

Welcome to  
**Riverside Presbyterian Church**

March 10, 2019  
First Sunday of Lent

Ask an usher for audio hearing units.  
Please silence your cell phone.

Childcare is available for children 1st grade  
and younger in the upstairs childcare room.

\* Indicates please stand in body or spirit.

He was despised and forsaken by all,  
this man of suffering,  
grief's patient friend.

As if he was a person to avoid,  
we looked the other way;  
he was despised, forsaken,  
and we took no notice of him.

Isaiah 53:3

CHIMING THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\* PASSING THE PEACE (Responsive)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**WE GATHER**

PRELUDE & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

*Musette*

Vaughan Williams

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Here is the place where we can bring our pain and hopes.

**For our God carries them with us.**

Here is the place where we can listen for our calling.

**For Jesus invites us to serve with him in the world.**

Here is the place where we are surrounded by grace.

**For the Spirit hears our hearts and heals them.**

\* HYMN 80

*Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley*

\* INVITATION TO PRAYER

PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (Unison)

**God of the Beloved, Jesus came for us. He came to give those who could not see new sight, but we continue to long to live in the shadows. He came to clear the ears of those who had no hearing, but we still listen to the lies offered to us. He came that we might serve those around us, but we want the attention, the seats of prestige.**

**We pray that as you forgive us, Loving God, we would discover that we are now your beloved. Not because we are powerful, but we are willing to accept our weakness; not because we are wealthy, but we dare to share when others hoard; not because we want glory, but because we are willing to offer the cup of grace to those who thirst around us, even as it has been offered to us by Jesus.**

(Silent prayers)

\* ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE 85 Verse 1

*What Wondrous Love Is This*

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the heavy cross for my soul,  
for my soul, to bear the heavy cross for my soul!**

**WE LISTEN**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Children are invited forward

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 35:11-18

Isaiah 53:1-12

MEDITATION

*Via Dolorosa: The Man of Sorrows*

\* HYMN 92

*Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

## **WE RESPOND**

\* STATEMENT FOR LENT (Unison)

**I am standing before the cross in all its brutality  
and feel overwhelmed by the enormity of it all.**

**Why could the church not have a nice life-affirming symbol instead of a cross?  
Something to remind us to love each other and that love will always triumph in the end.**

**But perhaps that would be just too easy;  
perhaps we need reminding that to love unconditionally often comes at a cost.  
When we cross the barriers of prejudice and exclusion that society puts up to separate us  
from the poor and despised from our traditional enemies;  
when we truly stand up for what is right, we too may be rejected and ridiculed.  
The cross reminds us that love has no boundaries, no limitations;  
we must keep loving, regardless of the consequences.**

**The cross is not a symbol of defeat, but a symbol of the victory of unconditional selfless love  
which should support and inspire us to follow in Jesus' footsteps.**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

INVITATION TO OFFER OUR GIFTS

ANTHEM      *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High!*      arr. Stillman and Frackenpohl

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE 85 Verse 2      *What Wondrous Love Is This*  
**To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to God and to the Lamb I will sing;  
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am, while millions join the theme,  
I will sing; while millions join the theme, I will sing!**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS—

PRAYER 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.**

## WE DEPART

\* HYMN

# 438 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.  
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands.  
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling;  
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when my eye - lids close in death,

Let the wa - ter and the blood from thy wound - ed side which flowed  
Could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
na - ked, come to thee for dress, help - less, look to thee for grace;  
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure, cleanse from guilt and make me pure.  
all for sin could not a - tone. Thou must save, and thou a - lone.  
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.  
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

\* BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*March*

Lefébure-Wély

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LENT AND EASTER SCHEDULE**— Throughout Lent, we will follow the way of Jesus on the Via Dolorosa, which is Latin for the Way of Sorrow. Traditionally this is a processional route in the Old City of Jerusalem, believed to be the path that Jesus walked on the way to his crucifixion. We are going to look at various stories from Jesus' life where tears and sorrow figured prominently and seek to understand how God through Jesus transforms our lives.

- On Maundy Thursday, April 18, we will gather in the Social Hall at 6:30 pm for soup and at 7:00 pm participate in an interactive service which will conclude with communion.
- Easter Sunday will be filled with bells, trumpets and celebrations including communion.
- Sunday, April 28, is our annual Jazz Sunday.



