



Leader: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

**People: Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers."**

\*HYMN 82                      *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

CALL TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Holy God, remind us that you have formed us with your own hands, made us in your own image, and placed us in this world to be stewards of your good creation. Made for generous relationships, we have retreated into ourselves. Created for the purpose of making your goodness known, we allow lesser tasks to occupy our time. Forgive our failure to live in the way you made us to live. Renew within us the knowledge of your love so that we may live joyfully and gratefully, sharing what we have. For we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who offered himself for us, and opens to us the way of eternal life.                      (Silence is kept.)**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*THE GLORIA PATRI (# 581)

**Glorify 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

**Almighty God, grant us ears to hear your personality, words and will in today's scripture. Grant us eyes to see you and ourselves in these holy texts. Feed us for the journey ahead and grant us grace to love and**

**serve your purposes. All this we ask, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

FIRST READING	Isaiah 2:1-5	OT p. 631
SECOND READING	Matthew 24:36-44	NT p. 27-28
SERMON	"People Get Ready"	

### **OUR FAITHFUL RESPONSE**

\*HYMN # 87                      *Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH                      *(From the Confession of 1967)*

**In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all. The risen Christ is the Savior of all humanity. Those joined to him by faith are set right with God and commissioned to serve as his reconciling community. Christ is head of this community, the church, which begins with the apostles and continues through all generations. God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals his love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinners. The power of God's love to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of his love.**

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.**

THE OFFERING & OFFERTORY

ANTHEM *In the Bleak Midwinter* arr. Printz

\*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

**GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD**

\*HYMN #88 (v. 1,2,4,7) *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

CHORAL BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Vom Himmel hoch da Komm 'ich her* Pachelbel

**WORSHIP NOTES**

Prelude: *Wie Schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*; Buxtehude  
Anthem: *In the Bleak Midwinter*; arr. Printz  
Postlude: *Vom Himmel hoch da Komm 'ich her*; Pachelbel  
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**PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE**

**Advent Wreath Lighter:** Ginny Yang  
**Greeter:** Lynda Nadkarni  
**Liturgist:** Ellen Hamilton  
**Mini Message:** Lynda Nadkarni  
**Flowers** today are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Frank Musick and in honor of Ginny Yang from Elizabeth Musick.  
**Fellowship** join us for coffee after worship today.  
**Trustees of the Month:** John McGlennon and Henry Vogel



## Riverside Presbyterian Church

116 Barrypoint Road,  
Riverside, IL 60546  
(708) 447-1520, [rpcusa.org](http://rpcusa.org)

**NOVEMBER 27, 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. We will celebrate Pledge Sunday on December 4th so that we have adequate time to consider our resources for budgeting in the coming year. 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!

Frank Svestka, Jr.

Lloyd Bradbury

John Lynch

Jack Smith

Monica and James Wood

Duci Musick, daughter-in-law of Elizabeth Musick

Prayers of comfort and peace for family and friends grieving the death of Valerie Hoover, sister of Lisa Krefft and daughter of Wilma Steenland.



**MESSIAH 2022 — What do these three words have in common?** Happiness, Holidays, and Handel. If you want to add all three H words into your life, come to RPC on December 11 at 4:00 pm. Be ready to be amazed. It is guaranteed to lift your spirit.

**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](mailto:newhorizons002@gmail.com) or 708-822-9557.

**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](mailto:missionandoutreach@rpcusa.org)



**ADVENT DEVOTIONALS** — Two calendars were emailed to the congregation. One, titled Beyond Sunday, is specifically geared towards families. The other, takes on a new look at Advent as it is 40 days long to mirror Lent. If you would like a printed copy, contact the church office.

**CALENDAR TO SUPPORT AGING CARE CONNECTIONS** Our very own Nancy Dvorak has created a calendar featuring seniors from the area including Harriet Kweton and Liz Musick. All proceeds from the calendar will support Aging Care Connections. It may be purchased at the Library or Township Hall for \$10.

**150<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY**—As we wind down the 150<sup>th</sup> 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!



**REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT** – 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.

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AND MARKETPLACE**

—Saturday, December 3 from 8:30 – 12:30. The marketplace will have a dozen different vendors plus a wrapping station. Everything from personalized items and t-shirts to jewelry and candles. Stop on by and shop! If you know a child who would like breakfast with Santa, they can sign up for the meal and photo session at <https://tinyurl.com/rpcpreschoolfundraiser>



**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. **11/27**—Ash Beckham—When To Take a Stand and When To Let it Go



**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.

**THIS WEEK**

**Today**

10:00 am Worship  
11:00 Fellowship  
1:00 pm The Boulevard  
6:00 pm Sundays with TED

**Monday**

5:30 pm Volleyball

**Tuesday**

6:30 am Men’s Forum

**Wednesday**

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

**Thursday**

7:00 am Women’s Forum

**Saturday**

8:30 am Breakfast with Santa  
10:00 am Messiah Choral Rehearsal

**Sunday**

10:00 am Worship-Communion  
11:00 am Fellowship  
6:00 pm Sundays with TED

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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**

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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