

NAME: _____

- First time guest
- Returning guest
- Member
- Interested in membership or Baptism

New Contact Information:

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Opportunities to serve

Random acts of kindness:

- Do something nice for your mail carrier this week.
- Pray for the people, leadership, and ministry of Two Rivers Church.
- Pray for peace in the world.

Two Rivers Outreach Ministry opportunities:

- Donate new or used household items to Operation Safety Net.
- Provide blankets, hats and cheap cotton gloves to Operation Safety Net.
- Donate non-perishable food and hygiene products for our Little Free Pantry.

Worship team opportunities to serve:

- Greeter—Greet people at the West parking lot.
- Usher—Greet people as they come into the service. Help with offering and Communion.
- Tech Support -Video recording, editing, sound board and /or slides. Get behind the scenes and help create a meaningful worship experience for those in the sanctuary and those watching from home.

December 4, 2022

Announcements

We are blessed by your presence, and pray that worship is meaningful for you. You are invited to note your attendance and mailing address on the blue attendance tear-off sheet found in each bulletin. This sheet may be placed in the collection bowl at the front of the sanctuary after service. We encourage family participation in worship. We can provide activity bags for children upon request. Please see an usher for more information. Ushers can also provide you with large print bulletins if needed. We extend a special welcome to you and trust you will experience God's presence today.

Adult Sunday School—10:45 am in the Asbury Parlor

Kids Sunday School—10:45 am starts in Epworth Hall

Swahili Sunday School—10:45 am in the Swahili Class

Discipleship Schedule Monday Bible Study meets in-person every week in Epworth Hall at noon. Wednesday Prayer & Devotion Time also continues to meet on Facebook Live and Zoom at noon every week. Zoom Meeting ID # for Wednesday is 961 006 728. The Zoom meeting can also be joined by phone simply by dial 312-626-6799. Once connected, dial the Meeting ID # 961 006 728, and you will join in the conversation.

Caring Tree Two Rivers Church has again adopted families from Family Resources to help make their Christmas a little more bright. If you would like to purchase gifts for a family, one member of a family, or simply make a donation to the cause to help buy gift cards, please take a candy cane from the caring tree and fill out the back tag with your information and leave it in the basket. The suggested amount to spend per person is \$75-\$100. Gifts need to be unwrapped with the original tag attached and delivered to the church. no later than Thursday, **December 15**.

Holiday Baskets for Seniors Donations of homemade or purchased treats (peanut butter, nut free) cookies, crackers, gum—anything you want, are still being collected and may be left in the kitchen of Epworth Hall. Please mark the donations "Holiday Homebound Baskets" and bring them any time up to/ before service on Sunday, **December 11** when they will be assembled and will be ready for delivery. These baskets are made possible thanks to the gracious people that share their time and efforts to bake, shop, organize and deliver them. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer on this project please contact the church office at 309/788-9384.

Network: Two Rivers Sanctuary
Password: TwoRivers2013
www.TwoRiversUMC.org



Donation QR Code

December 4, 2022
Second Sunday of Advent



[Luke 1:26-38 \(CEB\)](#)

When Elizabeth was six months pregnant, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a city in Galilee, to a virgin who was engaged to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David's house. The virgin's name was Mary. When the angel came to her, he said, "Rejoice, favored one! The Lord is with you!" She was confused by these words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. The angel said, "Don't be afraid, Mary. God is honoring you. Look! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and he will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father. He will rule over Jacob's house forever, and there will be no end to his kingdom."

Then Mary said to the angel, "How will this happen since I haven't had sexual relations with a man?"

The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come over you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the one who is to be born will be holy. He will be called God's Son. Look, even in her old age, your relative Elizabeth has conceived a son. This woman who was labeled 'unable to conceive' is now six months pregnant. Nothing is impossible for God."

Then Mary said, "I am the Lord's servant. Let it be with me just as you have said." Then the angel left her.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

PRELUDE "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" - arr. Giszczak

GREETING

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE - Dick & Kala Lee and Brianna & Abby Pollock

*OPENING HYMN (See Screens) "To a Maid Engaged to Joseph"

*CALL TO CONFESSION - Dick Lee

*CONFESSION

All Patient God, you know just how often we make decisions from a place of fear rather than love. You know just how often we allow fear to take the place of logic, fanning unhealthy fires in our lives. You know just how often we tuck your words, "Do not be afraid" on dusty shelves and in the back of closets, stubbornly holding onto our own point of view. Forgive us for giving fear the microphone. Silence the voices of scarcity, shame, and rejection, which spark and feed so much of our fear, to recenter us in love. With hope, we pray, amen.

One: Family of faith, even when we forget God's words, God does not forget us. Even when we lose our way, God does not lose us. Even when we fall short or make mistakes.

All: God forgives and holds onto us. We are known, forgiven, and loved. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CHORAL OFFERING "Carol For Advent" - Besig
Two Rivers Sanctuary Choir

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

THE CHRISMON Lamb of Victory - Kala Lee

ADVENT POEM "Love Comes Running" by S. Speed - Brianna Pollock

ADVENT REFRAIN #196 "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" vs 1

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION - Dick Lee

All: Holy God, whether it's through angels or music, friendships or sermons, study or nature— when you speak, we long to hear it. In a world as chaotic and broken as ours, we could use your words of hope and healing. With gratitude we pray, amen.

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:26-38 (Annunciation)

SERMON "God Meets Us in Our Fear" - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION (see screens)

You are invited to come forward with your Prayers. If you write down something that causes you fear, confusion, or anxiety, place it in the offering plate. These fears will be named during the Prayers of the People after Communion

COMMUNION MUSIC "Dona Nobis Pacem" - arr. David Thomas

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*DOXOLOGY

*BENEDICTION - Kala Lee

*CLOSING HYMN #206 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" vs 1, 3
(all are invited to place your offering in the offering container at the front of the sanctuary as we sing our closing hymn)

*DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE "Be it Unto Me" - Phillip's Craig and Dean

* You are invited to stand as you are able.
FWS - The Faith We Sing (black hymnal)
UMH - United Methodist Hymnal (red hymnal)
Words of anthem/hymn reprinted under CCLI License

December 4, 2022



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Second Sunday of Advent

Write down the name of something you fear. Great or small, write something that invokes fear, confusion, agitation, or anxiety.

PRAYERS TO SHARE

This prayer will be shared with our e-mail Prayer Chain and in our Wednesday Facebook Live prayer group. Personal details will not be shared on Wednesday.