

Third Sunday
in
Lent

March 8, 2026
Third Sunday in Lent



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 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: 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.

Lent is a liturgical season which consists of forty days beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Holy Saturday (day before Easter). The six Sundays in Lent, as *all* Sundays, are feast days in honor of the Resurrection, and are therefore *in* Lent and not *of* Lent. The purpose of observing Lent is for all Christians to intentionally, through self-discipline, deepen their own personal faith, purify their hearts from sin, and unite more closely to God through Christ.

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 March issue of our newsletter *Down by the Riverside* was sent out by email last week. 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):

Exodus 17:1-7; *Psalm* 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

✦ **Standing for those who are able**

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

APPROACHING THE THRONE OF GRACE

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP: *"Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life"* (John 4:13b-14).

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

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

"Come, Holy Traveler"

Scottish Melody/*arr.* Patricia Lou Harris (2016)

Diana Amtower, *Organ*

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 95:1; John 4:22-23)

Jane Kaserman

Come, let us sing to the LORD.

Make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

The hour is coming, and is now here.

Let us worship the Lord in spirit and truth.

✦ **HYMN #619**

"Praise My Soul, the God of Heaven"

LAUDA ANIMA

✦ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Pastor Wesson

STIRRING OF THE SPIRIT

"Forever"

Chris Tomlin (2001)

"Goodness of God"

Bethel Music (2019)

Psalm 66 Praise Band / Keaton Belliveau, *Leader*

MAKING OUR CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of great mercy: We confess we have sinned against you — We are often quick to quarrel and condemn, and slow to receive your gift of grace; we boast about our own success and deny our suffering Savior.

Forgive us, O Lord, by your steadfast love. Create a clean heart within us, teach us your holy way, and restore to us the joy of salvation, 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

Elder Anda Ray

CALL TO OFFERING

Pastor Teng

OFFERTORY

"Jesus Paid It All"
Chancel Choir/Diana Amtower, *Director*

Marianne Forman (2022)

✦ DOXOLOGY #606

OLD HUNDREDTH

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

READING AND HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — John 4:5-42 (New Testament, p. 94)
The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Betsy Lancaster

✦ HYMN #81

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

AUSTRIAN HYMN

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — Exodus 17:1-7 (Old Testament, p. 64)
The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Pastor Teng

SERMON

"The Living Water"

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 #475

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

NETTLETON

✦ 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 Claire Burton.

CELEBRATING RIVERSIDE'S 70TH YEAR OF MINISTRY IN 2026

Have you begun the journey yet? We invite you to stop by the Fellowship Hall after worship as we walk together through the decade of 1966–1976 this month. Our hope is that these stories of the past inspire fresh hope and joy for the next 70 years of Riverside's service to God's kingdom. Stay tuned for special celebrations throughout the year, all leading up to a joyful anniversary celebration in October!



We are currently collecting food items for **The Children's Hunger Project** through **March 8**. Riverside is helping The Children's Hunger Project by serving 80+ children each week at schools in Merritt Island and Cocoa Beach, and your donations go towards providing lunches for children who may not have food available to them.

For a list of food items that are needed, please pick up a list from the Narthex.

We will be getting together in the Fellowship Hall after Worship on **Sunday, March 15** to pack boxes from the donated food items.



Riverside's Session has joyfully approved an exciting new proposal by Robbie Ward to launch a weekly youth evening on Tuesday nights in Calvin Hall. The vision is simple and welcoming: a safe, relaxed, and inviting place for youth in our community to gather. 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!*

OneBlood Drive — The OneBlood bus is here at Riverside today until 1:00 p.m. Walk-ins are always welcome. *Each donation changes lives!*

Dr. Boushell Brahm's German Requiem Concert — Join us for our **German Requiem Concert** performed by the Riverside Chamber Orchestra and the Riverside Community Chorale this afternoon at **3:30 p.m.** *All are welcome!*

An **Inquirers Class** has been scheduled for this **Saturday morning, March 14, 9:30 to 11:30.** If you've been worshipping at Riverside and would like to know more about the church, the Christian faith, the Presbyterian Church in general, or church membership, please speak with pastor Bill Teng as soon as possible.

Cape View Elementary Gift Card Collection — We are collecting gift cards in increments of \$10 for Cape View Elementary Students. We are accepting gift cards from Walmart, Dollar Tree, Dollar General and Publix. You can turn gift cards in to Becky Reed or the Church office.