**LENTEN PRACTICES — Prayer** is an essential part of the Lenten experience. There is a saying that without prayer, fasting is just dieting. Without prayer, almsgiving is just social work. Prayer connects us with our loving God. As an act of preparation for worship, you are invited to read the Scripture that will be used in worship.

**Fasting** helps us focus on God. Sometimes we are called to give up a food item. Sometimes we are called to give up something which is occupying our time, like video games or endless checking on social media. This is a good time to think about what is ruling your life. What is occupying your time and thoughts? Give that thing up. And then when Lent is over, contemplate where your focus went when you no longer had that thing. Were you more able to focus on God and others? If so, try not to let whatever you gave up take over your life again.

**Almsgiving** is the act of giving to the poor. Through almsgiving we share God's love with others and we recognize that the gifts we have are not really our own. If the thing you are fasting from leaves a little extra money in your pocket, then give that money to a worthy charity which helps the poor. You can also donate goods. If you really want to push yourself, give your time in direct service to another. Acts of service can be considered almsgiving, especially if you do them with the intention of sharing your gifts. You might encounter Jesus in the faces of those you are serving. This year as part of your almsgiving you are invited to bring the following items each Sunday for use in our Little Food Pantry. As an act of service, you are invited to help us stock the pantry.

- First Sunday of Lent, March 10 – Canned Vegetables - Isaiah 53:1-12
- Second Sunday of Lent, March 17 – Canned Meat - Luke 7:36-50
- Third Sunday of Lent, March 24 – Granola & Cereal Bars - Matthew 2:13-18
- Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 31 – Oatmeal—Fifth Sunday Mission as Worship
- Fifth Sunday of Lent, April 7 – Canned Ravioli or other canned meals - John 11:17-44
- Palm Sunday, April 14 – Peanut Butter & Jelly - Luke 19:41-44
- Easter Sunday, April 21 (not a Sunday in Lent) – Canned fruit - John 20

**FUNDRAISERS** — Mark your calendars now!!

**Spring Stewardship Auction** Sunday, April 28, 5:00 pm This year the fall stewardship auction will be held in the spring. A Cinco de Mayo themed meal will be provided. If you would like to donate items for the auction, please contact Ellen Hamilton or the church office.

**Strawberry Social**, Wednesday, July 17

**Oktoberfest**, Saturday, September 28

**Trivia Night**, Friday, October 25

**Christkindlmarkt**, Saturday, December 7

**FIFTH SUNDAY MISSION AS WORSHIP** — Please remember that each of our Fifth Sunday Mission as Worship events will have something for all people, regardless of age or physical ability. As the date approaches details will be made available.

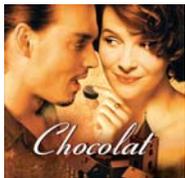
**Sunday, March 31 — BEDS PLUS** Meet at the church at 9:50 and we will carpool to St.

Barbara's 8900 Windemere, Brookfield. There is work for everyone regardless of age or physical ability. Some of us will build new wooden shelves (please bring any appropriate tools you have) and others of us will be able to sit at tables and organize the stuff that goes on the shelves! Once our work is complete there will be a brief service of thanksgiving at the worksite. BEDS Plus is celebrating 30 years of service. Their mission is to help vulnerable individuals stabilize their lives through housing and supportive services. Since 1988, BEDS PLUS has given the homeless a safe place to sleep, hot homemade meals, professional counseling, and the job services they need to become self-sufficient.

**Sunday, June 30 — River Rats.** We will join forces with the River Rats to help beautify and maintain the Des Plaines River.

**Sunday, September 29 — The Boulevard**

**Sunday, December 29 — TBD**



**CHOCOLATE FOR LENT** — Using themes from the 2000 Academy Award nominated film *Chocolat*, our next Theology on Tap series invites us to use Lent and chocolate to gain deeper insights into self-discipline, self-giving, conversion, acceptance and maturing in Christ. Join us Monday, March 18 – Monday, April 15 at 7:00 pm in the parlor for discussion and chocolate desserts!!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** — is open to all ages. In combination with Sunday School, Jr. High Youth group will meet on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am. Volunteers are needed. Sign up outside of the Christian Ed office or contact Diante. **March 17 – The Centurion's Servant**

**LITTLE FOOD PANTRY** — It might surprise you how often we have to restock our Little Food Pantry. Even in the bitter cold, needy people walk over for the benefit of our assistance. Remember in this cold weather, cans pop. Please donate vacuum packed or boxed items. We currently need individual packs of **oatmeal, granola bars, soft cereal bars and individual plastic fruit cups**. Thank you for supporting this worthy mission.

