



May 17, 2026
Seventh Sunday of Easter



3400 North Atlantic Avenue
Cocoa Beach, Florida 32931
321-783-6085
www.RiversidePC.org

On behalf of Riverside Presbyterian, it is our pleasure to welcome you to worship this morning. The opportunity to worship together as the Family is one of God's greatest gifts. It is our hope that this time and place will be a grounding place for us all, one that enables us to live as freely and fully as God intends.

STEWARDSHIP



To support the ministry of Riverside Presbyterian Church, contributions may be sent to the church office or you may pledge electronically at www.riversidepc.org or scan the QR code on the left to give through tithely.com.

Do you want to get a head start in preparing for Sunday worship? The Sunday worship bulletin is now being linked in the Friday e-mail, together with the livestreaming web link, which are also posted on the church's website: riversidepc.org. The worship service is livestreamed and available on the church's website: <https://www.riversidepc.org/watch-live>. Please spread the word to those who are interested in worshipping with us online.

The term "voluntary" is used to denote a piece of music or improvisation for instrument, played before, during, or at the end of a church service.

Easter tide, or the **Easter Season**, begins on Easter Sunday and continues until Pentecost in the Christian liturgical calendar for a total span of seven weeks. We celebrate Easter more than just Easter Sunday because it is the defining event of Christianity, and so the Church has always observed it for longer than the Day itself. The liturgical color is white or gold, the Pascal candle is kept lit and the worship services end with a special "Alleluia." Scripture lessons during this season are from the New Testament only (except for Easter Sunday), saying what happened after the Resurrection. The Thursday in the sixth week of Easter marks Ascension Day, as Jesus was taken up into heaven.

SESSION

Class of 2026

Teri Beeler
Anda Ray
Ann Stone

Class of 2027

Bob Howard
Meghan Johnson
Paula Yost

Class of 2028

Girard Middleton
Carl Plaughter (26)
Tom White (26)

DIACONATE

Class of 2026

Janice Eastes
Carolyn Hattaway
Tammy Ivan

Class of 2027

Jorge Castillo

Class of 2028

Martha Williams
Fern Wolle
Bob Yost

The May issue of our newsletter *Down by the Riverside* has been sent out by email. If you wish to have a hard copy, it is available in the church office and the narthex. If you're interested in receiving our electronic monthly newsletter (except for January and July), please leave your e-mail address. If you wish to receive a hard copy by mail, please call the church office at 321-783-6085.

Lectionary Readings for Today (Year A):

Acts 1:6-14; *Psalm* 68:1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

✦ Standing for those who are able

People's response in ***bold & italic*** type

APPROACHING THE THRONE OF GRACE

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP: *“Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you”* (1 Peter 5:6-7).

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

Bob Yost

GREETINGS & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE SHARED

Pastor Bill Teng

Christ is risen. ***The Lord is risen indeed***

. . . The grace and peace of the risen Lord be with you. ***And also with you.***

VOLUNTARY

Aria “Verdant Meadows” from Alcina

G.F. Handel (1735)/arr. Schreiner (2024)

Diana Amtower, *Organ*

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

Call on the name of the Lord in praise;
make known God's deeds among the nations!

Sing to God with joyful songs; tell of his wonderful deeds!

Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again;

death no longer has dominion over him.

We celebrate our risen Lord, acknowledging the light of Christ
which overcomes the darkness of sin and death.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

✦ HYMN #239

“Good Christian All, Rejoice and Sing!”

GELOBT SEI GOTT

✦ PRAYER OF ADORATION

STIRRING OF THE SPIRIT

“Great Things”

“Good, Good Father”

Phil Wickham (2018)

Chris Tomlin (2015)

Psalm 66 Praise Band / Keaton Belliveau, *Leader*

MAKING OUR CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty Spirit, Lord of life and Creator of all: We acknowledge that we were created for your pleasure, yet we have often turned away from you, refusing your grace, and disregarding your gracious commands. We have not always cherished the unity that we have in you as your people.

Forgive our stubborn selfishness and self-centeredness, O Lord, and draw us near to your heart, that there we may find rest, unity, and assurance of all your goodness and grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

SILENT REFLECTION (*Reflecting on the Prayer of Confession*)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

... Friends, believe the Good News. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God. Amen.

