

The Year(s) Of Following Jesus #207 1/2 The Promise Of Christmas

December 23, 2025

A Note From Pastor Ed... Welcome to Riverside and thank you for sharing your Christmas Eve with us. It's my favorite service of the year and I'm so thankful you decided to be a part of it. But what is this night really all about? I mean this baby that was born in a no-name town over 2,000 years ago is somehow still causing gridlock around the world- even here in our corner of the world (have you been to the Dimond Center or Tikahtnu in the last few days?). How is that possible?

Well, it's not mainly because of the way He was born. That baby that we love to sing about and think about grew up. And when He did He made some outrageous claims about what He could do for the human heart. And His teachings were so radical they got Him killed (how dare He tell us to love each other, right?). After He was killed there were 120 people who claimed that He was alive again. Not in a metaphorical sense- they claimed to have touched Him and eaten with Him after seeing Him killed. These 120 people had no power, no influence, no money and no education. Heck if you were to look down from an alien spaceship on the day the church began and saw this ragtag group of 120 misfits in the midst of the massive and powerful Roman Empire you wouldn't have given them much chance of enduring. And yet here we are 2,000 years later and we name our children Peter and Paul and Mary and Martha and we call our dogs Nero and Brutus and Barkus Aurelius. How did that happen?

Well the only explanation that makes sense to me is that this group of people really did see Him alive after He was crucified. Nothing else makes sense. Add to that the fact that Jesus is still transforming human hearts to this day. In every century, on every continent and every culture you will find followers of this man who was born in Bethlehem. And now He wants to do the same thing in your life. I hope you will make Jesus' Christmas complete by making the choice tonight to let Him.

Merry Christmas from all of us at Riverside Community Church.



Welcome to
Riverside
Community Church
Merry Christmas!





Good Stuff To Know

Candle Lighting- Each person is invited to get a candle for the service. We will be lighting our candles toward the end of the service. When the lighting begins, the room will be dark so prepare young ones as needed. Once finished, you may keep the candle or return it. (There are fire extinguishers located throughout the building ;0)

Riverside Services Online- If you aren't in town on the weekend, you can still follow our services. We live stream each service on Facebook! You can also watch them anytime through Facebook, YouTube or Riverside's website (www.eagleriverside.com).

Join Us For Our Regular Weekend Services:
Saturday at 6 pm or Sunday at 10 AM or 11:30 AM

***NO services December 27 & 28**

Contact Us at...

Ed - 907.306.2823, ednjude@gmail.com
Aniela - 907.748.1556, anielawhah@gmail.com
Nate - 907.360.4825, nrsandback@gmail.com
Cassie - 907.360.2996

Christmas Eve 2025

Behold

Welcome

O Come O Come Emmanuel

Luke 2:1-14

Mary Did You Know

Luke 2:15-20

What Child Is This

Luke 2:15-20

Angels We Have Heard on High

Lord's Supper

Silent Night *(Lighting of the Candles)*

Joy To The World

**Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Christ, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."*

Luke 2:11-12 (NIV)

**And we know that all that happens to us is working for our good if we love God and are fitting into his plans.*

Romans 8:28 (TLB)

Everybody's Welcome ~ Nobody's Perfect ~ Anything's Possible



- *Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Christ, the Lord. This will be a sign*

to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

—Luke 2:11-12 (NIV)

- *And we know that all that happens to us is working for our good if we love God and are fitting into his plans.*

—Romans 8:28 (TLB)