



May 18, 2025
Fifth Sunday of Easter



3400 North Atlantic Avenue
Cocoa Beach, Florida 32931
321-783-6085
www.riversidepresbyterianchurch.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 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: riversidepresbyterianchurch.org. The worship service is livestreamed and is available on the church's website: <https://www.youtube.com/@riversidepresbyterianchurch8946>. 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.

Eastertide, 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 2025

Mark Gordon
Carl Plaugher
Tom White

Class of 2026

Terri Beeler
Anda Ray
Ann Stone
Debbie Burleigh, *Clerk*

Class of 2027

Bob Howard
Meghan Johnson
Paula Yost

DIACONATE

Class of 2025

Susan White
Fern Wolle

Class of 2026

Janice Eastes
Carolyn Hattaway
Tammy Ivan

Class of 2027

Jorge Castillo

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 C):

Acts 11:1-18; *Psalm 148*; Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35

✦ Standing for those who are able

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

APPROACHING THE THRONE OF GRACE

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP: *"And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new. . . . To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life'"* (Revelation 21:5a, 6b).

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

GREETINGS & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE SHARED

Pastor Bill Teng

Christ is risen! ***The Lord is risen indeed***

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

VOLUNTARY

Trumpet Air

Henry Purcell/*arr.* Lani Smith (1994)

Diana Amtower, *Organ*

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

God is making all things new.

The thirsty receive the water of life.

The Holy Spirit fell upon Peter.

God gives all the repentance that leads to life.

Jesus has given us a new commandment.

We will love one another as Christ loved us.

Let us worship God!

✦ HYMN #81

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

AUSTRIAN HYMN

✦ PRAYER OF ADORATION

STIRRING OF THE SPIRIT

"Who You Say I Am"

Hillsong Worship (2018)

"God that Saves"

Iron Bell Music (2016)

Psalm 66 Praise Band / Keaton Belliveau, *Leader*

MAKING OUR CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God: You are coming to make all things new. We long for you to make us new. Sin has stained and scarred us and has become so familiar to us. We have often worshiped you with our lips, but not with our hearts. We have followed you with our words, but not with our lives. We have developed habits of convenience; our ways have become well-worn.

Forgive us, O God — make us new, start afresh with us, so that we might go in the way of Jesus Christ; for it is in his precious name we ask.

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. Alleluia. 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

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"African Psalm" Patrick M. Liebergen (1996)
Riverside Chancel Choir, *Vocal* / Diana Amtower, *Piano*

✠ **DOXOLOGY #606**

OLD HUNDREDTH

✠ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

READING AND HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — Acts 11:1-18 (N.T., p. 130)
The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Elder Nelson McCray

✠ **HYMN #435**

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

IN BABILONE

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — Revelation 21:1-6 (N.T., p. 259)
The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Pastor Teng

SERMON

"Two Heavenly Visions"

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 #761**

"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

BEECHER

✠ **CHARGE AND BLESSING**

✠ **SENDING SONG**

"This Is Amazing Grace"

Bethel Music (2015)

SUNDAY FLOWERS

This Sunday's flowers are given to the glory of God by **Mary Mullin**
and in loving memory of her husband.

SERMON NOTES



PSALM 66 PRAISE BAND

Guitar / Vocals — Keaton Belliveau, *Leader*

Bass guitar — Rafael Perez

Drums — Ryan Perez

Keyboard — Andrey Plata

Backup Vocals — Madalynn Pearson

Backup Vocals — Jordan Boggs

Backup Vocals — Trinity Plata

K - 5th Grade Sunday School

The Christian Education class for K - 5th grades last class before summer break is **Sunday, June 1**. Class will resume after a summer break on September 7. We are looking for a new leaders for this class. If you are interested in this position, please contact the office or **Teri Beeler**.

Many, many thanks to Nelson and Kathy McCray for their leadership and dedicated service!



DISCIPLE

UNDER THE TREE OF LIFE

DISCIPLE: Under the Tree of Life is the final study in the four-phase *Disciple* program. The study concentrates on the Writings (Old Testament books not in the Torah or the Prophets), the Gospel of John, and Revelation. Join us each **Monday at 1:00 p.m.** in Knox Hall led by Pastor Bill. *All are welcome!*

Sundae Sunday

Join us during Fellowship Time, which is after Worship, in the Fellowship Hall **next Sunday, May 25** while we enjoy Ice Cream Sundaes to celebrate Memorial Day and to kick off summer. *We look forward to seeing you there!*



OneBlood Drive

The OneBlood bus will be at Riverside **Sunday, June 1** from 9am-1pm. Walk-ins are 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!*

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Rockledge Presbyterian Church will be hosting Vacation Bible School for children ages 4-12 on **June 23 - 27**, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. If you know a child that would like to attend, sign up by scanning the barcode provided or go to their website at www.myvbs.org/RPC2025.



