

Welcome to
Riverside Presbyterian Church

September 3, 2023

Please silence your cell phones.

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



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

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE

A Classical Medley

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of the Lord Jesus be with you.

And also with you.

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

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 71)

God alone is our refuge and hope,
our shelter and protection.

From our very first breath to our last,
God's love and compassion never fails.

So come, lift your voices in praise to God.
Bear witness to God's acts of mercy and love.
Proclaim God's glory to all who will listen.
Let's worship God together.

*HYMN #837 *What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine*

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (based on Genesis 9: 8-17; Psalm 25: 1-10)
God of the rainbow,
you made a covenant with all creatures, promising life and hope.
You have shown us how we should walk.
Yet we forget our connection with one another
and think that we are the center of the universe.
We wander from your paths of truth
into paths of deceit and pride and violence.
Forgive us and lead us back into the arms of your love.
Amen. (Silence is kept.)

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*THE GLORIA PATRI *Glory Be to the Father* #581
**Glory be to the Father, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost; As it
was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, Amen.**

MINI MESSAGE

Children first grade and younger may go to childcare. Please see the
Greeter for more information or directions.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Holy Creator, you spoke all of creation into being, we ask that you
keep speaking to us now. Speak to us as we read Scripture, that we
might hear your voice ringing clear and concise through the many voices
around us. Speak to us, that we might hear and understand. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION FOR OFFERING

(inspired by Genesis 9:8-17; 17:1-7, 15-16)

Covenant-keeping God, whose promise is rock solid;
we offer our lives and these signs of our daily living
not simply that bread might fill empty stomachs,
but that, through the working of your Holy Spirit,
empty lives may be filled, friendless, lonely lives find intimacy,
depressed lives given hope. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

INVITATION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Responsive)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to our God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We join together to praise you and give you thanks, saying:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

And now we pray the prayer that Jesus taught:

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.

COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Allegro Vivace from Water Music

Händel

WORSHIP NOTES

Words of Assurance adapted from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2006*. Prayer for the Offering ©Jeff Shrowder 2000. <http://thebillabong.info/>

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Thank you to Enzo Toth for joining today's Ministry of Music.

Greeter: Dennis Zander

Liturgist: Nancy Dvorak

Mini Message: Lynda Nadkarni

Flowers today are given to the Glory of God from the Sloane-Kazarian family.

Fellowship is hosted by Sandra Kappmeyer and Dennis Zander.

Trustee of the Month: Doug Harvin



Riverside Presbyterian Church

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

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

Dear RPC,

One challenge that has come up in my preaching recently is that there are many, many needs we are called to address as followers of Jesus, and our congregation only has so much time or energy. Well, thankfully, we are not alone! Through our denomination we have partnerships with groups around the world that help us to coordinate and multiply our efforts. Here is a link to a couple of them that the Chicago Presbytery (<https://mailchi.mp/5989c1f82cd2/chicagopresbytery-13871286?e=46abd288b4>) works with locally. How might we better connect for the sake of our mission?

The Community Renewal Society (Faith-based community organizing for justice and equity in Chicago and Illinois) <https://www.communityrenewalsociety.org/>

Faith in Place (Interfaith environmental justice in Illinois, Indiana & Wisconsin), <https://www.faithinplace.org/>

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Mark

John Lynch
Lloyd Bradbury
Jack Smith



Alice Ann Hand, sister of Elizabeth Musick.

Duci Musick, daughter-in-law of Elizabeth Musick

Prayers of comfort and peace for family and friends upon the death of Doris Kirk, friend of Janet Perryman.

LET'S BUILD A GAGA BALL PIT! Today, 11:30-12:30pm. Pastor Mark is looking to repurpose the Gym stage, using the tumbling mats to create a space for playing Gaga Ball. All ages are encouraged to join in this Sunday after worship as we begin to clean off the stage and cut/place the mats. What is Gaga Ball, you ask? Click here for a video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v7u1bOd7TzY>)

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.

SUNDAY FUNDAY— You won't want to miss **September 10** when we present Bibles, kick off Faith Formation, and have a picnic on the lawn after worship! Limited tables and chairs will be provided. **Please bring a chair or picnic blanket if able and a side dish or dessert to share.** Sandwiches will be provided. It's going to be a great day to kick off a great school year!

PET BLESSING — Save the date – Sunday, September 17 at 10:00 am on the lawn. If you can't bring the pet you want blessed, bring a photo.

THEOLOGY ON TAP, 6pm Sept 21st: It's official! Theology on Tap will be back in September on Third Thursdays, 6pm, location TBD. Next month Pastor Mark will lead a discussion on the topic of "[Watershed Discipleship](https://watersheddiscipleship.org/what-is-wd/)," based on a book of the same name by Ched Myers.

<https://watersheddiscipleship.org/what-is-wd/>

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. Many thanks to our friends from New Life Church, Sara Vacek, Jon Jansky and Brett Jackson for making this happen!

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!

OFFICE CLOSED Monday, September 4 for Labor Day Holiday

RINGERS & SINGERS - FIRST REHEARSAL WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 We meet Wednesdays during the school year from 4:15 - 5:15. Children from ages (almost) 5 - 12 are welcome to join our group. The group is open to the community. Please contact Sally Sloane if you know of a child interested in joining us musikhse@comcast.net or 708-822-0655. There is no tuition for joining this group - no fees whatsoever.

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.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT – Doug Asbury volunteered last week with RefugeeOne to secure groceries for a newly arrived family. The person he worked beside is an Afghan refugee who settled in Chicago in 2022. He shared needing a washer/dryer and a couch. Through the Facebook group we secured both and got it to them this week!

RefugeeOne has welcomed 211 people in the last two months and are hoping we can co-sponsor again soon. Our website for donations is up and running at www.refugeeone.org/riverside. Every donation of any size counts!

PRESCHOOL – We're kicking off the year on Tuesday with 27 students! Three spaces remain which we are working to fill by January. Students must be 3 and fully toilet trained. If you hear of anyone looking for a preschool experience, please send them our way. You can also help by liking and sharing our Facebook posts.

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING—By giving to the Peace & Global Witness Offering, one of the special offerings of the PC(USA), we work to share Christ's peace with one another, beyond our doors, beyond our community and across boundaries. Together we are building God's house where everyone is welcome; where all can find compassion, peace and justice. Please mark your donation "Peace & Global Witness Offering". Envelopes are in the back of the sanctuary and in the church office.

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

9/3 - Ross Wehner - What if the purpose of school were purpose?

9/10 - Daniel Karlsson Lönnö - This is why so few are having children today

THIS WEEK

Today

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Fellowship

6:00 pm Sundays with TED

Monday—Labor Day Holiday

Office Closed for Holiday

5:15 pm Volleyball

Tuesday

6:30 am Men's Forum

8:30 am Preschool First Day

Sunday

10:00 am Worship—Sunday School

Kick-Off, Bible Presentation

11:00 am Fellowship—Picnic

6:00 pm Sundays with TED

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116 Barrypoint Road, Riverside, IL 60546

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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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Linda Hutcheson, Office Manager,

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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