

Welcome to
Riverside
Presbyterian Church

December 4, 2022
2nd Sunday of Advent

Please silence your cell phones.

Childcare is available for children 1st
grade and younger after the Mini
Message.

*Indicates please stand in body or Spirit.



WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright* arr. Manz

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH Debra Myers and Tevez Odiaga

INTROIT

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.

And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Matthew 3:3)

Leader: Do you hear the voice of one crying out in the wilderness? Will you heed the prophet's call?

People: We will prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

*HYMN 93 *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of the prophets, we confess our lack of preparedness and our tendency to wander away from you and your path. You call us to venture outside our comfortable spaces, yet we hunker down and excuse ourselves from faithful action. Forgive us, God. Call us again. Help us to respond this Advent in faith. Amen. (Silence is kept.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*THE GLORIA PATRI (# 581)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

MINI MESSAGE

Children first grade and younger may go to childcare. Please see the Greeter.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Savior God, guide us by your Word and Spirit that we might hear your truth, heed your call and be prepared for Christ's birth this Christmas. Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 11:1-10 OT p. 640

SECOND READING Matthew 3:1-12 NT p. 2

SERMON "So, What Are You Wearing?"

OUR FAITHFUL RESPONSE

*HYMN # 96 *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Nicene Creed Hymnal p. 34

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.

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

THE OFFERING & OFFERTORY

ANTHEM *In Time of Softest Snow* Carter

*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.

*PRAYERS OF DEDICATION

THE LORD'S SUPPER

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN #97 *Watchman, Tell Us of the Night*

CHORAL BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Wachet Auf* Diemer

WORSHIP NOTES

Prelude: *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*; arr. Manz
Anthem: *In Time of Softest Snow*; Carter
Postlude: *Wachet Auf*; Diemer
Hymns-songs licensed under OneLicense and CCLI.
Liturgy written by Teri McDowell Ottl for Presbyterian Outlook.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Advent Wreath Lighters: Debra Myers and Tevez Odiaga
Liturgist: Doug Asbury
Mini Message: Lynda Nadkarni
Flowers today are given by the Wynn Jackson family in celebration of Reese's 15th birthday.
Fellowship today is hosted by Wendy Seifert.
Trustees of the Month: Brad Staubus and Tom Radigan



Riverside Presbyterian Church

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

DECEMBER 4, 2022

WELCOME TO REVEREND SCOTT MATHENEY!

Today we welcome to our pulpit for an extended stay, the Reverend H. Scott Matheny. Some of you may recognize Rev. Matheny from his worship leadership in the past. We are happy that he has committed to be our Visiting Pastor every Sunday for the near future, except for prescheduled events.

Rev. Matheny was ordained into the PCUSA in San Diego, CA in 1982; since 1984, he has also had standing in the United Church of Christ. Rev. Matheny served for 15 years as Chaplain at Columbia University and Barnard College in New York City before he came to Elmhurst University in 1997, where he serves as Chaplain and Dean of Religious Life. He also serves as trustee for the World Student Christian Federation and Operation Crossroads Africa. We are so happy to have him with us!



2023 PLEDGE DRIVE UNDERWAY— Your gifts are critical to sustain the faithful mission and ministry of our congregation. Our message to you is "**Pray daily for energy, enthusiasm, love.** Pray for RPC to continue to recover from the pandemic, and return to being a vital, thriving community of joy-filled servants of Jesus Christ." When you have had a chance to thoughtfully consider our request, we ask that you make a pledge to support RPC in 2023. You can do so either on our website (look for our new pledge card online) or asking the office for a pledge card. Glory to God, who can do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by his power at work within us. (Ephesians 3:20)

HOLY COW! WE NEED YOUR OPINIONS! As part of its information gathering to find a new pastor, the PNC has engaged Holy Cow! Consulting to conduct a survey of the congregation (the Congregational Assessment Tool) to insure that we gain clarity about who we are at RPC, what we are being called to do, and how well we are doing it. We will be emailing or snail mailing the survey to the entire congregation (not just one per household). Please take some quiet time, as soon as your schedule permits, and thoughtfully answer the questions, which are primarily multiple choice. It is SO important that we have as close to 100% participation as possible. WATCH FOR IT!



MESSIAH 2022 —Like a fine wine, it only gets better with age. Go back to Dublin 280 years ago, and you could have seen the first production of Handel's Messiah. Come experience this beautiful oratorio for yourself on December 11 at 4:00 pm. For a first-hand experience, join the community choir. We have practices on December 3 and 10 at 10:00 am. The dress rehearsal is set for 1:30 pm on the day of the performance.

MESSIAH MEMORIALS — Express your love in memory or honor of family and friends through a memorial donation. All memorials will be printed in the Messiah concert program. Make your checks payable to Riverside Presbyterian Church and **return to the church office by Wednesday, December 7.**

WASSAIL BOWL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — We need volunteers to help with our traditional Wassail Bowl following the Messiah performance on Sunday, December 11. 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.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP —We will have a service of Lessons and Carols featuring the acaBELLa Ringers, Ringers & Singers and Chancel Choir at 4 pm.

Frank Svestka, Jr.
Lloyd Bradbury
John Lynch
Jack Smith
Monica and James Wood
Duci Musick, daughter-in-law of Elizabeth Musick



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT IN WORSHIP — Sunday, December 18 we'll have a rehearsal at 9:00 am and then the pageant during worship at 10:00 am. There are parts for children and youth of all ages! No special talent or memorization of lines necessary.