Lift your prayers this week to the Throne of Grace for: **Meghan Johnson, Stanley** (Tristan Boggs' uncle), **Rebecca Burns, Jane Lovett, Diane Whitehurst, Rob Lancaster, Glenn Stout, Victor** (Jorge Castillo's friend), **Tim Bright, Sandra Swann** (Jerry's sister), **Margot** (Vickie Olcott's friend), **John House** (Jorge's friend), **Allyson McElheny** (Priscilla's friend), **Debbie** (Vicki's cousin), **Joan** (Nancy Ragland's mother), **Patricia Fulford** (Wanda's friend), **Mike** Feis (Wanda's neighbor), **Liz** (Meagan's daughter), **Mike** (Meagan's father), **Sue Colley, Malcolm, David Steinburg** (Lindalee Torgler's friend); housing situation for **Pastor Bill & Karen Teng**; peace for Ukraine and the Middle East.

DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Monday	Morning: Psalms 97; 145 / Evening: Psalms 124; 115 Jeremiah 32:1-15; Colossians 3:18-4:18; Luke 7:36-50
Tuesday	Morning: Psalms 98; 146 / Evening: Psalms 66; 116 Jeremiah 32:16-25; Romans 12:1-21; Luke 8:1-15
Wednesday	Morning: Psalms 99; 147:1-11 / Evening: Psalms 9; 118 Jeremiah 32:36-44; Romans 13:1-14; Luke 8:16-25
Thursday	Morning: Psalms 47; 147:12-20 / Evening: Psalms 68; 113 Jeremiah 33:1-13; Romans 14:1-12; Luke 8:26-36
Friday	Morning: Psalms 96; 148 / Evening: Psalms 49; 138 Deuteronomy 31:30-32:14; Romans 14:13-23; Luke 8:40-56
Saturday	Morning: Psalms 92; 149 / Evening: Psalms 23; 114 Deuteronomy 32:34-43; Romans 15:1-13; Luke 9:1-17
Sunday	Morning: Psalms 93; 150 / Evening: Psalms 136; 117 Deuteronomy 15:1-11; 1 Timothy 3:14-4:5; Matthew 13:24-34a

WHAT HAPPENED ON THIS DAY IN CHRISTIAN HISTORY

✦ On May 18, 1291, the city of **Acre** fell to invading Moslem armies, signaling the end of a Christian "military presence" in the Middle East during the Crusades. ✦ On May 18, 1593, the Protestant **Henry Bourbon** of Navarre converted to Catholicism to become France's King Henry IV. Five years later, he issued the Edict of Nantes, granting Huguenots (French Protestants) religious freedom. ✦ Frontier evangelist, **Sheldon Jackson**, was born on May 18, 1834. He stood just over five feet tall, but his size, he said, allowed him to sleep anywhere. His bed was a stagecoach floor, a saloon loft, a hollow log, a teepee, a canoe. During 50 years of ministry, he traveled a million miles through the West and North. He oversaw the establishing of 886 churches. ✦ On May 18, 1901, while in Naples, Italy, on a trip to the Holy Land provided by his New York church, **Rev. Maltie D. Babcock**, 43, suddenly died of "Mediterranean fever." He is best remembered as the author of the hymn *"This Is My Father's World."* ✦ **Karol Wojtyla — Pope John Paul II** — was born on May 18, 1920. He became the Archbishop of Krakow in 1963, and on October 16, 1978, became the first non-Italian pope since **Hadrian VI** in the sixteenth century. ✦ On May 18, 1926, popular evangelist **Aimee Semple McPherson** mysteriously vanished while visiting a beach in Venice, CA. She reappeared a month later, claiming to have been kidnapped. Her story was widely disbelieved.

THIS WEEK AT RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 18 - 25, 2025

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>
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship Time (Fellowship Hall)
Monday	1:00 p.m.	Disciple Bible Study (Knox Hall)
Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	HRR Circle (Knox Hall)
	7:00 p.m.	Diaconate (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)
	2:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study (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>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>
	11:15 a.m.	Sundae Sunday Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)



Church Directory

Ministers: Entire Congregation / Assisted by:

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