

Welcome to
Riverside Presbyterian Church

November 19, 2023

Please silence your cell phones.

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



WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

PRELUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

arr. Manz

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lord, you have been our dwelling place;

we come today to rest in you.

You have been the voice that guides us;

we come today to listen.

You have been the host who feeds us;

we come today to be filled.

You have been our joy and crown;

we come today to sing your praise!

PRAYER OF THE DAY (inspired by Psalm 72)

O Lord,

we gather together in your presence also to claim the promise that your will would prevail in this land.

We pray for the movement of your Holy Spirit in this place and for the work of your church in every nation. Make us mindful of your generosity, and glad to do your will. Bless our community with honest industry, truthful education, and an honorable way of life.

Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride, arrogance, and from every evil course of action. Make us, who come from many different backgrounds, into a united people – one in purpose and vision. When times are prosperous, lead us to thanksgiving, and when times are troubled, lead us to a deepening trust in you. **Amen.**

*HYMN #345

In an Age of Twisted Values

*CALL TO CONFESSION

We know that our sins are too heavy for us to carry, too real to hide and too deep to undo. But we also know that you can lift that weight from us and transform our lives. So we lift our prayer of confession to you:

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (inspired by 1 Kings 21)

Loving and merciful God,

We confess that there are times when we behave like Ahab – pouting and sullen when we don't get our own way.

Forgive us for our sometimes selfish and childish reactions.

We acknowledge there are times when we hurt others in order to get our own way.

Forgive us the hurt we inflict on others.

We confess there are times when we judge others on their past behavior, overlooking the possibility that they may have changed.

Forgive us for our many judgments.

We confess there are times when we hide behind rules and regulations to avoid examining our own motives.

Forgive us for when we have been dishonest with ourselves.

We confess that our country has taken land by force, Without acknowledgement, compensation, or apology.

Forgive us for our complicity in evil. Help us to seek your justice, and to do what we can to make things right. (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 PARDON**

When we speak the truth of what we have done or left undone,
God hears our confession and responds with mercy.

Hear the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, set
free from shame, and given the opportunity to begin again.

Thanks be to God.

***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 K-5th grade are invited to River Kids at this time and will be brought to
fellowship in the social hall after. Younger children may go to childcare.*

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING	1 Kings 21:1-16	OT p. 328-329
SECOND READING	1 Kings 21:17-29	OT p. 329
SERMON	"Naboth's Vineyard"	

OUR FAITHFUL RESPONSE

*HYMN #372 *O for a World*

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

When we give, we combat the lie that we do not matter in this world.
So as we enter a time of giving, I invite you to reflect on how your life,
your skills, your time, and your money matters to this congregation
and to God's mission in the world.

THE OFFERING & OFFERTORY

There's Something About that Name

Gaither/Larson

*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

Generous God, with Thanksgiving quickly approaching, we are reminded to give you thanks for the ministries of this congregation which you have entrusted us with. We are honored by the opportunity to be your holy body here. Bless these offerings, however they are given, that our efforts may be ever more worthy of your name **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 #378 *We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom* (tune of Salley Gardens)

*BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"La Bamba" from Tríptico Mexicano

Noble

WORSHIP NOTES

Call to Worship, Call to Confession, Call for the Offering, Prayer of Dedication written by Rev. Carol Holbrook Prickett for The Presbyterian Outlook. Prayer of the Day adapted from a prayer on the website of Trinity Anglican Church. Prayer of Confession written by Rev. Dr. Philippa Horrex.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Greeter:

Liturgist: Susan Lynch

Children's Moment: Lynda Nadkarni

Flowers are given by Susan Lynch.

Fellowship is hosted by Deb and Jon Jansky.

Trustee of the Month: John McGlennon



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

Dear RPC,

Tell me why! Why do we do the things we do? What is the reason? Help me to understand. Children are onto something when they come back to this line of inquiry. "Why" is perhaps the most important question in the church, and often the most significant one of our lives. So *why* shy away from it? Jesus asked way more questions in the gospels than he answered, and we would be wise to follow suit.

That's why I was pleased to hear that at least one person wants to know how the scriptures are selected each Sunday. Thank you! Here is a two page explanation on that one <https://bit.ly/49yDrul>. Let's keep the conversation going so that "our love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight" (Philippians 1:9-11).

