

## Riverside Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2021 ~ Christmas Eve

Welcome! We are glad you are here!

\* Indicates please stand in body or Spirit.



### WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

#### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine* arr. McChesney

#### CHRISTMAS EXHORTATION

Christ is born! Adore him, honor him, and give him glory!

**Christ is come down from heaven, receive him! Make of our hearts a stable!**

Christ, the splendor of God's eternal Word, sustainer of the universe, light our lives with your presence and glory!

**Christ is come down from heaven, receive him! Make of our hearts a stable!**

Christ, born into the world for the liberation of all creation, moves us into perfect freedom, hope, joy, gentleness, and love.

**Christ is come down from heaven, receive him! Make of Our Hearts a stable!**

## LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent means coming. We are preparing ourselves for the days when, nations beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; when nations shall not war against nation any more. We light the candle of HOPE.

**Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. We are preparing ourselves for the days when, the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

We light the candle of PEACE.

**Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. We are preparing ourselves for the days when, the wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

We light the candle of JOY.

**Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. We are preparing ourselves for the days when the Lord will give you a sign. Look! The young woman is with child and shall bear a son. She shall name him Immanuel, which means, God is with us.

We light the candle of LOVE.

**Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. We are preparing ourselves for the days when, The people who walked in great darkness have seen a great light; Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined. We light the CHRIST candle.

**Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

\*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *Make of My Heart a Stable*  
We now sing "CHRIST"

8 C C<sub>3</sub> Am F2 C Dm

Make of my heart a sta-ble, a house for the Ho-ly, a warm and stur-dy  
Make of my life a sta-ble, a house for the Ho-ly, a warm and stur-dy  
Make of our church a sta-ble, a house for the Ho-ly, a warm and stur-dy

14 Em Am7 F2 G C

place for hope/peace/joy/love to live and grow.  
place for hope/peace/joy/love to live and grow.  
place for hope/peace/joy/love to live and grow.

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FIRST LESSON                      Isaiah 9:2-7 (OT p. 638)  
Lisa Aulerich-Marciniak

\* HYMN 144 *In the Bleak Midwinter*

SECOND LESSON                      Titus 2:11-14 (NT p. 215)  
Axel Haugland

\* HYMN 145 *What Child Is This*

THIRD LESSON                      Luke 2:1-7 (NT p. 58)  
Doug Harvin

\* HYMN 132 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

FOURTH LESSON                      Luke 2:8-14 (NT p. 58)  
Steven and Andrew Staubus

CHRISTMAS HOMILY

ANTHEM

*Before the Marvel of this Night*

Schalk

### **OUR FAITHFUL RESPONSE**

\* HYMN 134 *Joy to the World*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & 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.**

THE OFFERTORY

THE OFFERING

THE DOXOLOGY HYMN 606 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*PRAYERS OF DEDICATION

### **GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD**

POSTLUDE

*Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

arr. Geschke

BENEDICTION

\*THE CONGREGATION'S RESPONSE

HYMN 122 *Silent Night, Holy Night*

### PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

**Advent Wreath Lighters:** Kathryn and Lynda Nadkarni, Joanne Dybala

**Liturgist:** Susan Lynch

**Ushers:** The Vogel Family

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

**Flowers** today are given in loving memory of our dad, Paul McCracken from Linda Langer and Paula McCracken.

### WORSHIP NOTES


Prelude: *Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine*; arr. McChesney ©public domain

Anthem: *Before the Marvel of this Night*; Schalk

Postlude: *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*; arr. Geschke © Hope Publishing

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Reverend Dean 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, 2021**



**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP** —We will have a Christmas Eve service of Lessons and Carols featuring the acaBELLa Ringers and Chancel Choir at 4 pm.

**DECEMBER 26**— There will be worship at 10 am followed by fellowship.



**REMOTE WORSHIP**—Just as the supply chain has affected everything from cleaning products to Christmas gifts, so too, we're awaiting some technology to make live-stream a reality. In the meantime, Sara Vacek is recording and uploading worship to YouTube. Typically you will find it by 11:30 am on our channel which is a link on the website.

### **FROM OUR TREASURER — IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN.....**

It's December, so it's time to talk about the "state of the union" – that is the 2021 budget and 2022 pledging.

#### **2021**

You will soon be receiving an update of your offerings through the end of November. Included in the update will be some suggestions for how you can help us balance the 2021 budget.

#### **2022**

Pledge cards are available in the sanctuary and the office for 2022. In making your pledge, we ask that you prayerfully consider increasing the amount by some fraction of the gifts you made to the Capital Campaign over the last 3 years. This is a relatively painless way of assuring the sustainability of our church missions and ministries as we face the challenges of the current and post-COVID era.



Virginia Yang  
Donna Ulrich  
Joyce Van Cura  
Jack Smith  
Monica Wood



**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.

**SUNDAYS WITH TED** is on break until January 16.

**MISSION TRIP** —The mission trip to New Orleans through RHINO (Rebuilding Hope In New Orleans - [www.rhinonola.org](http://www.rhinonola.org)) has once again been postponed due to the virus surge.

**NEED A RIDE/GIVE A RIDE**—We're putting together a list of those who might like transportation to worship and those who might provide it. If you are either, please call or email the office.



**CHRISTMAS OFFICE SCHEDULE—**

Reverend Dean will be out December 27-31. The office will be staffed on an as-needed basis. In an emergency, call or text Reverend Dean 443-359-9553 or contact the office.

**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.



### 2021 CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Elders	2021 Gwen Heine Allan Halline Matt Lisle	2022 Ben Dickerson Ellen Hamilton Serina Ranft	2023 Lisa Aulerich Marciniak Sandra Kappmeyer Jon Jansky Mary Ann Sadilek, Clerk
Deacons	Deb Jansky Wendy Seifert Joyce Van Cura	Susanne Vogel	Bridget Juister Susan Lynch
Trustees	Thom DeVries Fred Mitchell Mike Heine	Paula McCracken Tom Radigan Brad Staubus, President	Doug Harvin Henry Vogel

### 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.

### Riverside Presbyterian Church

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

### RPC Staff

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