



May 3, 2026
Fifth 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.riversidepresbyterianchurch.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 Plaugher (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* will be sent out by email this week. If you wish to have a hard copy, it will be 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 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

✠ Standing for those who are able

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

APPROACHING THE THRONE OF GRACE

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP: *"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light"* (1 Peter 2:9).

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

"Heaven"
Diana Amtower, *Piano*

Jim Brickman (2005)

✠ CALL TO WORSHIP (*from Acts 7:59, 1 Peter 2:7,9-10*)

You are a chosen people, a holy nation, a royal priesthood.

***We proclaim the mighty acts of God,
who calls us from darkness to light.***

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

Once we were no people; now we are the people of God.

✠ HYMN #33

"Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show"

LLANFAIR

✠ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Pastor Jane Wesson

STIRRING OF THE SPIRIT

"Unstoppable God"
"Called Me Higher"

Elevation Worship (2014)

All Sons and Daughters (2012)

Psalm 66 Praise Band / Keaton Belliveau, *Leader*

MAKING OUR CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Living God: We confess we often look for the living among the dead — You call us to be a holy temple, but we reject the very cornerstone; you call us to be a holy people, but we resist your saving grace.

Forgive us, O God, and give us new life! Make us new people, a new temple, filled with the Spirit of life — the life that death cannot destroy, through Jesus Christ our Lord; for we ask in his holy name.

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

Pastor Teng

CALL TO OFFERING

Pastor Wesson

OFFERTORY

"How Great Thou Art"

Stuart K. Hine/arr. Joel Raney (2015)

Chancel Choir / Diana Amtower, *Director*

✦ DOXOLOGY #606

OLD HUNDREDTH

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

READING AND HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — John 14:1-14 (*New Testament, p. 108*)

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

✦ HYMN #327

"From All That Dwell Below the Skies"

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — 1 Peter 2:2-10 (*New Testament, p. 233*)

Pastor Teng

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

SERMON

"Called to Be Living Stones"

SEALING THE WORD - HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Life up your hearts!

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise

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.

INSTITUTION OF THE SACRAMENTS

INVITATION TO PARTAKE

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

"Behold the Lamb"

Getty/Townsend (2006)

Andrew Hiers, *Bass Baritone* / Diana Amtower, *Piano*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✦ HYMN #361

"O Christ, the Great Foundation"

AURELIA

✦ CHARGE AND BLESSING

✦ SENDING SONG

"Open Up the Heavens"

Vertical Worship (2011)

Psalm 66 Praise Band / Keaton Belliveau, *Leader*



This Sunday's flowers are given to the glory of God by **Becky Reed** and in honor of **Lorrie's** 21st birthday.



CELEBRATING RIVERSIDE'S 70TH YEAR OF MINISTRY IN 2026

As we continue our journey through Riverside's 70 years of serving the Cocoa Beach community, the Anniversary Committee is excited to bring you the fourth decade of church history. This month, we highlight 1986 – 1995 with a new table display in Fellowship Hall and an article in the May newsletter. We also are planning the first of three "Paying it Forward" church workdays for the end of May. Stop by Fellowship Hall after worship today and check out the brand-new display!



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

First Tuesday Dinner — Our next First Tuesday Dinner will be **May 5 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Our dinner menu, catered by Brano's Italian Grill, will be Chicken Marsala, Penne pasta, garden salad, veggies, bread and dessert. Following dinner our program will be presented by Wycliffe Bible Translators, who work hard so everyone can access God's Word, and also record Scriptures so those who cannot read can still hear God's Word. Cost is \$12. Invite family and friends! Sign up in Fellowship Hall or contact **Betty Peterson** at 406-750-9202.

One Blood Drive — The OneBlood bus will be at Riverside **Sunday, May 10, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Walk-ins are always welcome. However, reservations, which can be made on the OneBlood website, www.oneblood.org, are preferred. Please consider donating blood before or after church. *Each donation changes lives!*



**The Music Between Us:
Habanera to Hollywood**

Celebrates the timeless power of melody, storytelling, and emotion.

**Space Coast Symphony
5:00 p.m.
Riverside Presbyterian
Church Sanctuary**

<https://spacecoastsymphony.org/event/the-music-between-us-habanera-to-hollywood/>



Lift your prayers this week to the Throne of Grace for: **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 Leviticus 16:1-19; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18
Tuesday	Morning: Psalms 98; 146 / Evening: Psalms 66; 116 Leviticus 16:20-34; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 6:7-15
Wednesday	Morning: Psalms 99; 147:1-11 / Evening: Psalms 9; 118 Leviticus 19:1-18; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28; Matthew 6:19-24
Thursday	Morning: Psalms 47; 147:12-20 / Evening: Psalms 68; 113 Leviticus 19:26-37; 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12; Matthew 6:25-34
Friday	Morning: Psalms 96; 148 / Evening: Psalms 49; 138 Leviticus 23:1-22; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-17; Matthew 7:1-12
Saturday	Morning: Psalms 92; 149 / Evening: Psalms 23; 114 Leviticus 23:23-44; 2 Thessalonians 3:1-18; Matthew 7:13-21
Sunday	Morning: Psalms 93; 150 / Evening: Psalms 136; 117 Leviticus 25:1-17; James 1:2-8, 16-18; Luke 12:13-21

WHAT HAPPENED ON THIS DAY IN CHRISTIAN HISTORY

✦ On May 3, 1675, a state law was enacted in **Massachusetts** requiring that church doors be closed and locked during worship services to prevent attendees from getting up and leaving church before the lengthy sermons were complete. ✦ On this day in 1721, missionary **Hans Egede**, the "Apostle of Greenland," sailed from Denmark with 46 people. He became an effective worker to the Eskimos of Greenland, and his work was continued by his son, **Paul**. ✦ On May 3, 1738, evangelist **George Whitefield** arrived in America for the first of his seven evangelistic tours. ✦ **Charles Spurgeon** was baptized on his mother's birthday, May 3, 1850. He later wrote, "I can never forget the 3rd of May, 1850; it was my mother's birthday, and I myself was within a few weeks of being sixteen years of age. I was up early, to have a couple of hours for quiet prayer and dedication to God. Then I had some eight miles to walk to reach the spot where I was to be immersed into the Triune name... What a walk it was! What thoughts and prayers thronged my soul during that morning's journey!" ✦ **William Whiting** died on May 3, 1878. He was master of Winchester College Choristers' School for more than twenty years and is best known for writing the words of "*Eternal Father, Strong to Save*." This is frequently called the *Navy Hymn*, and it was played in 1963 as **President John Kennedy's** body was carried up the steps of the U.S. Capitol to lie in state. It was also the favorite hymn of **President Franklin Roosevelt**. ✦ The musician who wrote the score to "*O Holy Night*," **Adolphe Charles Adam**, died on this day in 1856 in Paris and was buried in the Cimetiere de Montmartre.

THIS WEEK AT RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 3 - 10, 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>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i> (<i>Please prepare your heart for Communion</i>)
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship Time (Fellowship Hall)
	5:00 p.m.	Space Coast Symphony Concert (Sanctuary)
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.	Stitchin' Sisters (Calvin Hall)
	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Circle (Knox Hall)
		Care & Support Group (Knox Hall)
	3:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study (Knox Hall)
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
		Christian Education Team (Zoom)
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:00 a.m.	Worship — <i>Sixth Sunday of Easter/Mother's Day</i>
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship Time (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*

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