✠PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST
... The Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

GIVING TO GOD

TIME FOR CHILDREN & FUSION YOUTH

Elder Anda Ray

CALL TO OFFERING

Pastor Teng

OFFERTORY

"You Are!"
Chancel Choir / Diana Amtower, *Director*

Mary McDonald (2026)

✠DOXOLOGY #606

OLD HUNDREDTH

✠PRAYER OF DEDICATION

READING AND HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-14 (*New Testament, p. 235*)
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Elder Tom White

✠HYMN #846

"Fight the Good Fight"

DUKE STREET

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — John 17:1-11 (*New Testament, p. 111*)
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor Teng

SERMON

"That They May Be One"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; 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 #300

"We Are One in the Spirit"

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

✠CHARGE AND BLESSING

✠SENDING SONG

"Stand In Your Love"
Psalm 66 Praise Band / Keaton Belliveau, *Leader*

Bethel Music (2018)



This Sunday's flowers are given to the glory of God by **Bill & Judy Anderson**
and in celebration of their **55th Wedding Anniversary.**



CELEBRATING RIVERSIDE'S 70TH YEAR OF MINISTRY IN 2026

DID YOU KNOW? In 1994, while Forrest Gump was comparing life to a box of chocolates, Riverside Presbyterian Church was wrapping up its fourth decade in Cocoa Beach. Stop by the display tables in Fellowship Hall to see more fun facts about church history as we celebrate our 70th year of loving and faithful service to the community. And mark your calendar for May 30, when we will have our first of three **"Paying it Forward"** church workdays to spruce up our grounds.



Tuesday nights at 5:30 p.m. in Calvin Hall our Youth ages 12 - 18 come together in a safe, relaxed, and inviting place to gather together. As the group grows, one or more rooms in Calvin Hall will become a space where young people can belong, laugh, and be themselves.

Evenings will include social time (and sometimes dinner!), games, movies, and a cozy coffee-house atmosphere, followed by a short, Bible-based conversation grounded in faith and real life.

Please pray that youth will respond by being here!



SERMON NOTES

Please pray for **Nancy Ragland** and her family as her mother, **Joan Hart**, died on Tuesday at the age of 97. A Celebration of Life Service for Joan will be held at the Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church in Indialantic at 11:00 a.m. on **Monday, June 22** and her ashes will be interred at the Riverside Memorial Garden at 1:00 p.m. afterwards.



Next Sunday, being the **Day of Pentecost**, when we celebrate the birthday of the Church in the coming of the Holy Spirit, all are encouraged to wear something **RED** to symbolize the “tongues of fire” that descended upon the disciples in the Upper Room on the Day of Pentecost. Afterwards, we will also have a chance to enjoy fellowship and **Banana Split Sundaes** in the Fellowship Hall.

Riverside Campus Workday — In honor of our **70th Anniversary**, we will have a “**Campus Work Day**” on **Saturday, May 30, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.** to keep our campus beautiful and inviting. Our church campus is a beautiful space, and we want to keep it that way! We’re organizing a workday for the front of the church to make it an even more welcoming for everyone. Enjoy the fellowship and the satisfaction of making our campus look its best! We will do simple gardening and planting new plants such as Cast Iron plant, Coontie plant, Oyster plants. If you are interested, please let **Coleen Bowman, Marilyn Grigsby, Judy George, Pam Weiger** or **Anda Ray** know.



A new cross has been erected in our courtyard in the crossways between the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, and Knox Hall. The small old wooden cross, which was savaged from the demolished Chapel in 2018, was vandalized and broken last week. Thanks to **Dana Makepeace** from **Viking Fence & Deck** in Rockledge (who donated the material) and our own **Chuck Torgler** (initiative and labor), the new one is now standing in its place.

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

Happy Birthday! May Birthdays

Douglas Olds	5/1	Doug Kasimier	5/21
Martha Williams	5/8	Girard Middleton	5/22
Jorge Castillo	5/14	Wayne Ivan	5/24
Carolyn Hattaway	5/15	Gerry Harris	5/31
Carol Roldan	5/20		



Lift your prayers this week to the Throne of Grace for: **Walter Scott, Cathy Pfeiffer, Joe Fanning, Paula Yost, Rebecca Burns, Jane Lovett, Bill Cheney, Linda Harris, Clift Schmitt, Glenn Stout, Roxanne Stout, Jorge & Coleen Castillo, Evelyn Whitehurst;** peace for Ukraine, Iran, Cuba, and the Middle East.

DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

- Monday** Morning: Psalms 97; 145 / Evening: Psalms 124; 115
Joshua 1:1-9; Ephesians 3:1-13; Matthew 8:5-17
- Tuesday** Morning: Psalms 98; 146 / Evening: Psalms 66; 116
1 Samuel 16:1-13a; Ephesians 3:14-21; Matthew 8:18-27
- Wednesday** Morning: Psalms 99; 147:1-11 / Evening: Psalms 9; 118
Isaiah 4:2-6; Ephesians 4:1-16; Matthew 8:28-34
- Thursday** Morning: Psalms 47; 147:12-20 / Evening: Psalms 68; 113
Zechariah 4:1-14; Ephesians 4:17-32; Matthew 9:1-8
- Friday** Morning: Psalms 96; 148 / Evening: Psalms 49; 138
Jeremiah 31:27-34; Ephesians 5:1-32; Matthew 9:9-17
- Saturday** Morning: Psalms 92; 149 / Evening: Psalms 23; 114
Ezekiel 36:22-27; Ephesians 6:1-24; Matthew 9:18-26
- Sunday** Morning: Psalms 93; 150 / Evening: Psalms 136; 117
Deuteronomy 16:9-12; Acts 4:18-21, 23-33; John 4:19-26

WHAT HAPPENED ON THIS DAY IN CHRISTIAN HISTORY

✦ On this day in 1527, **Michael Sattler**, an early Anabaptist leader, was placed on trial in Rotenberg for his faith. He refused legal counsel, saying the issues against him were spiritual and religious, not secular and legal. He was convicted and sentenced to be led to a place of execution where his tongue would be cut out, his body tortured with hot tongs, and his life taken by fire. On May 20, he was executed at the stake, and shortly afterward his wife was martyred by drowning. ✦ On this day in 1776, Presbyterian minister **Rev. John Witherspoon** of Princeton preached a sermon that had a catalytic effect of the founding of the United States of America. Until then, Witherspoon had opposed the “rebellion,” but his message that day centered on the biblical doctrine of divine providence, and he argued that even things that seem harmful and destructive can become instruments of God’s will. He said that liberty was God’s gift to all of creation. Witherspoon later became a signer of the *Declaration of Independence* and a member of the Continental Congress. ✦ Today is the birthday of the **Conservative Baptist Association of America**, formed on May 17, 1947, in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Now known as **Venture Church Network**, CBAmerica was created by former members of the **American Baptist Convention**, opposing what they considered the encroachment of liberal tendencies within the parent organization and wishing to emphasize a return to biblical authority and conservative theology. The movement was rooted in the desire to conserve essential Baptist distinctives and maintain fidelity to Scripture.

THIS WEEK AT RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 17 - 24, 2026

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Monday - Thursday

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:00 a.m.	Worship — <i>Seventh Sunday of Easter</i>
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship Time (Fellowship Hall) Worship & Sacrament Team (Knox Hall)
Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	HRR Circle (Knox Hall)
	5:30 p.m.	Anchor Youth (Calvin Hall)
	6:00 p.m.	Session Meeting (Knox Hall)
Wednesday	8:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (Knox Hall)
	9:30 a.m.	Stitchin' Sisters (Calvin Hall)
	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Circle (Knox Hall)
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:00 a.m.	Worship — <i>Day of Pentecost</i> (Please remember to wear something RED)
	11:15 a.m.	Banana Split Sundae Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)

PSALM 66 PRAISE BAND

Guitar / Vocal — Keaton Belliveau, *Leader*
Bass guitar — Rafael Perez
Drums — Ryan Perez
Keyboard — Andrey Plata
Backup Vocals — Madalynn Pearson & Jordan Boggs

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Ministers: Entire Congregation / Assisted by:

Rev. William C. Teng, *Interim Pastor*, pastorbill@riversidepresbyterianchurch.org

Rev. Jane Wesson, *Parish Associate*, pastorjane@riversidepresbyterianchurch.org

Betsie Germann, *Administrative Assistant*, office@riversidepresbyterianchurch.org

Diana Amtower, *Traditional Music Director*, dldaubert@gmail.com

Keaton Belliveau, *Psalm 66 Praise Band Leader*, keanobmusic@gmail.com

Karen Ward, *Audio Visual Leader*

Doug Kasimier, *Treasurer*

Chuck Torgler, *Sexton*

Tel: 321-783-6085 / www.RiversidePC.org