

Welcome to
Riverside Presbyterian Church

November 12, 2023

Please silence your cell phones.

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



WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE *Der Tag, der ist so freudenreich BWV 605* J S Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 19)

The heavens are telling of the glory of God;

and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

Your law, O God, is perfect, reviving our souls,

and your commandments are sure, rejoicing our hearts.

Let our words and worship, the meditation of our hearts,
be acceptable to you,

O God, our rock and our redeemer!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

(inspired by 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25; Mark 10:31; Matthew 19:30, 20:16)

O Wise God

You have come to us in the form of a vulnerable child;

You teach us that the last are first and the first, last;

You lead us on a Way to new life that leads through death.

Truly your wisdom is different than ours!
Meet us in this place and teach us your foolish wisdom
and your vulnerable power;
give us joy to receive it fully
and courage to live it foolishly,
through Jesus Christ, your Wisdom and Word. **Amen.**

*HYMN #32 *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (inspired by Proverbs 1:20-33)

We long for wisdom, O Lord, but prefer that it be our own.

We turn away from the ideas of others and ignore the possibility and
promise that come from life together with you.

Most of all, we drown out your gift of Wisdom as she seeks to get our
attention, for we believe that we know better or would prefer to decide
where we make her welcome.

Forgive us, loving God.

Bring an end to the self-righteousness that ignores you,
and awaken us anew to the Wisdom that comes only from you.

**Show us how to walk in your ways and listen to your promise each and
every day.** (Silence is kept.)

*SUNG RESPONSE *God Is So Good*

God is so good; God is so good; God is so good; God's so good to me.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, hear this great good news: God continually shows us another
way. God's mercy is as wide as the ocean.

God's desire to forgive is as strong as the mighty wind.

So let your hearts receive the outpouring of God's love
through the Holy Spirit.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT *Who Built the Ark?* arr. Reeves
Children K-5th grade are invited to River Kids at this time and will be brought to fellowship in the social hall after. Younger children may go to childcare.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING Proverbs 8:1-11 OT p. 590-591
SECOND READING Proverbs 31:8-31 OT p. 613-614
SERMON "Wisdom "

OUR FAITHFUL RESPONSE

*HYMN #468 *In My Life*

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

The abundance of God's providing is evident: This world brims with goodness, amply offered that our needs may be met. From this abundance, we may take what we need. In recognition of what God has provided us, let us worship God with our tithes and offerings.

THE OFFERING & OFFERTORY *Surely the Presence* Wolfe/Schrader

*SUNG RESPONSE *Praise Him*

*Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him!
Jesus, blessed Savior, he's worthy to be praised.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION FOR OFFERING

Holy God, you have given us what we need, indeed you have given us more than we need. Accept this portion that we dedicate to your work. Grant that we might be blessed in turn as we see your reign at work in the world and in ourselves. **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 #749 *Come! Live in the Light!*

*BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *God of Grace* arr. Manz

WORSHIP NOTES

Prayer of the Day written by Rev. Kathryn Matthews Huey and Rev. Susan A. Blain.
Prayer of Confession written by Rev. Andy James. Words of Assurance written by Rev. Heather A. Moody. Call for the Offering and Prayer of Dedication written by Baron Mullis for The Presbyterian Outlook.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Thank you to the Ringers and Singers for joining today's Ministry of Music.

Greeters: Jon and Deb Jansky

Liturgist: John Haugland

Children's Moment: Lynda Nadkarni

Fellowship is hosted by friends of Ringers and Singers.

Trustee of the Month: John McGlennon

Donna Ulrich, John Lynch, Lloyd Bradbury,
Jack Smith, Greg Reichle
Michael McGillicuddy, friend of Ellen Hamilton.
Larry Buttimer and Mary Harris, brother-in-law and
stepmom of Jeanine Buttimer.





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

Dear RPC,

As the Israel-Hamas war continues into its second month, I invite you to join me in reaching out to both our Jewish and Muslim neighbors with gestures of love and support. We may not be able to do much about the fighting in Gaza, but we can work against the antisemitism and islamophobia that persists in our own part of the world. Do you know anyone with ties to the conflict? Now is the time to be an ambassador of reconciliation. If anyone asks you which side you are on, you can simply tell them that as a follower of Christ Jesus, you are on the side of peace.

Meanwhile, for those who are interested, here is a helpful brief analysis of the situation from our Presbytery's commission on interfaith relations.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/recent>

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Mark

STREAMS OF LIVING WATER: 9am Sundays in the Library — Pastor Mark is teaching a class on Christian Spirituality prior to worship. All ages are welcome at this opportunity for learning and practice. The format is drop-in, with a different tradition highlighted during each of the 12 planned sessions. Come when you can, leave when you must! November 19 will focus on "Celtic Spirituality."

