

DECEMBER 22, 2024

MORNING WORSHIP
4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:30 A.M.

*THE GLORIA PATRI

HYMNAL #579

GREETING THE GATHERED: The Love of Jesus Christ be with you!
ALL: And also with you!

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE | *The Prelude marks the beginning of worship. Please observe silence as the Prelude begins.*

THE CALL TO WORSHIP ---*Luke 1: 46-49*

“My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.”

*THE HYMN OF PRAISE

HYMNAL #41

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Lord Christ, we confess our willingness to be loved but also our reluctance to love.
We confess our readiness to accept your forgiving love but also our refusal to forgive.
We confess our eagerness to grasp your offer of redeeming love,
but also our resistance to follow you without question.
In this Advent time, forgive us our failure to respond as we should.
Come to us anew, and by your grace, assist us to receive you with joy, as the shepherds;
with gratitude, as Simeon; with obedience, as Mary; with love, as you have loved us.
Even so, come Lord Jesus. Amen.

THE SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION FOR OUR INDIVIDUAL SIN

THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law
and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.
For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God;
they are now justified by God’s grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.
ALL: Thanks be to God!

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE | *LOVE*
B.J., Hannah & Stan Horton

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

THE ANTHEM

THE SERMON TEXT | Luke 1: 39-45 (*NT p. 57*)

THE MESSAGE | “Blessed Among Women ”

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | THE APOSTLES’ CREED

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE OFFERING & THE OFFERTORY

*THE DOXOLOGY

THE DEDICATION AND PASTORAL PRAYER WITH OUR LORD’S PRAYER

*THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

“Joy to the World!”

HYMNAL #40

THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*PASSING THE PEACE AND BEARING CHRIST’S PEACE TO THE WORLD

*THE POSTLUDE

**All Who Are Able Please Stand*

WELCOME & INVITATION

*This church welcomes you, no matter who you are,
where you come from, or why you are here.*

*We are Christ's people,
and this is Christ's place with its doors open wide.*

*If you are passing through, Godspeed;
if you are looking for a home, stay here;
if you need instruction, learn from us as we learn from you.
We invite visitors to join us, but most of all, to return often.*

We are so glad you are here.

Profession of Faith with the Pastor

*If you have never made a profession of faith and asked Christ
to be the Lord of your life, Pastor Jody will be happy to help you begin that journey today.
He is available to meet in the Pastor's Study each Sunday immediately following
worship to discuss the gift of salvation God has prepared for us all.
Just ask him during greeting time after worship if he has a few minutes to talk.*

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: The RPC Office is open Monday through Wednesday
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM, & Thursday, 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

RPC Staff

Rev. Dr. Jody Hill | Pastor
Jennifer Huddleston | Choir Director
Lynn Hill | Administrator & Pianist
Sue Ellen Miller | Organist
Blake McGaughy | Handbell Director

RPC 2024 Session Members

Moderator Rev. Dr. Jody Hill
Class of 2026 | Price Elliott, Vince Jordan, & Ann Wigington
Class of 2025 | Kenny Hill
Class of 2024 | Bobby Elliott & Shea Scott
Clerk of Session | Lynn Hill



RIPLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*The mission of Ripley Presbyterian Church is to glorify and love God and love people by meeting
them where they are and encouraging them toward a lifelong joyous relationship with Christ.*

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Dr. Jody Hill | Pastor

Phone: 662-837-3765 (Office)
Mail: P.O. Box 556 Ripley, MS 38663
302 West Cooper Street

www.ripleypresbyterianchurch.com

Please Note...

If you purchased a poinsettia, please collect after the worship service today. Thank you!

Today, December 22 | Christmas Joy Offering

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we lift up past, present, and future leaders of the church. God has blessed the church with incredible leadership in every time and place, but those leaders often need to be supported by their communities as well. This Offering provides support for Presbyterian church workers and their families in their time of need, and leadership development and education for communities of color at Presbyterian-related school and colleges equipping communities of color.

December 24 | Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service | 5:00 pm

The RPC Office will be closed Dec. 24 – Dec. 26th.

Sanctuary Floral Arrangement dates available January 5th, 12th, 19th, & 26th.

