

Riverside Presbyterian Church

December 1, 2019 ~ First Sunday of Advent

Ask an usher for audio hearing units

Please silence your cell phones.

Childcare for children through preschool is available upstairs.

* Indicates please stand in body or Spirit.



Heaven and Nature Sing!

300 years of
JOY
to the World

“Joy to the World” turns 300 this year.

Composer Isaac Watts’ interpretation of Psalm 98 invites us to sing a new song—and it is a powerful cosmic performance of all creation being renewed and freed.

Today we remember that “repeating the sounding joy,” as the hymn suggests, is the way in which the reverberations of love are spread throughout the world. And so we raise our praise today in order to repeat what all creation is saying, “God loves you.”

WE PREPARE

CHIMING THE HOUR

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SHARING OUR JOYS & CONCERNS

- * PASSING THE PEACE (Responsive)
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

WE GATHER

PRELUDE *The First Noel* Held

CALL TO WORSHIP Sung response vs 2 #134
Make a joyful noise to the Beloved all the earth; break forth into grateful song and sing praises. Yes sing songs of praise extolling Love's way; lift up your hearts with gratitude and joy!

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills,
and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

- * INVITATION TO PRAYER

- * PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (Responsive)
Holy God, you are the source of love. You are the joy that runs deep and wide underneath all of life. You are the one that helps us reach out in love, especially to those whose fear makes it hard for them to love. Help us when our fear gets in the way of joining the chorus of joy.
Let us repeat the sounding joy in our hearts this day.
Let us repeat the sounding joy in our church this day.
Let us repeat the sounding joy in the world this day.
(Silence is kept)

* ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

* HYMN 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

WE LISTEN

THE CHILDREN LIGHT THE ADVENT WREATH

The Candle of Love

Children fifth grade and under are invited to Sunday School

SUNG RESPONSE 115 VS 1

Away in a Manger

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 11:1-10

Matthew 3:1-15

MEDITATION

* HYMN 110

Love Has Come

WE RESPOND

INVITATION TO OFFER OUR GIFTS

ANTHEM

In the Bleak Midwinter

arr. Printz

* SUNG RESPONSE #113 Refrain

Angels We Have Heard on High

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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.

WE DEPART

* HYMN 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

* BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Noel: Une Vierge Pucelle

Le Begue

We are pleased to welcome Rev. H. Scott Matheney, Chaplain at Elmhurst College to the pulpit this morning. Rev. Matheney was ordained in San Diego, Calif.- Presbyterian Church USA in 1982 and has standing in the United Church of Christ 1984. He served for 15 years as Chaplain at Columbia University and Barnard College in New York City. He came to Elmhurst College in 1997 as Chaplain and Dean of Religious Life. He serves as trustee for the World Student Christian Federation and Operation Crossroads Africa.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Liturgist: Lynda Nadkarni

Ushers: Claire Gangware and Patti Perry Halline

Children's Message: Lynda Nadkarni

Sunday School Teachers: Ben and Amy Dickerson

Flowers today are in honor of our first daughter's birthday and our joining RPC, both in 1987 - Two life changing events! Given by Frank and Claire Gangware

Fellowship Time: There will be a simple fellowship after worship today.

Trustees of the Month: Patti Perry and Fred Kitch

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THEOLOGY ON TAP— No meeting December 2 - Final meeting December 9.

We will continue to explore documentary short films. Posters for some of the documentaries are in the hallway on the way to the Social Hall. Meals are catered AND COST \$10 per person, so please call the office and make reservations (BYOB).

CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING The Session has called a congregation meeting immediately following worship on Sunday, December 8 for the election of officers.

Session Class of 2022: Ben Dickerson, Ellen Hamilton, Serina Ranft

Deacon Class of 2022: Claire Gangware, Sylvia Schade, Susanne Vogel

Deacon Class of 2021: Joyce VanCura

Trustee Class of 2022: Paula McCracken, Tom Radigan, Brad Staubus

Trustee Class of 2021: Mike Heine

SAVE THE DATE

December 7 – Christkindlmarkt, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

December 15 – Messiah, 4 pm

December 22 – Children’s Pageant, 10:00 am

December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship, 7:00 pm

December 29 – Fifth Sunday, Worship as Mission at BEDS Plus



FREE COMMUNITY DINNER SUNDAY DECEMBER 8, AFTER

WORSHIP —We are asking church members to bring a dish to share — with the Mission Committee taking the lead. Please look for new faces at this event —or invite anyone you think would enjoy a free meal and good conversation. All are welcome!

CHRISTKINDLMARKT —We are collecting Christmas books, 2020 calendars, sheet music, CDs and DVDs to sell at the market —films, music, novels, short stories, nonfiction, children's books, cookbooks, coffee table books — in short, all media as long as it is associated with Christmas. There is a box on the pew outside the office for donations.

LOOSE COIN OFFERING — On the first Sunday of each month, we dedicate all loose coins in the offering plates to feed the hungry. The money will go to the Presbytery of Chicago Hunger Fund.

DECEMBER CALENDAR AND BIRTHDAYS — Copies of the December calendar and birthdays are at the back of the sanctuary and in the rack by the office.

