

Welcome to
Riverside Presbyterian Church

October 15, 2023

Please silence your cell phones.

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



WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE

Minuet from *Water Music*

Händel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (Habakkuk 2:20, Hebrews 4:14-16)

Our purpose is awesome: Let us worship God.

God is in this holy temple: Let all the earth keep silence.

We do not come before God like frightened supplicants,
but as those who are confident that they are wonderfully loved.

**Our high priest is Jesus, tempted as we are yet without sin,
who is able to sympathize with our human weaknesses.**

Let us then boldly draw near to the throne of grace,
that we may be welcomed with mercy
and obtain assistance in every moment of need. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY (inspired by Psalm 23, John 10)

Loving Shepherd, you know our names; you care for us.

When we face darkness and death, walk beside us.

When we hunger for your love, fill us with your presence.

When we are fearful, feed us at your table.

May we dwell in the house of goodness and mercy all the days of our lives. **Amen.**

*HYMN #838 *Standing on the Promises*

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (inspired by Numbers 21:4-9 and John 3:14-16)

God,

we confess that we are often impatient and fearful people.

When you offer us the promise of a new future,

we complain that you don't get us there fast enough.

When you provide for our needs, we complain that it isn't enough.

And when our bad attitudes and negative outlooks cause us to stumble, we blame others, and we blame you.

Holy God, forgive our foolish ways. Teach us to be patient and courageous. Instruct us to be grateful.

Guide us to be responsible and humble.

As we learn to trust in your promises,

let us experience your grace and your gift of new life.

In the name of Christ our Savior, we pray. **Amen.** (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 FORGIVENESS

Relentlessly God seeks us out.

With abundant grace and boundless mercy,

God seeks us out.

This is good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

***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

Children PreK-5th grade are invited to Sunday School at this time and will be brought to fellowship after. Younger children may go to childcare.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING	Numbers 13:17-20	OT p. 131
SECOND READING	Numbers 13:26-33	OT p. 131
SERMON	“ ”	

OUR FAITHFUL RESPONSE

*HYMN #39 *Great Is thy Faithfulness*

THE OFFERING & OFFERTORY *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship* Currie

*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**

O God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts. Use them, even as you use us, to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ, the Head of the church and the Lord of our lives. **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 #366 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

*BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Prelude & Fugue in am* BWV 559 J S Bach

WORSHIP NOTES

Call to Worship written by B. D. Prewer 2002. Prayer of the Day written by Mary Petrina Boyd. Prayer of Confession adapted from a prayer written by Amy Loving. Assurance of Forgiveness and Prayer of Dedication written by John Wurster for The Presbyterian Outlook.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Greeter: Henry Vogel

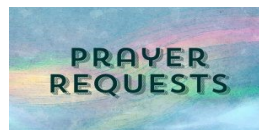
Liturgist: Paula McCracken

Children's Moment: Lynda Nadkarni

Fellowship today is hosted by Marilyn Slanec.

Trustee of the Month: Henry Vogel

Devin Zander, Donna Ulrich, John Lynch, Lloyd Bradbury, Jack Smith, Greg Reichle Bill Scanlon, a member of Men's Forum, as he recovers from an injury.





Newsletter

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

Dear RPC,

The world news has been disheartening this week, to say the least. What can we do about the extreme violence that we hear about in distant places? Pray for peace, yes. And we can also resist evil by practicing Christ's grace and peace right where we are. In the words of St Francis, "Wherever there is hatred, let us sow love. Where there is injury, pardon. Where there is doubt, faith. Where there is despair, hope. Where there is darkness, light. Where there is sadness, joy." And may we always remember the words of our crucified master: "In this world you will have trouble, but take heart, for I have overcome the world" (John 16:33).

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Mark

THEOLOGY ON TAP — This month we will meet again on the 3rd Thursday – **October 19th, 6pm**, at PJ Klem's to discuss a theology of decolonization, with resources from the book [Healing Haunted Histories](#) by Elaine Enns and Ched Myers. All are encouraged to join in, no preparation required. Here is a 4-page study guide for those who would like to explore the topic in advance: Scan the QR code. If you prefer a paper copy, contact Linda in the office.



WORSHIP AT CALEDONIA TODAY—Sunday, October 15, 2:30 pm—Wanted: volunteers who enjoy brightening someone's day. Contact Steve Marcus for more information (847-224-5590).