To provide flowers in memory/honor of a loved one, contact Lynn Hill
(lynn@xcavators-inc., or call/text 662-837-6678).

Contributions to the RPC/PW Flower Fund are greatly appreciated.

If you want a particular date to provide flowers on a Sunday morning,
please reserve that date with Lynn in advance. Arrangements typically run \$35 each.

The RPC Organ Maintenance & Upgrade Fund

This special fund is designated toward maintenance and much-needed upgrades for our pipe organ – one of the very few still in use in the state of Mississippi.

If you would like to contribute toward this fund in honor or memory of an individual, or simply offer a donation, please make out your check to

“Ripley Presbyterian Church” and write “RPC Organ Fund” in the memo line.

RPC Weekly Financial Update

RPC Weekly 2024 Budget: \$3,148.67 Offering Received 12/15/24: \$3,475.00

Worship Attendance 12/15/24: 75



RPC DECEMBER MISSION FOCUS | Living Waters for the World (PC/USA Mission)

Goal: \$500 | Total Collected as of 12/15/24: \$1,125.00

Living Waters for the World (LWW) is a ministry of the Synod of Living Waters of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Believing God intends for all people to have clean water, Living Waters for the World, via enduring relationships, empowers its partners to provide long-lasting clean sustainable water for their communities. LWW water treatment systems and related educational programs address a critical niche of the world water crisis—communities with available but contaminated water. Long-term access to clean water is achieved by empowering mission teams to form partnerships with institutions, provide water treatment systems and related health education materials to their partners, train their partners to implement, operate and maintain their water systems, and lead ongoing support of its water system partners via a series of regional networks. Living Waters for the World clean water systems have now been installed at more than 750 sites in 25 nations.

PRAYER LIST FOR IMMEDIATE NEEDS

Verna McCabe (Donna McGaughy's mother), Judy Austin, Bro. Ronnie Barefield, Kaye Smith (Benton Elliott's mother), Caleb McAlister, Paulette Campbell, Trent Rogan, Spencer Anderson (4 yr old grandson of Tommy & Nell Hill), Martha Reid, Teresa Rhea, Don Heavener, Leanna Davis, Max Evans, John Parks, Larry Cooper, Anita Decker, Charles & Betty Holland, Phillip Verdung, Carl Nance III, Jennifer Childs, Greg Harrell, Kathy Williams, David Adams, Bradford Hopper, John Walker, Mickey Hill, Jan Robertson, Helen Beavers, Margie Sharp, Eddie Drewery, Tina Bonds, Rita Witt, Mary Lesterston, Donald Stubenrauch, (relatives of Randle Beavers), Shirley Huddleston, Randle & Sue Huddleston, Talana Flake, Pembroke Bonham, William Bonham, Hank Nelson (infant), Jamie Wall, Carl Witt, David Morrow, Donna Daniel, Laura Hines, Dr. Sharon Enzor, Robert Hughes, Hannah H. Jones, Gunner Duncan, Deanna Hartman, Jane Tisdale, Freddy Daniel, Jackie Cooksey, Helen Parks, Brad Sullivan, Wayne Steverson, Ali Rae Barkley, Tina Sanford, Gayle & Harvey Childers, Leah & Miles Harrell.

If you wish to have a name removed or added to this list, please contact the church office.

Our Deepest Sympathies to....

The family of Bobby Guyton Horton

Our Homebound, Assisted Living & Nursing Home Residents

Carolyn Caviness, Johnny Cappleman

DECEMBER 22 | CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING



Thank You

Through the Christmas Joy Offering,
we come together to support past,
present and future leaders,
embodying God's perfect gift to us,
Jesus Christ.

**WHEN WE ALL DO A LITTLE,
IT ADDS UP TO A LOT.**

 **CHRISTMAS JOY**
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
LEADERSHIP, PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

DECEMBER 1 - DECEMBER 22

DECEMBER 24
CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE
5:00 PM





*Christmas Eve
Candlelight Communion
Service*

24TH of DECEMBER
5:00 PM
RIPLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HOPE · PEACE · JOY · LOVE



*Communion Prep Team: Diane Bailey, Shirley McClain,
Sue Ellen & Max Miller, & Melinda Marsalis*