CRAFTERS —Do you weave, sew, knit or create other crafts? If so, please consider making something to donate to the RPC table at the Christkindlmarkt, which will be held on Saturday, December 7. Items can be brought to the office the week before the sale. Please contact Sandra Kappmeyer at skappzan@aol.com (585) 662-9082 with questions.

CARERS GIVING TREE— The CARERS Giving Tree benefits women and children sheltered in the Constance Morris House. The ornaments on the tree list Christmas gift items. Take some ornaments, purchase the items and place the unwrapped gifts under the tree. Gifts accepted through Sunday, December 15.

CARERS NEWS DECEMBER— To stave off the chill of winter for those in need, please fill the CARERS trunk with **hot soups, hot cereals and hot boxed foods.** No breakable containers please. The contributions will be distributed to local food pantries.



HANDEL'S MESSIAH, 277 YEARS OF PERFECTION—

Although written in 1741, Handel's Messiah was first performed in 1742. It's a story that grows in perfection year after year, century after century. Think of Christmas and one thinks of Handel's Messiah. Come on December 15 at 4:00 pm and find out why it has been around for 277 years, and be ready to lift your Christmas spirit.

WASSAIL BOWL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — We need volunteers to help with our traditional Wassail Bowl following the Messiah performance on Sunday, December 15. 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.

acaBELLa RINGERS AT HOLIDAY STROLL—RPC's acaBELLa Ringers will ring during Riverside's Holiday Stroll on Friday, December 6 at 7:00 pm at First American Bank across from Guthrie Park.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS—The office will be closed December 24 through January 1. Phone messages and emails will be checked regularly. Regular office hour resume January 2.

2019 PER CAPITA — If you have not already paid your per capita, it is \$34.22 per member. Please consider rounding up or paying an extra per capita for those who find it a difficulty.



CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS—Due to the timing of Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas, we will not be decorating the sanctuary with poinsettias this year. If you have traditionally given a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one, we encourage you to give to the Messiah Memorial. Messiah Memorials will be included in the December 15 Sunday worship bulletin and Messiah program. Please use the included Messiah Memorial form.

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY DONATION: Canned ham and boxed stuffing.

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 generously, or as you are able.

PLEDGE CARDS—If you have not returned your pledge card, please do so at your earliest convenience.

SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP BOWLING OUTING—December 8

Meet at RPC at 5:15 pm. We are going out to eat and bowling.



GIFT CARDS FOR THE HOLIDAYS — Help RPC Preschool and get a head start on holiday shopping using gift cards from Shop with Scrip. The office has order forms. Please return your order form with a check made out to RPC in the office by Thursday for following week delivery. **THIS IS AN ONGOING FUNDRAISER.**

THIS IS NOT A DRILL FOLKS, OUR REFUGEE FAMILY ARRIVES DECEMBER 4 —

This Saturday between 1:00 and 3:00 pm, we need volunteers to sort through what we have collected for the family, clean it up, and box it for the big move on Sunday. **Sunday is the most important day.** We need at least 3 SUV's and or pick-up trucks to move the furniture and all the boxes. We will meet at RPC at 1:00 on Sunday and deliver it near the intersection of Western and Devon. Looking for a minimum of 8 people to deliver what we have collected. In this case many hands will make for light work.

REVEREND JACKSON ON VACATION November 27 to December 3. Contact the church office with any pastoral needs.

THIS WEEK**Today**

10:00 am Worship
 10:15 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Fellowship
 2:00 pm Worship at Cantata

Monday

5:30 pm Volleyball

Tuesday

6:30 am Men's Forum
 7:00 pm Deacons Meeting

Wednesday

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

Thursday

6:30 am Women's Forum

Saturday

9:00 am Christkindlmarkt
 10:00 am Messiah Rehearsal

Sunday

9:00 am Human Scene
 10:00 am Worship
 11:00 am Called Congregational Meeting
 11:15 am Free Community Dinner
 11:15 am Support & Endowment
 5:15 pm Sr. High Youth Group
 Bowling Outing

Riverside Presbyterian Church

116 Barrypoint Road, Riverside, IL 60546
 (708) 447-1520, rpcusa.org
 Sermons available at
<https://vimeo.com/riversidepresbyterian>

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

Dale Jackson,
 Pastor, 502.592.1617 pastor@rpcusa.org
Linda Hutcheson,
 Office Manager, rpcoffice@rpcusa.org
Marika Floros,
 Office Assistant, rpcoffice@rpcusa.org
Sally Sloane,
 Minister of Music, musikhse@comcast.net
Susan Lisle,
 Preschool Director, rpcpreschool@rpcusa.org
Ellen Hamilton,
 Treasurer, treasurer@rpcusa.org

2019 CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Elders	2019	2020	2021
	Jeanine Buttimer	Frank Gangware	Gwen Heine
	Patti Friend	Martha Heine	Allan Halline
	Susan Lynch	Lynda Nadkarni	Matt Lisle
	Lisa Aulerich- Marciniak	Dennis Zander	Mary Ann Sadilek, Clerk
Deacons	Ellen Hamilton	Lloyd Bradbury	Deb Jansky
	Sandra Kappmeyer	Charlie Juister	Serina Ranft
	Steve Teune	Sally Sloane	Wendy Seifert
		Jeanne Smith	
Trustees	Cyril Friend	Patti Perry	Thom DeVries
	Fred Kitch	Doug Harvin	Fred Mitchell
	Brad Staubus	Hank Vogel	