

Welcome to
Riverside Presbyterian Church

August 20, 2023

Please silence your cell phones.

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



All are invited to share gifts in the offering plates located at the end of the aisles. The plates will be brought forward prior to the Doxology.

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE

Air from "Water Music"

Händel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of the Lord Jesus be with you.

And also with you.

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

CALL TO WORSHIP (inspired by Zechariah 3:6)

As farmers wait for rainfall

As prisoners wait for freedom

We wait for the coming of God

As exiles yearn for home

As peacemakers yearn for justice

We long for the coming of God

As travelers search for shelter

As disciples look for answers

We prepare for the coming of God.

*HYMN #740

Lead Me, Guide Me

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God our refuge, you hear our cries for mercy. You lift the lowly and offer hope to the hopeless. But we, who benefit from your grace, do not emulate you and your ways. We are quick to condemn, exaggerate critique and act mercilessly. We confess the ways we demean and dehumanize others. We pray for your forgiveness. Amen.

(Silence is kept.)

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Isaiah 43:1)

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

*THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

#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.

MINI MESSAGE

Children first grade and younger may go to childcare. Please see the Greeter for more information or directions.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us. Open us to your life-giving Word. Quiet the voices within us that do not align with your will. Focus our minds on the message you intend for us so we may faithfully discern your way. Amen.

FIRST READING	Genesis 41:9-12	OT p. 37
SECOND READING	Matthew 25:31-40	NT p. 29
SERMON	“Visit Prisoners”	

OUR FAITHFUL RESPONSE

*HYMN #205 *Live in Charity*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.**

**The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves
and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

**The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.**

**In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

THE OFFERING & OFFERTORY

The Darkest Hour is Just Before Dawn

Stanley

*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 OFFERINGS

Gracious God, the gifts we offer reflect only a portion of all that you have given us. Take these offerings, we pray, and multiply them for your use. May our offerings be a blessing to those most in need, to those most vulnerable. May our offerings, given in a spirit of generosity, abate the desire to hoard, and spread the desire to share. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SILENT PRAYER

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.

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN #772

Live into Hope

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Allegro Maestoso from "Water Music"

Händel

WORSHIP NOTES

Call to Worship written by Ruth Burgess. Prayer of Confession, Words of Assurance, Prayer for Illumination and Prayer of Dedication written by Teri McDowell Ott for The Presbyterian Outlook.



Riverside Presbyterian Church

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

AUGUST 20, 2023

Dear RPC,

This Sunday will be the last sermon in my series on the works of mercy in Matthew 25:31-46. But it won't be the end of the theme. Our congregation is part of a Matthew 25 movement in the PC(USA) that is focused on three things: 1. Building Congregational Vitality, 2. Dismantling Structural Racism, and 3. Eradicating Systemic Poverty. Our exploration of the biblical background for this work is just the beginning. How might we now organize to do more of what Christ has called us to do? What part might *you* be called to play? Check out some of these resources for inspiration: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/> I can't wait to see where God leads us next!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Mark



SUNDAY FUNDAY— You won't want to miss Sunday, September 10! We're giving Bibles to children, kicking off Faith Formation, having a picnic and more! Plan for 10am worship and fellowship with fun and games.

PET BLESSING — Save the date – Sunday, September 17 at 10:00 am on the lawn. If you can't bring the pet you want blessed, bring a photo.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Thank you to John Haugland, Sandra Kappmeyer and Steven Staubus for joining today's Ministry of Music.

Greeter: Lynda Nadkarni

Liturgist: Jim Marciniak

Mini Message: Lynda Nadkarni

Flowers are in celebration of the first day of school for our grandchildren from Gwen and Mike Heine.

Fellowship: Join us for light refreshments in the social hall.

Trustees of the Month: John McGlennon and Lynda Nadkarni

John Lynch
Lloyd Bradbury
Jack Smith



Alice Ann Hand, sister of Elizabeth Musick.
Duci Musick, daughter-in-law of Elizabeth Musick
Prayers for comfort and peace for family and friends grieving the death of Loren Daily.

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY — Item of the month is **beans!**

Any variety: canned pork and beans, baked beans, refried beans, garbanzo, red, white, butter, etc. Dried beans too! Consider buying a case of 12!



SUNDAYS WITH TED & FRIENDS – 6:00 p.m. We will meet in person in the church library and via Zoom. Use the following link for Zoom video: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87222338595> To join by phone, dial and follow the prompts to enter the meeting number: +13126266799,,87222338595# You can access a clickable link on the RPC website, or request one via email from Doug Asbury at dougasbury@gmail.com.

August 20 & 27, our focus will be US-North Korea relations and various efforts to analyze the situation and to bring peace to the Korean Peninsula.

If you have not yet had a chance to view the 2-hour documentary on the efforts of WCDMZ to walk across the Demilitarized Zone that separates the two Koreas - a film titled Crossings - it will be free of cost for streaming through August 22. You are encouraged to take time to watch it!

[WORLD Channel: Doc World - Crossings](#)



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!

PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUND PROJECT – We have a Scout whose Eagle Project is a refresh of our playground. A work crew is desired today from 11am – 3pm. There will be scouts and parents and preschool families. It would be great for some RPC members to pitch in too! Snacks and refreshing beverages will be provided. If you can't help physically, stopping by and offering encouraging words and thanks is also appreciated!

PRESCHOOL EXPANSION — We're excited to introduce Diana Moreno as an assistant teacher! Diana and her family live in Brookfield along with their two dogs. She loves to do arts & crafts and go to the zoo with her six-year-old daughter. Diana says "I'm super excited to meet all the little ones and am proud to be part of Riverside Presbyterian Church Preschool!"



Our full day offering has led to 25 students. We're happy that so many people are interested in having their children learn with us until 3:00 pm. Only 5 spaces remain!



ALL CHURCH WORK DAY — Tuesday, August 22 at 6 pm. There are many small and simple tasks – no special skills required!

**RINGERS & SINGERS - FIRST REHEARSAL
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**

Since 2006 RPC has been home to a children's choir: The Riverside Ringers & Singers. We meet



Wednesdays during the school year from 4:15 - 5:15. Children from ages (almost) 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. No affiliation with the church is required. The group is open to the community. Please contact Sally Sloane if you know of a child interested in joining us musikhse@comcast.net or 708-822-0655. There is no tuition for joining this group - no fees whatsoever.

CALLING ALL RPC YOUTH AND FAMILIES — Sunday, August 27 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm, our youth, their parents, and the mentors of our most recent confirmation class will meet in the Westminster Room for a discussion of how to devote oneself more fully to serving God as known in Christ. A brief video and a chart will offer food for thought; and our discussion will conclude with options for RPC's continuing youth ministry.

Jimmy John's sandwiches and beverages will be provided. Attendees are asked to bring side items/dishes to share. If you cannot attend in person but could participate via Zoom, let Doug Asbury know, and he will set up a Zoom link.

THIS WEEK

Today

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Fellowship

11:00 am Eagle Scout Work Day

6:00 pm Sundays with TED

Monday

5:15 pm Volleyball

Tuesday

6:30 am Men's Forum

6:00 pm All Church Work Day

Sunday

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Fellowship

11:00 am Congregational Life

Committee Meeting

11:30 am Confirmation Class

Discussion & Lunch

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](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. Mark Zimmerly, Pastor,
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Doug Asbury, Volunteer in Mission,
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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