ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Sunday After Christmas

December 31, 2023

9:45 A.M.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

The bells ring three times to represent the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

WELCOME Daniel deShazo

PRELUDE *Silent Night* arr. Joel Raney

***HYMN NO. 246** *Joy to the World* ANTIOCH

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** 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 Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at 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 Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI** GREATOREX

Glory 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. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. Nancy Harper

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you,
All: And also with you.

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall; oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ the babe is Lord of all. Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing: Christ the babe is lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Nancy Harper

Leader: The Lord be with you,
All: And also with you.
Leader: Let us pray.

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

RESPONSE

OFFERTORY PRAYER Rev. Tony Johnson

OFFERTORY *The Work of Christmas* arr. Dan Forrest
Daniel deShazo, soloist

GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY** VENI EMMANUEL

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

SERMON New Year's Eve Rev. Tony Johnson
Scripture: Ezekiel 37:1-14
Pew Bible OT 987

***HYMN NO. 251** *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* GO TELL IT

***INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

***BENEDICTION** Rev. Tony Johnson

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Joy to the world, the lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

***POSTLUDE** *Swiss Noel* Louis-Claude Daquin

*Please stand as you are able.

Communion will be served in the prayer chapel after the 9:45 service.

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Musicians
Daniel deShazo, Minister of Music and Worship Arts
Walt Rogers, Organ
Kathy Wallace, Piano

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FLOWERS

To the glory of God, given by Carol Faulkner
In celebration of Lynne Shank's birthday, given by Steve Shanks, her children, her grandchildren, and 26 years of her RDS students

WELCOME

We're so glad that you've chosen Riverchase UMC today where our mission is to Share the Joy of Christ. If you'd like to know more about Riverchase UMC we invite you to visit our website at Riverchaseumc.org or email Ruth Howald at RuthH@riverchaseumc.org. If you'd prefer to talk to someone then feel free to call the church office at 205-987-4030.
If you're looking for a new church to call home, we encourage you to be our guest for several weeks before deciding, so you get a good feel for who we are and what we're about.
We hope you enjoy your experience today at Riverchase UMC where we exist to Share the Joy of Christ.

Tony

NURSERY

Beginning with our youngest friends, at 6 weeks old, and ending with 2-year olds, we begin laying the foundations of faith with song, dance, bubbles, laughter, and love! Our nursery workers are happy to provide a safe, loving, and secure nursery for your child from 9:45 AM - 12:15 PM.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Each Sunday at 9:45 AM, children (3K to 5th grade) explore the Bible through interactive lessons, stories, crafts, games, and hands-on learning in Riverchase's Sunday School classes for children. These engaging lessons assist parents in providing a foundation of faith.

Parents must check children in and out of classrooms. Look for our Children's Ministry Assistants on Sunday morning to help you find your child's classroom.

Children's Sunday School Schedule

9:35-9:45 AM - Drop off in Sunday School Classroom

9:50 AM - All classes gather in the Children's Worship Center for Large Group

10:10 AM - All classes return to their classrooms for Small Group

10:45 AM - Pick up in Sunday School Classroom

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

RUMC LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET

Yes---it *is* time to begin writing for RUMC's 2024 Lenten Devotional Booklet! This may be our most eagerly anticipated publication, and we are pleased to announce this year's theme---

Rejoice in The Lord Always! -Philippians 4:4-7

People want to begin reading on Ash Wednesday, February 14th, so you have only January to write and submit your piece, and we need 46!

Simply follow these guidelines: • Include your name, title, & selected scripture, add your personal story, and a brief prayer • Keep all of this to one, typed page or less. • E-mail it to: nancyh@riverchaseumc.org. We are excited to read your devotional experiences and stories that point to the Power of our God!

CHURCH WIDE DINNER- JANUARY 10

Join us Wednesday, January 10th at 6:00 PM in the Gym to kick off the new year. Eat a meal in fellowship with our Riverchase family as we introduce the North Alabama Conference theme for 2024.

Theme: Living the Story of Jesus: All for the Glory of God
Speaker: Bill Ivey

For more information and to register, go to www.riverchaseumc.org/event/church-wide-dinner/

OPEN PICKLEBALL SESSIONS – THURSDAYS 4-7PM

RUMC is now offering open Pickleball Sessions in our gym. These run weekly on Thursdays from 4:00 - 7:00 PM and on a come and go as you please basis. No reservations are required and there will be no cost to play. Pickleball is truly a game for all stages and all ages. So, please consider coming to a session and check it out. Equipment will be provided should you need it. Contact Mark Bourgoin at umaine@bellsouth.net with any questions. See you on the courts!

WAYS TO GIVE

CASH OR CHECK

You can always give to Riverchase by cash or check. We have a time of giving during each service, you can bring your gift to the church office, or you can mail your gift to:

Riverchase UMC
Attn: Mary Anne Levet
1953 Old Montgomery Hwy
Birmingham, AL 35244

YOUR BANK'S ONLINE OPTIONS

Many banks now offer online bill payment services. These can be set up for one-time giving or for regularly scheduled gifts; each system is different but you can use the street address above and/or these email addresses: maryannel@riverchaseumc.org or finance@riverchaseumc.org. If you'd like to use this option and need more information from us, please contact Mary Anne Levet.

TEXT-TO-GIVE

Our text giving number is (833) 273-1232. Text the word BUDGET and an amount, the word BLDG (for the building fund) and an amount, or the word MISSIONS and an amount to the same number. You can make multiple gifts with a single text by sending, for example, BUDGET 100 BLDG 50 MISSIONS 50 to (833) 273-1232.

ON-LINE GIVING:

We have several options: ENGAGE, PayPal, and Venmo. Scan one of the QR codes below, or use one of these links/websites:
riverchaseumc.org/engage OR engage.suran.com/rumcal

YOU CAN GIVE THROUGH ENGAGE WITHOUT CREATING AN ACCOUNT.

paypal.me/RiverchaseUMC
Use the PayPal app to send money to @RiverchaseUMC
Use the Venmo app to send money to our Charity account @RiverchaseUMC

RIVERCHASE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 31, 2023

First Sunday After Christmas

9:45 A.M.

Our mission is to make disciples by Sharing the Joy of Christ!

Riverchase United Methodist Church
1953 Old Montgomery Hwy, Hoover, AL 35244
Telephone: 205-987-4030
www.riverchaseumc.org

facebook.com/riverchaseumc
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youtube.com/riverchaseunitedmethodistchurch