SESSION MEETING — Session will meet Tuesday, October 17 at 7:30 pm in the parlor.



ALL CHURCH WORKDAY

Saturday, October 21, 9-11 am.

There are many small and simple tasks – no special skills required!

CHATS WITH CHILDREN — Our children learned the Exodus story today with Susan Lynch and Brad McClain. Ask them about their ideas of freedom for all God’s people. Guiding Sunday School is as easy as reading the Bible story, asking questions/engaging in discussion, and leading an activity. All materials are provided. See Lynda if you’re willing to help form our children’s faith on a Sunday morning.

HELP FORM THE FAITH OF OUR CHILDREN! — Volunteering for Faith Formation is as easy as 1, 2, 3. 1) Read the weekly story from the Bible. 2) Ask open-ended questions and marvel in their thoughtful answers. 3) Lead an activity. See Lynda if you can follow three easy directions – she’ll provide all the materials for you – and know you’re helping our children to grow!



SHOE DRIVE — If you haven't yet shed your unwanted shoes (your relatives', friends', book club members', co-workers', teammates' shoes), you have until October 31st, when the drive will end. If you need to have someone come to pick them up, please call the church office, and we will arrange that. Thank you!

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

10/15— James Rhee—The Value of Kindness at Work **10/22** — Rebecca Galemba—How Employers Steal From Workers—and Get Away With It

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY — Item of the month is **canned vegetables**. Any variety. Consider buying a case of 12!

We are looking for help to fill the LFP on Mondays and Fridays. Contact Doug Asbury for more information, dougasbury@gmail.com or 847-436-8286.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT—Match made! We are financially ready for our next family. What we still need are a few items <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A4DAAA2EA20-45123393-items#/>, people to hold the last week of October open for a move, and a male mentor. Mentors meet with the family appx. Once a month to help with social adjustments and navigating things like state ID procurement and shopping for deals at the grocery stores. See Lynda if you can help with any of these needs.

DAILY DEVOTIONALS — Copies of the November-December Upper Room are in the rack outside the office and at the back of the sanctuary.



PRESCHOOL — Did you know Gale Teune is an owl expert? We did and were blessed to have her share her knowledge and real (not alive) owl with us. Thank you Gale! If you have an area of knowledge or even just time to share a picture book, we'd be happy to have you join in the preschool fun!

FIFTH SUNDAY — October 29 —Hoffman Dam River Rats River Clean-Up

Worship at 10 am. Join the River Rats before or after worship. Refreshments welcome, bring to clean-up site. Meet in the forest preserve area east of the Barrypoint Bridge and the Hofmann Tower. Bring your neighbors and friends and aluminum cans to raise money for future cleanups and events. Bags and pokersticks provided. Wear long pants, sleeves and sturdy shoes. Contact Steve Marcus for more information 847-224-5590.



MIDDLE SCHOOL-HIGH SCHOOL STRONGHOLD

RETREAT—November 10, 7 pm –November 12, 11 am at Stronghold. A weekend designed for middle school and high school youth filled with games, activities, groups, worship, food and more! Cost: Youth and Adult leaders \$125. Register by November 6. Additional information and registrations at:

www.blackhawkpresbytery.org



CARD SHOWER — Let's shower Donna Ulrich with notes and cards and good wishes while she is recuperating. Here is her current address:

Donna Ulrich

Ascension Alexian Brothers
935 Beisner Rd., Rm. 168-2
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

THIS WEEK

Today

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Fellowship

2:30 pm Worship at Caledonia

6:00 pm Sundays with TED

Monday

5:15 pm Volleyball

Tuesday

6:30 am Men's Forum

7:30 pm Session Meeting

Wednesday

1:00 pm Staff Meeting

4:15 pm Ringers & Singers

6:30 pm acaBELLa Ringers

7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday

7:00 am Women's Forum

6:00 pm Theology on Tap

Sunday

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Fellowship

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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rpcvideo@rpcusa.org

Doug Asbury, Volunteer in Mission,
dougasbury@gmail.com

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	2023	2024	2025
	Nancy Dvorak	Jim Marciniak	Thom DeVries
	Elizabeth Musick	Steve Marcus	Paula McCracken
	Marilyn Slanec	Wendy Seifert	Open
Trustees	2023	2024	2025
	Doug Harvin	John McGlennon	Deb Jansky
	Henry Vogel	Lynda Nadkarni	Tom Radigan
	Open	Open	Open