



September 13, 2026
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



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 tithe.ly.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.

The Season after Pentecost, also called **Ordinary Time**, begins the day after Pentecost and ends the day before the First Sunday of Advent. It may include twenty-three to twenty-eight Sundays, depending on the date of Easter, but the first Sunday is always **Trinity Sunday**, and the last Sunday is always the Sunday of **the Reign of Christ** or **Christ the King**. Although the scripture lessons in the lectionary for this half of the year go in a semi-continuous cycle through books of the Bible rather than follow a theme, the gospel lessons cover Jesus' teaching ministry and the church's mission in the world. The liturgical color for this season is GREEN, signifying growth in Christ, except on Communion Sundays when it is white.

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
Mary Mullin

Class of 2028

Martha Williams
Fern Wolle
Bob Yost

The September 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 narthex and the church office. If you're interested in receiving our electronic monthly newsletter (except for January and August), 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):

Genesis 50:15-21; *Psalm* 103:1-13; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

✠ Standing for those who are able

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

APPROACHING THE THRONE OF GRACE

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP: *"We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's"* (Romans 14:7-8).

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

Deacon Bob Yost

GREETINGS & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE SHARED

Pastor Bill Teng

The Lord be with you. ***And also with you . . .***

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

VOLUNTARY

"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"

arr. Thomas Bliss (1991)

Diana Amtower, *Organ*

✠ CALL TO WORSHIP

God is our strength and our might.

Praise God for all his greatness and power.

God is majestic in holiness and awesome in splendor.

Every knee shall bow and every tongue shall give praise to God.

This is our God. So, come, let us praise the Lord!

✠ HYMN #687

"Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

ST. ANNE

✠ PRAYER OF ADORATION

STIRRING OF THE SPIRIT

"Stand in Your Love"

Bethel Music (2018)

"How Great Is Our God"

Chris Tomlin (2011)

Psalm 66 Praise Band / Keaton Belliveau, *Leader*

MAKING OUR CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God our Redeemer: We confess we often remain captivated by sin — You move heaven and earth to save us, but we are unmoved by the suffering of others; you are willing to forgive again and again, but we are unwilling to forgive the sins of others.

Forgive us, O God, and liberate us. Let us be no longer bound by sin, but released, restored, and set free to worship and serve you in freedom; 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 Girard Middleton

CALL TO OFFERING

Pastor Teng

OFFERTORY

"Dancing on the Waves"

Thomas Berghold (2019)

Madalynn Pearson & Jordan Boggs, *Duet* / Diana Amtower, *Piano*

✦ **DOXOLOGY #606**

OLD HUNDREDTH

✦ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

READING AND HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — Matthew 18:21-35 (*New Testament, p. 20*)

Betsy Lancaster

The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

✦ **HYMN #445**

"God, How Can We Forgive"

LEONI

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — Romans 14:1-12 (*New Testament, p. 162*)

Pastor Teng

The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

SERMON

"To Judge or Not to Judge?"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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 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 #727**

"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"

THE SERVANT SONG

✦ **CHARGE AND BLESSING**

✦ **SENDING SONG**

"Blessed Be Your Name"

Matt Redman (2002)

Psalm 66 Praise Band / Keaton Belliveau, *Leader*



This Sunday's flowers are given to the glory of God by **Tammy Ivan**
and in honor of all grandmothers.

70th Anniversary celebration Brunch



Celebrate Riverside
Presbyterian Church's 70th-year
Anniversary

**Sunday
October 4, 2026**

From 11:00am – 1:00pm
(immediately after Worship Service)

Starlite Restaurant

**HILTON GARDEN INN
2080 N Atlantic Ave, Cocoa Beach, FL**

Sunday Breakfast Buffet
Cost: \$20 PRE-PAID (gratuity and beverage included)

*Reserve
and
Pay
Online*



Riverside's
website under
"EVENTS"
or
Stop by
Church Office
to Reserve and
Pre-Pay

SERMON NOTES

As part of our 70th Anniversary celebration, a **New Members Class** is being offered on **Saturday, October 3, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon**, and you'll be received into church membership on October 4, the day of the celebration. If you've been worshipping here at Riverside and would like to consider church membership, please see Pastor Teng or call the church office as soon as possible.

Men's Wednesday Bible Study — The Men's Bible study meets each Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. in Knox Hall and is studying the book of Proverbs. We invite you to join us for Bible study, fellowship, and breakfast afterwards.

For **security reasons**, all entrance doors to the Sanctuary will be locked once the worship service begins. However, there will be someone by the door to let you in when you're by the door. Your kind understanding for our security concerns is deeply appreciated!



Anchor Youth — 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!*



Pastor's Class

Mondays at 1:00 p.m.
(October 5 – November 16)



Living and interacting in a Post-Christian and pluralistic society is not exactly easy for Christians. There are just so many social issues that we face each day which require the "right" decision. How are we supposed to make these decisions? Does the Bible address these issues?