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Mark

STREAMS OF LIVING WATER: 9am Sundays in the Library —Pastor Mark is teaching a class on Christian Spirituality prior to worship. All ages are welcome at this opportunity for learning and practice. The format is drop-in, with a different tradition highlighted during each of the 12 planned sessions. Come when you can, leave when you must! November 26 will focus on "Eastern Orthodox Spirituality"

BISHOPS & BAGELS CHESS TOURNAMENT – TODAY, 11:30 am at RPC. Come for a casual chess tournament with free admission and free bagels! All ages and skill levels welcome. Time control: each player will have 10 minutes per game for 3 rounds. Boards/clocks are provided.

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

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING — Sunday, December 3, 11:00 am. The church officer nominating committee is currently working on a slate to be presented at this meeting. The Session is also recommending some changes to the church bylaws. Here is the link to the proposed changes <https://bit.ly/49EedLg>



RIVER KIDS — It’s simple to teach Sunday School and you get not only smart kids’ good conversation, but also smiles like this! Upcoming stories are Daniel in the Lion’s Den and Jonah and the Whale. Lynda provides the Bible story, wondering questions, and activity. You provide the leadership and love. Let her know if you’re interested in teaching!

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

11/19— Historian Tareq Baconi—Origins, Goals and Future of Hamas

11/26 — Historian Ilan Pappé - The Myth of Israel

SESSION MEETING — The Session will meet Tuesday, November 21 at 7:30 pm in the Parlor.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT IN WORSHIP — December 17 in worship we’ll have a new-to-us “participation pageant”. As the story is narrated, members of the congregation will bring items to the stage to build a modern visual representation of the Biblical word. Sign up to be part of the program!
<https://tinyurl.com/rpcpageant>

HOLIDAY STROLL — Come hear the acaBELLa Ringers at the Holiday Stroll on Friday, December 1st at 6 pm at First American Bank. This will be the first time ringing here since the pandemic. The bell choir will play until 7 pm. Come hear your Christmas favorites!

PRESCHOOL — Save the Date for our second annual Breakfast with Santa and Vendor Fair! **Saturday, December 2, 8:30 am—2 pm** You're invited to bring a small person in your life to eat with Santa. No small person? No problem! We will also have vendors selling a variety of gift items, raffle baskets and a book fair. Come out to help support the preschool!



On Veterans' Day, preschoolers and their families packed meals with Feed6 which were shared with organizations supporting food insecure vets. Learning to care for others at an early age!

WASSAIL BOWL VOLUNTEERS — We need volunteers to help with our traditional Wassail Bowl following the Messiah on Sunday, December 10. 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.



MESSIAH — Even the name Messiah is awe inspiring. Per the dictionary, the definition of Messiah is Expected King and Deliverer. Now that is something to think about! Come celebrate the birth of our Messiah through the music of Handel **December 10th at 4:00 pm**.

TREASURER/BOOKKEEPER WANTED — Our excellent long-time Treasurer, Ellen Hamilton, has decided not to continue in her volunteer position for 2024. The finance committee is looking to possibly split the job into two – a bookkeeper who tracks expenses and a treasurer who cuts checks. If you are interested in helping with one or both of these essential church functions, please contact Elder Mary Beth Wynn.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT— Refugee Family Coming November 29! – And there's still a fair amount to do to get ready. Check out how you can help at <https://tinyurl.com/rarrtmove> or see Lynda Nadkarni at lynda@rpcusa.org This is a family from the Central African Republic of two parents in their late 30s (husband and wife) with 4 children, ages 17, 16, 11 and 5.

Elizabeth Musick, Janet Perryman, Wendy Seifert,
Donna Ulrich, John Lynch, Lloyd Bradbury,
Jack Smith, Greg Reichle
Michael McGillicuddy, friend of Ellen Hamilton.
Larry Buttimer and Mary Harris, brother-in-law and
stepmom of Jeanine Buttimer.



THIS WEEK

Today

9:00 am Christian Spirituality Class

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Fellowship

11:30 am Bishops & Bagels Chess

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

2:00 pm Worship & Music Meeting

No Choirs Today

Thursday—Thanksgiving Day

Office Closed

Friday

Office Closed

Sunday

9:00 am Christian Spirituality Class

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Fellowship

11:30 am CE Committee Meeting

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

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,
mark@rpcusa.org; 708-202-9874

Linda Hutcheson, Office Manager,
rpcoffice@rpcusa.org

Dr. Sally Sloane, Minister of Music,
musikhse@comcast.net

Lynda Nadkarni, Coordinator of Children's
Ministries, lynda@rpcusa.org

Ellen Hamilton, Treasurer,
treasurer@rpcusa.org

Sara Vacek, Tech Manager,
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	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