The **Worship Team** would like to have some help to arrange the info in the pew racks and put info in the children's packets. Please reach out to **Ann Stone** or **Judy George** if you wish to help. *Thank you!*

Be part of something special: **EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE** — For the first time since 2019, three other local churches will join us for a Community Easter Sunrise Service on April 5 at Sidney Fischer Park, Cocoa Beach. In addition to Riverside, the partnership includes Cocoa Beach Community Church, First United Methodist Church, and Lutheran Church of the Resurrection. We will even have a food truck with coffee and donuts. We have several different volunteer roles that the churches are sharing. If you can help, please see **Judy George** (jageorge24@gmail.com) or **Anda Ray** (andaray77@gmail.com).



Holy Week

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm Sunday	10:00 a.m., March 29
Maundy Thursday	7:00 p.m., April 2
Easter Sunrise	6:50 a.m., April 5 (Sidney Fischer Park)
Easter Sunday	10:00 a.m., April 5

SERMON NOTES



Lift your prayers this week to the Throne of Grace for: **Paula Yost, Bill Anderson, Rebecca Burns, Betty Gould, Judy Howard, Bill Cheney, Susan White, Linda Harris, Cliff Schmitt, Glenn Stout, Travis Vick, Roxanne Stout, Jorge & Coleen Castillo, Doug Furls, Dale Ringerwole;** peace for Ukraine, Iran, and the Middle East.

DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Monday	Morning: Psalms 119:73-80; 145 / Evening: Psalms 121; 6 Genesis 44:18-34; 1 Corinthians 7:25-31; Mark 5:21-43
Tuesday	Morning: Psalms 34; 146 / Evening: Psalms 25; 91 Genesis 45:1-15; 1 Corinthians 7:32-40; Mark 6:1-13
Wednesday	Morning: Psalms 5; 147:1-11 / Evening: Psalms 27, 51 Genesis 45:16-28; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 6:13-29
Thursday	Morning: Psalms 27; 147:12-20 / Evening: Psalms 126; 102 Genesis 46:1-7, 28-34; 1 Corinthians 9:1-15; Mark 6:30-46
Friday	Morning: Psalms 22; 148 / Evening: Psalms 105; 130 Genesis 47:1-26; 1 Corinthians 9:16-27; Mark 6:47-56
Saturday	Morning: Psalms 43; 149 / Evening: Psalms 31; 143 Genesis 47:27-48:7; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Mark 7:1-23
Sunday	Morning: Psalms 84; 150 / Evening: Psalm 42, 32 Genesis 48:8-22; Romans 8:11-25; John 6:27-40

WHAT HAPPENED ON THIS DAY IN CHRISTIAN HISTORY

♠ A dramatic earthquake occurred on March 8, 1750 in London (the last earthquake to have an epicentre in London). One of the most unusual hymnbooks ever published came out of this event — **Charles Wesley's** *Hymns Occasioned by the Earthquake, March 8, 1750*. ♠ On March 8, 1839, **Phoebe Palmer Knapp** was born in New York City, the daughter of evangelists **Walter & Phoebe Palmer**. Phoebe grew up to become a wealthy socialite in New York, but she always maintained her Christian zeal. One of her closest friends was hymnist **Fanny Crosby**. It was Phoebe Palmer who wrote a delightful tune and played it for the blind hymnist who immediately clapped her hands and exclaimed, "That says '*Blessed Assurance!*'" Thus was born one of history's favorite gospel songs. ♠ March 8, 1857, is the birthday of **William Young Fullerton**, who came to Christ under the preaching of **Charles Spurgeon**. He later became a powerful Baptist preacher in England and the President of the Baptist Union. He was also a hymnist and the author of "*I Cannot Tell.*" ♠ American Congregationalist pastor **Henry Ward Beecher**, son of **Lyman Beecher** and brother of **Harriet Beecher Stowe**, died on this day in 1887. Though he became world-famous for his wit and drama in the pulpit, Beecher was an unabashed advocate of abolition as well as women's rights. He pastored the Plymouth Church in Brooklyn, NY for forty years, from 1847 until his death. ♠ On March 8, 1948, the **United States Supreme Court** ruled that religious instruction in public schools was unconstitutional.

THIS WEEK AT RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 8 - 15, 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>Third Sunday in Lent</i>
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship Time (Fellowship Hall)
		Worship & Sacraments Team (Knox Hall)
	3:30 p.m.	Brahms' <i>German Requiem</i> Concert (Sanctuary)
Monday	1:00 p.m.	Lenten Bible Study (Knox Hall)
Tuesday	6:00 p.m.	Diaconate Meeting (Knox Hall)
Wednesday	8:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (Knox Hall)
	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Circle (Knox Hall)
	3:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study (Knox Hall)
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Christian Education Team (Zoom)
		Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Saturday	9:30 a.m.	Inquirers/New Members Class (Knox Hall)
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:00 a.m.	Worship — <i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i>
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship Time (Fellowship Hall)
		Children's Hunger Project Packing (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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