Come and explore these contemporary social issues in a 7-week series in a class beginning on **Monday, October 5, at 1:00 p.m. in Knox Hall**. Please see **Pastor Teng** for any questions.

The Christian Perspectives on Contemporary Social Issues

October	5	Pluralism
	12	Economics
	19	War
	26	Capital Punishment
November	2	Addiction/Substance Abuse
	9	Bioethics
	16	Homosexuality/Same-Sex Marriage



Lift your prayers this week to the Throne of Grace for: **Glenn Stout, Pastor Jane Wesson, Walter & Wanda Scott, Tim Bright, Cathy Pfeiffer, Paula Yost, Rebecca Burns, Jane Lovett, Bill Cheney, Linda Harris, Cliff Schmitt, Roxanne Stout, Jorge & Coleen Castillo**; peace for Ukraine, Iran, and the Middle East; flood and earthquake victims and relief efforts in Nepal/Tibet, Indonesia, and Columbia; storm and flood victims and families in our nation. Please remember **Wauneta Lehman** and family in your prayers as her daughter, **Diane Baylor**, died unexpectedly ten days ago in Knoxville, TN. *May God's peace and strength be with them!*

DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Monday	Morning: Psalms 135; 145 / Evening: Psalms 97; 112 Job 40:1-24; Acts 15:36–16:5; John 11:55–12:8
Tuesday	Morning: Psalms 123; 146 / Evening: Psalms 30; 86 Job 40:1; 41:1-11; Acts 16:6-15; John 12:9-19
Wednesday	Morning: Psalms 15; 147:1-11 / Evening: Psalms 48; 4 Job 42:1-17; Acts 16:16-24; John 12:20-26
Thursday	Morning: Psalms 36; 147:12-20 / Evening: Psalms 80; 27 Job 28:1-28; Acts 16: 25-40; John 12:27-36a
Friday	Morning: Psalms 130; 148 / Evening: Psalms 32; 139 Esther 1:1-4, 10-19; Acts 17:1-15; John 12:36b-43
Saturday	Morning: Psalms 56; 149 / Evening: Psalms 118; 111 Esther 2:5-8, 15-23; Acts 17:16-34; John 12:44-50
Sunday	Morning: Psalms 67; 150 / Evening: Psalms 46; 93 Esther 3:1–4:3; James 1:19-27; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

WHAT HAPPENED ON THIS DAY IN CHRISTIAN HISTORY

✦ On September 13, A.D. 81, the Roman emperor **Titus** died at age forty and was replaced by his brother, **Titus Flavius Domitianus**, 29, who reigned until 96 as **Domitian** and unleashed terrible persecution against the Church. ✦ **Catherine Winkworth** was born on this day in 1827 in London, but spent most of her life in Manchester, England. Her passion and legacy was in translating German hymns into English, and she's largely responsible for bringing the German chorale tradition to the English-speaking world. Among her most popular translations are the Christmas carol, "*All My Heart This Night Rejoices*," originally written in German by **Paul Gerhardt**, and the thanksgiving hymn, "*Now Thank We All Our God*," originally written by **Martin Rinkart** in the seventeenth century. ✦ The hymn, "*Sweet Hour of Prayer*," first appeared in *The New York Observer* on this day in 1845. ✦ Missionary **Robert J. Thomas** arrived on the coast of Korea on September 13, 1865, becoming the first Protestant missionary to the region. He was later martyred, reportedly beheaded, but his last known words were, "Jesus! Jesus!" The man who killed him, haunted by the missionary's face, kept one of the Bibles and used its pages to wallpaper his house. People came from everywhere to read the words, and a church was born. ✦ Today is the anniversary of the passing, in 1904, of the British pastor, **Frederick Whitfield**, best remembered as the author of the hymns, "*I Saw The Cross of Jesus*" and "*O How I Love Jesus*."

THIS WEEK AT RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 13 - 20, 2026

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Monday - Thursday

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:00 a.m.	Worship — <i>Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship Time (Fellowship Hall)
Tuesday	5:30 p.m.	Anchor Youth (Calvin Hall)
Wednesday	8:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (Knox Hall)
	9:30 a.m.	Stitch' Sisters (Calvin Hall)
	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Circle (Calvin Hall)
	3:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study (Knox Hall)
Thursday-Sunday		Indian River Via de Cristo Men's Weekend
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:00 a.m.	Worship — <i>Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship Time (Fellowship Hall)

PSALM 66 PRAISE BAND

Guitar / Vocal — Keaton Belliveau, *Leader*
Bass Guitar — Collin Morrison
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

Doug Kasimier, *Treasurer*

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

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

Karen Ward, *Audio Visual Leader / Will Jennings, Sound & Lighting Tech*

Chuck Torgler, *Sexton*

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