

Welcome to **River Community Church**

Sunday Morning Worship

Order of Worship

December 31st at 10:30am

New Years Eve

Rev. JM Owens III - Pastor | Rev. Steve Rhodes - Pastor Emeritus
Kevin Raske - Music Director

Prelude

Lead On, O King Eternal *Shutleff (1887); Based on Arr. by Cowden Hall Band*

Welcome & Announcements

God Calls Us to Himself

***Call to Worship** *Based on Daniel 2:20-22*

Let us sanctify the name of God forever and ever, to Whom belongs wisdom and might. It is He who changes times and seasons, who removes and sets up kings, who gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding. To You, O God, we offer thanks and praise.

***Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise** *Smith (1867); Arr. Raske*

***Praising God Who Is with Us**

We Bring Ourselves to God

***Ancient of Days** *Reeves, Farren, Robinson, Thompson*

A Prayer for the Year's End

Almighty and most merciful Father, You are the source of our life from year to year. As we look back on the year that is now closing, we give thanks to you for your many gifts and graces, we grieve over our losses and failures, and we confess that we have not been the people we would like to be. Thank you that you do not judge us based on our annual performance, but based on the righteousness of Jesus Christ our Lord!

In this new year, grant that we may become less desirous of temporary pleasures and more concerned about the eternal wellbeing of our selves and our neighbors. Teach us to number our days, that our minds may be more turned from vanity and

folly, more enlightened with the knowledge of Your will, and more invigorated with power to obey You.

O Lord, calm our thoughts, comfort our hearts, direct our desires, and fortify our purposes, that we may walk with cheerful confidence in the path which You have appointed for us, growing wiser and stronger in the Spirit as we advance in years; and so support us by Your grace that we may live in Your favor and die in Your peace, according to your plans for us, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God Reassures Us of His Grace *John 15:7-8*

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

***Abide With Me** *Lyte (1847)*

We Give Thanks to God

Giving of Tithes & Offerings

Children ages 3-5 may be taken to the nursery during the offering.

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah *Words: Williams (1745); Tune: Casella (2002)*

***Doxology** *Ken (1709)*

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

God Speaks to Us

The Word of God Read *John 1:19-34*

The Word of God Proclaimed *Rev. Steve Rhodes*

"Jesus is the Lamb"

Who is Jesus? Explorations in John 1

Responding to God's Word in Prayer *concluding with the Lord's Prayer*

God Feeds Us

Invitation & Exhortation

Prayer of Consecration

The Bread & the Cup

Prayer of Dedication

God Blesses Us

***All Glory Be to Christ** *Kensrue*

***Benediction**

***Respond with Song** *All Creatures of Our God & King (Refrain) St. Francis (1225)*

O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Please Stand

Weekly Announcements

December 31st, 2023–January 7th, 2024

Bonfire This Evening

Join us this evening at 5:30pm!

We look forward to near perfect bonfire weather this evening, and we hope you will invite your friends and family to join us at 5:30pm! We will have food for the entire family, and you are welcome to stay as long as you like. No loud fireworks, please! (Mortars, bottle rockets, Saturn missiles, etc.)

The men of the church will set up the tents, tables, and chairs immediately following the service this morning. Cooks, food providers, and other helpers are encouraged to arrive no later than 5:00pm to prep.

Congregational Meeting: January 7th

We meet next week to vote to leave the EPC and receiving the budget.

Make plans to remain after worship next week, as we have our congregational meeting and vote to leave the EPC. This is a very important vote in the life of our congregation, and we want everyone to be here if possible. During the course of the meeting, we will also receive the annual budget report and approve some PCA-related changes to Pastor Trey's Terms of Call.

Spring Studies

Wednesday Night and Women's Studies resume the week of January 14th.

Mark your calendars for the third week of January for two adult studies that will begin on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning, respectively:

- ▶ **The Basics of Evangelism in a Post-Christian Culture**
Beginning Wednesday, January 17th at 6:00pm.
Led by Pastor Trey for all adults and youths; childcare will be provided.
- ▶ **Women's Study: Thessalonians – Hope through Grace**
Beginning Thursday, January 18th at 9:30am.
Led by Dana Sutton; childcare will be provided.

No Youth Fellowship

Sunday Night Youth Fellowship will resume January 7th.

Make sure to grab a prayer request/connection card to let us know you're here and how we can be praying for you!

For giving options, please visit rivercommunity.org/give



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10:30AM

Prairieville, LA