Don't want to act, but want to participate in other ways? Musicians, greeters, and sign holders are also desired. Please let Lynda Nadkarni know if your child can participate. missionandoutreach@rpcusa.org

LOOSE COIN OFFERING—Today we dedicate all loose coins in the offering plates to the Presbytery of Chicago Hunger Fund. In lieu of loose coins, indicate Presbytery Hunger Fund in the memo line of a check or online.

CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING —There will be a Called Congregational Meeting following Worship on Sunday, December 18, for the purpose of electing elders, deacons, trustees, and members-at-large of the 2023 nominating committee.



150th BIRTHDAY—As we wind down the 150th year, there are still ways you can support the efforts and have a beautiful keepsake! There are lobes of stained glass that have been beautifully framed by Jon Jansky available for a donation of \$200 (small) and \$250 (large). Several are on display in the social hall. For \$25 or more, there are a just a few suncatchers available, also in the social hall. And when you donate, please take envelopes off the wall!

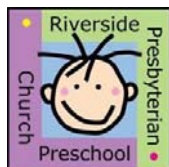
THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING is one of four church-wide special offerings of the PC (USA). It supports current and former church workers, their families, and offers education and leadership development at Presbyterian-related racial-ethnic colleges and other schools. Please give as you are able.

CONFIRMATION CLASS—beginning in January for all high school freshmen and anyone older who has not been confirmed. Confirmation Retreat February 10-12 at Stronghold Presbyterian Camp. Details to follow.

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR OUR REFUGEE FAMILIES – The AlHaffar family is Muslim yet are interested in Christian and American cultural traditions at holiday time. The Muaro family is Christian. We'd like to support both families at the holidays with cards of well wishes. The cards can include pictures or notes and optional small gift cards from Walgreens, Jewel/Osco, Target or Ross Dress for Less. Please put the family name on the outside of the card and place them in Lynda's mailbox outside the library.

SUNDAYS WITH TED—6:00 p.m. We will meet via Zoom. Here is the link you can click on order to join our session, as well as the passcode you will be asked to type in when the box opens requesting it: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85685182676>
[pwd=MUU4b0J2Y3FiV3luQm1jTnBqODBrZz09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85685182676), Passcode: 448942. You can access a clickable link on the RPC website, or request one via email from Doug Asbury. **12/4**—Reed Hastings on “How Netflix Changed Entertainment and Where it's Headed” **12/11**—Messiah and Wassail Bowl ; no TED

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD HELPERS —Doug Asbury will be away from December 21 to January 15. He is looking for help in several ways to take care of things he does around and for the church during that time. Speak to him if you could help with filling the Little Food Pantry on Fridays; pick up bread from Jimmy John's on Ogden one or more days at 9 p.m., bag it up, and put it in the LFP refrigerators; and roll the recycling bins out to the curb on Wednesday evenings and back to their places after pick-up on Thursdays. Call or text him at 847-436-8286 or email him at dougasbury@gmail.com.



SHOP AND SUPPORT THE PRESCHOOL — Purchasing gift cards for the Holidays? Hundreds of retailers have joined RaiseRight, offering gift cards with up to 12% of the profits donated directly back to the preschool in the form of cash. They have sooo many name brands! You can even purchase Mariano's gift cards to do your own grocery shopping and the Preschool will receive 4% back. Download the app or go to www.raiseright.com and use enrollment code 8AFCE1BL55L23

The **WOMEN'S CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY** will meet on Wednesday, December 7 at 10:30 am in the library. We will discuss Lesson 4 of the book "Celebrating Sabbath" by Carol M. Bechtel. If you cannot attend in person, here is the log in information: <https://zoom.us/j/98513169535>
[pwd=SU9RZDJ2Vm42QkRzTmJHOUtmMHcvQT09](https://zoom.us/j/98513169535)
Meeting ID: 985 1316 9535, Passcode: 899045, Dial by your location 1(312) 626-6799

THIS WEEK

Today

10:00 am Worship-Communion

11:00 Fellowship

6:00 pm Sundays with TED

Monday

5:30 pm Volleyball

Tuesday

6:30 am Men’s Forum

7:00 pm Deacons Meeting

Wednesday

10:30 am Women’s Bible Study

4:15 pm Ringers & Singers

6:30 pm acaBELLa Ringers

7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday

7:00 am Women’s Forum

Saturday

10:00 am Messiah Choral Rehearsal

Sunday

10:00 am Worship-Communion

1:30 pm Messiah Dress Rehearsal

4:00 pm Handel’s Messiah

5:00 pm Wassail Bowl Reception

Riverside Presbyterian Church

116 Barrypoint Road, Riverside, IL 60546

(708) 447-1520, rpcusa.org

Sermons available at

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. H. Scott Matheney, Visiting Pastor

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2022 CHURCH LEADERSHIP

	2022	2023	2024
Elders	Ben Dickerson Ellen Hamilton Serina Ranft	Lisa Aulerich Marciniak Sandra Kappmeyer Jon Jansky	Susan Lynch Carrie Staubus Mary Beth Wynn Mary Ann Sadilek, Clerk
Deacons	Thom DeVries Steven Teune	Nancy Dvorak Elizabeth Musick Marilyn Slanec	Jim Marciniak Steve Marcus Wendy Seifert
Trustees	Paula McCracken Tom Radigan Brad Staubus, President	Doug Harvin Henry Vogel	John McGlennon Lynda Nadkarni Will Vogel