

Welcome to
Riverside Presbyterian Church

September 24, 2023

Please silence your cell phones.

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



WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE

Dearest Jesus, We are Here

arr. Burkhart

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (inspired by Psalm 145: 1-5)

We are here

in the name of Jesus Christ,

to worship the God who gave us life and who sustains our every breath,
and to praise the Spirit who enlivens our hearts and enlightens our minds.

Great is our God and deserves our greatest praise,
God is awesome beyond all our imagining.

Each generation shall pass on the good news to the next,
and shall publicly celebrate God's saving actions.

Let us worship God together.

*HYMN #821

My Life Flows On

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (based on 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a)

Lord, Your word says love is patient and kind.

But we confess the times when we have been impatient and unkind.

Your word tells us that love does not envy, that it does not boast, and that it is not proud.

But we confess that sometimes we have been envious, and boastful, and proud.

Your word says that love is not rude, and that it is not self-seeking,

But we confess that in many ways we have been inconsiderate of those around us, thinking only of ourselves.

Your word tells us that love is not easily angered, and that it keeps no record of wrongs.

But we confess how quickly we fly off the handle, and how carefully we keep score when we have been wronged.

Your word says that love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth, that it always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Help us, Lord, not to take pleasure in what is evil, but to always rejoice in the truth of Your love. Protect us with Your love, Lord, and help us to choose the way of trusting You, putting our hope in You, and persevering in Your ways, knowing that love never fails, and that You never fail. Amen. (Silence is kept.)

*SUNG RESPONSE *Create in Me A Clean Heart O God x 2*

Create in me a clean heart, O God,

And renew a right spirit within me.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Psalm 145:13-14, NRSV)

The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.

The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down. Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace. Thanks be to God!

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Let us be salt and light to each other, giving and receiving forgiveness in the name of Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Open us. Eternal God, to your Word read and proclaimed. Help us not to turn from your truth or avoid your message. Help us be receptive to the wisdom you offer. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Children PreK-5th grade are invited to Faith Formation at this time and will be brought to fellowship after. Younger children may go to childcare .

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING	Genesis 29:15-35	OT p. 26
SECOND READING	1 Corinthians 13:4-7	NT p. 175
SERMON	"Sibling Rivalry"	

OUR FAITHFUL RESPONSE

*HYMN #306	<i>Blest Be the Tie That Binds</i>	
MINUTE FOR MISSION		Mary Beth Wynn
THE OFFERING & OFFERTORY	<i>With Joy & Music</i>	Butler
*SUNG RESPONSE	<i>We are marching in the light of God</i>	x 4

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION FOR OFFERING

Holy God, bless these gifts for your good use. May these tokens of our gratitude be of service in blessing the poor, feeding the hungry, clothing and sheltering those struggling to survive. Use these gifts to further Christ's mission and ministry in a hurting world. **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 #727 *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant*

*BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Crown Him with Many Crowns* arr. Diemer

WORSHIP NOTES

Call to Worship written by Bruce Prewer. Assurance of Forgiveness and Passing the Peace written by Randall Wilkens. Prayer for Illumination and Prayer of Dedication written by Teri McDowell Ott for Presbyterian Outlook.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Greeter: Dennis Zander

Liturgist: Susan Lynch

Children's Moment: Lynda Nadkarni

Flowers are given today in celebration of Ryan's 14th birthday from the Wynn Jackson family.

Fellowship: Please join us in the social hall for fellowship.

Trustee of the Month: Doug Harvin

Donna Ulrich

John Lynch

Lloyd Bradbury

Jack Smith

Greg Reichle

Scott Aulinkis, and family as he undergoes treatment for brain cancer. Scott is a friend of the Zanders.

Bill Scanlon, a member of Men's Forum, as he recovers from an injury.



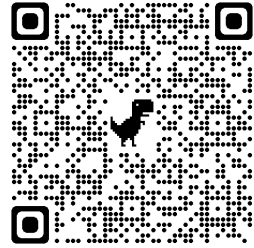
Newsletter

To sign up for the weekly emailed announcements, contact the church office, rpcoffice@rpcusa.org or 708-447-1520

Dear RPC,

The Session has been hard at work developing new opportunities for service and witness, and we need your help to continue moving forward. If you are not already serving on a committee, would you consider giving it a try? This month we are relaunching 9 groups: Christian Education, Personnel, Finance, Trustees, Outreach & Hospitality, Mission, Worship & Music, and a Green Team. Scan the QR code to see the list of Session liaisons and tentative meeting times. We hope you will join us in the joy of ministry! Many hands make for light work ;)

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Mark



WHO MOVED THE BAPTISMAL FONT?