THEOLOGY ON TAP — Thursday, November 16th, 6pm @ PJ Klems. This month we will be talking about Brian McLaren's book, "Faith After Doubt: Why Your Beliefs Stopped Working and What To Do About it." No need to have read the book. Join us for what will surely be a wide-ranging discussion!



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING — Sunday, December 3rd after worship. The church officer nominating committee is currently working on a slate to be presented at this meeting. The Session is also recommending some changes to the church bylaws. Copies are available in the rack outside the office.

WORSHIP AT CALEDONIA TODAY at 2:30 pm — Wanted: volunteers who enjoy brightening someone's day. Contact Steve Marcus for more information (847-224-5590).

RIVER KIDS — The Book of Proverbs is full of wisdom. Ask the kids which verse they chose for their fortune cookie and why! Thank you Connie Kelly for assisting with this week's Sunday School lesson.

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

11/12 — Democracy Now Interview with Historian Ilan Pappé

11/19— Historian Tareq Baconi—Origins, Goals and Future of Hamas

TRUSTEES MEETING — The Trustees will meet Monday, November 13 at 6:00 pm in the Parlor.

BISHOPS & BAGELS CHESS TOURNAMENT – Sunday, November 19, 11:30 am at RPC. Come for a casual chess tournament with free admission and free bagels! All ages and skill levels welcome. Time control: each player will have 10 minutes per game for 3 rounds. Boards/clocks are provided.

Contact: TheRiversideChessClub@gmail.com or register at: bit.ly/bishopsbagels



HOLIDAY STROLL — Come hear the acaBELLa Ringers at the Holiday Stroll on Friday, December 1st at 6 pm at First American Bank. This will be the first time ringing here since the pandemic. The bell choir will play until 7 pm. Come hear your Christmas favorites!

SHOE DRIVE UPDATE— The shoe drive has ended though we have one bagful left to count before reporting a final count. We did receive a large batch the last week of October but there were 13 unmatched shoes. I'm hoping one bag got left in the trunk or someplace. Please let the office know if you have their mates.



PRESCHOOL — Save the Date for our second annual Breakfast with Santa and Vendor Fair!

Saturday, December 2, 8:30 am—2 pm

You're invited to bring a small person in your life to eat with Santa. No small person? No problem! We will also have vendors selling a variety of gift items, raffle baskets and a book fair. Come out to help support the preschool!

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT IN WORSHIP — Save the date—Sunday, December 17. More information soon!

WASSAIL BOWL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — We need volunteers to help with our traditional Wassail Bowl following the Messiah performance on Sunday, December 10. If you can bring baked goods, or are able to help with set-up, serving or clean-up, contact Deb Jansky at newhorizons002@gmail.com or 708-822-9557.



MESSIAH 2023 — What do these three words have in common? Happiness, Holidays, and Handel. If you want to add all three H words into your life, come to RPC on December 10 at 4:00 pm. Be ready to be amazed, and it is guaranteed to lift your spirit.

TREASURER/BOOKKEEPER WANTED — Our excellent long-time Treasurer, Ellen Hamilton, has decided not to continue in her volunteer position for 2024. The finance committee is looking to possibly split the job into two – a bookkeeper who tracks expenses and a treasurer who cuts checks. If you are interested in helping with one or both of these essential church functions, please contact Elder Mary Beth Wynn.

UTILITY COSTS — The Trustees are diligently working to keep our expenses in check. One thing they're in the process of is installing smart thermostats. You can help by keeping doors closed after worship and meetings, lights off when spaces are not in use, and reporting any dripping faucets. Thank you!

THIS WEEK

Today

9:00 am Christian Spirituality Class

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Fellowship

11:30 am Green Team

6:00 pm Sundays with TED

Monday

5:15 pm Volleyball

6:00 pm Trustees Meeting

Tuesday

6:30 am Men's Forum

Wednesday

1:00 pm Staff Meeting

4:15 pm Ringers & Singers

6:30 pm acaBELLa Ringers

7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday

7:00 ZOOM Women's Forum

6:00 pm Theology on Tap

Sunday

9:00 am Christian Spirituality Class

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Fellowship

11:30 am Bishops & Bagels Chess

2:30 pm Worship at Caledonia

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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Dr. Sally Sloane, Minister of Music,
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Lynda Nadkarni, Coordinator of Children's
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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 | Nancy Dvorak | Jim Marciniak | Thom DeVries |
| | Elizabeth Musick | Steve Marcus | Paula McCracken |
| | Marilyn Slanec | Wendy Seifert | Open |
| Trustees | Doug Harvin | John McGlennon | Deb Jansky |
| | Henry Vogel | Lynda Nadkarni | Tom Radigan |
| | Open | Open | Open |