

ORDER OF WORSHIP

November 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent

9:30 A.M.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

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

PRELUDE

E'en So, Lord Jesus

Paul Manz

† HYMN NO. 211

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles’ Creed

Rev. John Ray

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.

WELCOME

Rev. Tony Johnson

MEET & GREET

Rev. Tony Johnson

What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are
keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Edna & Gene Shell

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who
dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

Holy Father, you are the hope in our messy world. This Advent, help us
slow down, listen to your voice, and focus on what is really important. We
place our hope in you as we prepare our hearts to celebrate your birth.
Amen.

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars
to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus. In him there is no
darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light
of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Nancy Harper

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Nancy Harper

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.

HYMN NO. 202

People Look East

BESANCON

(Please Remain Seated)

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: love, the guest, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall
brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today: love, the star, is on the way.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rev. Tony Johnson

OFFERTORY

Away in a Manger

arr. Mack Wilberg

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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

SERMON

Come Together for a Nostalgic Riverchase Christmas

"Hope is on the Way"

Bad Decisions?

Rev. Tony Johnson

Scripture: Judges 2:16-19

Pew Bible: OT 270

† HYMN NO. 196

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

During this hymn, we invite you to be in a time of prayer. If so led, you are
welcome to come to the altar rail to pray.

† INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

† BENEDICTION

Rev. Tony Johnson

† CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Isreal’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

† POSTLUDE

People, Look East

arr. Anna Laura Page

† Congregation stands, **Bold** congregation read aloud, ***Bold Italic*** congregation sings.

Musicians

Daniel deShazo, Minister of Music and Worship Arts

Walt Rogers, Organ

Kathy Wallace, Piano

Sanctuary Choir

Acolyte

Oliver deShazo

ALTAR FLOWERS

In memory of Buck and Kay Clark given by Gay Blalock

In celebration of the beginning of Advent Season given by Carol Faulkner

DONUT SPONSORS

This week’s Lickin’ Good Donuts are sponsored by the Ages &
Stages Sunday School Class

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

For all upcoming events please visit our website
www.riverchaseumc.org/news/



Angel Tree

Help a child in need experience the joy of Christmas this year. Support our Angel Tree mission by signing up to support an Angel.

- Angel Tree will be online and in-person.
- Online: You will sign up with your request for an angel, and the angel will be emailed back. Available as of 11/3.
- In-person dates: (table set up in the Welcome Center) 11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 11/30.

All returning packages must be returned no later than December 3rd to be counted and disseminated to the agencies. Packages can be returned just inside the narthex on Sunday mornings and main office during the week. every Sunday in November or online. RUMC continues to support many missions during the Christmas season. Any Questions: Contact Amy Luther at 205.369.9753 or amyluther254@gmail.com

Advent and Christmas 2025

Music Ministry Christmas Celebration

Sunday, December 7, in 9:30 & 11:00AM
Traditional Worship Services

Family Christmas Dinner

Wednesday, December 10, at 6:00 PM, in the Gym
Reservations required.

ADVENTure at Angel Workshop

Sunday, December 14, 2PM
in the Children’s Worship Center

Campfire Christmas

Sunday, December 14, 5:00PM,
at the Event Center Pavillion

Wednesday, December 24, Christmas Eve
Candlelight Communion Services:

Traditional 11:00AM, 3:00 PM, 5:00 PM, and 11:00 PM, in the
Sanctuary
Modern Service, at 5:00 PM, in The Gym

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.

Tom

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 9:30 AM - 12:15 PM.

CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Each Sunday at 9:30AM, 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

9:20-9:30 AM - Drop off in Sunday School Classroom
9:35 AM - All classes gather in the Children’s Worship Center for Large Group
10:00 AM - All classes return to their classrooms for Small Group
10:30 AM - Pick up in Sunday School Classroom

WAYS TO GIVE

Automatic Bank Draft:

Set up a monthly recurring ACH gift with the church office or use services provided by your bank for automated giving.

Online Giving:

Use our website riverchaseumc.org/give to set up a one-time or recurring payment from your bank account, credit card or debit card.

Cash or Check:

You may place your cash or check in the offering plates as they are passed or mail to the church office.

Engage



PayPal



Venmo



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

Riverchase United Methodist Church
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www.riverchaseumc.org

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