For those who are interested, Pastor Mark has written an article explaining the placement of certain objects in the sanctuary. Scan the QR code to view the pdf.



EAGLE SCOUT FOOD DRIVE —Today, September 24, 12-3 pm. Scottswood Road Church Parking Lot. Collecting non-perishable food (canned meals, canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned meats, soup) for RPC's LFP.

THEOLOGY ON TAP—Theology on Tap is back. We will meet on Third Thursdays, 6pm. More information soon.



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1 The first Sunday in October is designated as World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our unity in Christ with other churches around the world. All are encouraged to contribute to the Peace & Global Witness Offering, which helps the church to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace God's mission of reconciliation to those around the corner and across the globe. <https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/peace-global-witness/>

WORSHIP IS LIVE! —You can now watch worship live at 10:00 am on our YouTube channel. Go to www.rpcusa.org for the link on the main page. Worship is recorded and uploaded immediately after the service for people to view later as well. Assistants are needed to help monitor the system during worship. If you can help, please contact the office.

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! .If you've already donated, but find single shoes, we have 14 unmatched shoes! We're a quarter of the way there!



SUNDAYS WITH TED & FRIENDS —6:00 p.m. In person and via Zoom. Contact Doug Asbury for more information at dougasbury@gmail.com.

9/24 —Emily Kenway—The Silent Suffering of Caregivers

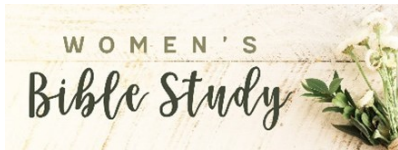
10/ 1 —Margaret Levi - How Labor Unions Shape Society

HELP FORM THE FAITH OF OUR CHILDREN! — Volunteering for Faith Formation is as easy as 1, 2, 3. 1) Read the weekly story from the Bible. 2) Ask open-ended questions and marvel in their thoughtful answers. 3) Lead an activity. See Lynda if you can follow three easy directions – she'll provide all the materials for you – and know you're helping our children to grow!

CHATS WITH CHILDREN — Last week we talked about Noah, his Ark, and God's promise with a rainbow. Questions pondered included what were the bad things people were doing that caused the flood? Could people be so bad that it would happen again? Or are God's promises forever? Talk to the kindergarten-5th grade kids. They have big ideas!

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY — Item of the month is **soup!** Any variety. Consider buying a case of 12! We have a blessing of an abundance of produce which led to the purchase of an additional outdoor refrigerator for the LFP. We're hoping 10 donors will each contribute \$100 towards it's purchase, but any donation is most welcome.

Also, we are looking for help to fill the LFP on Mondays and Fridays. Contact Doug Asbury for more information, dougasbury@gmail.com or 847-436-8286.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY meets Wednesday, September 27 at 10:15 am in the library at RPC for the 2nd lesson of our 2023-24 PW/ Horizon's Bible Study, *Sacred Encounters* by Olive Mahabir. Contact Elizabeth Musick or

Marilyn Slanec for more information.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT—We are working to raise \$5,000 to fully sponsor the next family and have an exciting update! A challenge grant has been made which means for every \$1 contributed, \$1 will be matched. \$2,500 seems easier, or at least faster, so let's see what each of us can contribute. Make a note in the memo line of a check or select refugee resettlement when giving on line. Literally ever dollar matters!

PRESCHOOL — This week was C for cookies, clay projects, cat drawings, and cup stacking towers. Plus a field trip to the library, guest visitors from the Hinsdale Humane Society and author/illustrator Janan Cain. Our littles' brains are growing bigger with each activity every day!



THIS WEEK

Today

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Fellowship

12:00 pm Scout Food Drive

6:00 pm Sundays with TED

Monday

5:15 pm Volleyball

Tuesday

6:30 am Men's Forum

Wednesday

10:15 am Women's Bible Study

4:15 pm Ringers & Singers

Thursday

6:00 pm Theology on Tap

Sunday

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Fellowship

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

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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