**DAILY DEVOTIONALS** — Copies of the March-April Upper Room are in the rack outside the office.

**CARERS TRUNK MARCH** is for BEDS Plus in LaGrange. BEDS Plus provides safe overnight shelter and services for the homeless. Supplies needed: Ground Decaf Coffee, No Tea, Drink mixes - Lemonade, Cider, Cocoa.

**CHOCOLATE, COFFEE AND TEA** — Fair trade items are offered through the Equal Exchange program. Items are located outside of Dale's office and for sale through the honor system. Proceeds will go to support the Senior High Mission Trip.

**ALL CHURCH WORK DAY** —Mark your calendars for the next All Church Work Day, on Saturday morning, March 16, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. We will be painting the Social Hall. We need persons to apply painter's tape, do edging, and to roll on the paint. All volunteers are welcome. All supplies will be provided.

**PASTOR DALE AWAY** — Pastor Dale will be out of the office March 11-18. Contact the church office with any questions or concerns.

**TREASURER AWAY**—Ellen will be out of the country looking for Bengal tigers March 3-25. Don't worry, she's already paid the light and heat bills!



**SHARE THE HARVEST—Oh the weather outside is frightful, but gardening is so delightful!**

Yes it's winter, but in less than 240 hours, spring will be here. Take time now to look at your outside and see where you could plant a garden for Share the Harvest.

A poster for the Oak Park Concert Choral. The background is a vibrant, abstract painting in shades of red, orange, and pink. In the top left corner, there is a logo for 'OAK PARK CONCERT CHORALE' in a white box. In the top right, the text reads 'Oak Park Concert Choral', 'Paul Lindblad, Director', and 'Michael Wolniakowski, Composer-In-Residence PRESENTS'. In the center, it says 'Sunday, March 31, 4:00 pm', 'Riverside Presbyterian Church', 'Tickets for sale in the church office.', and 'Adults \$18.00; Students & Seniors \$10.00'. At the bottom, the word 'JUBILATE' is written in large, white, serif capital letters.

OAK PARK  
CONCERT  
CHORALE

Oak Park Concert Choral  
Paul Lindblad, Director  
Michael Wolniakowski, Composer-In-Residence  
PRESENTS

Sunday, March 31, 4:00 pm  
Riverside Presbyterian Church  
Tickets for sale in the church office.  
Adults \$18.00; Students & Seniors \$10.00

JUBILATE

**THIS WEEK**

**Today**

10:00 am Worship  
11:00 am Fellowship  
11:00 am Outreach Committee  
11:15 am Support and Endowment

**Monday**

7:30 pm Trustees Meeting

**Tuesday**

6:30 am Men’s Forum

**Wednesday**

4:15 pm Ringers & Singers  
6:30 pm acaBELLa Ringers  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

**Thursday**

6:30 am Women’s Forum  
10:00 am CARERS Meeting

**Sunday**

9:00 am Confirmation Class  
9:00 am Sunday School  
9:00 am Human Scene  
10:00 am Worship  
11:00 am Deacons Potluck  
2:00 Caledonia

**PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE**

**Liturgist:** Elizabeth Musick  
**Ushers:** Jon and Deb Jansky  
**Andrew Minister:** Connie Kelly  
**Trustees of the Month:** Fred Kitch and Cyril Friend  
**Flowers** are given by Connie Nestor in loving memory of her late husband and parents.  
**Coffee Fellowship** is hosted by the Trustees.

**2019 CHURCH LEADERSHIP**

Elders

2019	2020	2021
Jeanine Buttimer	Frank Gangware	Gwen Heine
Patti Friend	Martha Heine	Allan Halline
Susan Lynch	Lynda Nadkarni	Matt Lisle
Lisa Aulerich- Marciniak	Dennis Zander	
	Mary Ann Sadilek, Clerk of Session	

Deacons

Ellen Hamilton	Lloyd Bradbury	Deb Jansky
Sandy Kappmeyer	Charlie Juister	Serina Ranft
Steve Teune	Sally Sloane	Wendy Seifert
	Jeanne Smith	

Trustees

Susan Deems-Dluhy	Patti Perry	Thom DeVries
Cyril Friend	Doug Harvin	Fred Mitchell
Fred Kitch	Hank Vogel	Connie Nestor
Brad Staubus		

**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  
Sermons available at  
<https://vimeo.com/riversidepresbyterian>

**RPC Staff**

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diante\_johnson@yahoo.com  
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