you have any questions or need detailed instructions.

**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 10, 2023 to enjoy next year's performance!



**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE** — December 26-29 the office will be staffed on an as-needed basis. In an emergency, contact the office or Rev. H. Scott Matheney.

**LITTLE FOOD PANTRY NEWS**—During this time of year, it's more important than ever to remember those who rely on our Little Food Pantry for added sustenance. Donations are welcome, especially of canned goods with protein such as canned meats, beans, soup with meat, whole meals (like ravioli). Thank you for supporting our neighbors in need.



**THANK YOU** — Doug Asbury thanks those who have volunteered to take over his duties around the church while he is away.

**CALENDAR TO SUPPORT AGING CARE CONNECTIONS** — Our very own Nancy Dvorak has created a calendar featuring seniors from the area including Harriet Kweton and Liz Musick. All proceeds from the calendar will support Aging Care Connections. It may be purchased at the Library or Township Hall for \$10.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**  
Thank you to all who participated!



**THIS WEEK**

**Today—Christmas Eve**

4:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship

**Sunday—Christmas Day**

10:00 am Carols and Cocoa

**Monday**

5:30 pm Volleyball

**Tuesday**

6:30 am Men's Forum

**Thursday**

7:00 am Women's Forum

**Sunday**

10:00 am Worship with Communion

11:00 am Fellowship



**Riverside Presbyterian Church**

116 Barrypoint Road, Riverside, IL 60546

(708) 447-1520, [rpcusa.org](http://rpcusa.org)

Sermons available at

[Youtube.com](https://www.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 Mathenev**, Visiting Pastor

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**Sara Vacek**,

Tech Manager, [rpcvideo@rpcusa.org](mailto:rpcvideo@rpcusa.org)

**2022 CHURCH LEADERSHIP**

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