

August 24, 2025

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



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.

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 2025

Carl Plaugher
Tom White
Debbie Burleigh, *Clerk*

Class of 2026

Teri Beeler
Anda Ray
Ann Stone

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 July/August 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):

Jeremiah 1:4-10; *Psalms* 71:1-6; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17

✠ **Standing for those who are able**

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

APPROACHING THE THRONE OF GRACE

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP: *"In you, O LORD, I take refuge . . . Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress"* (Psalm 71:1a, 3).

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

Chorale
Diana Amtower, *Organ*

J.S. Bach/arr. G. Blake (1977)

✠ **CALL TO WORSHIP** (*from Psalm 71:1-6*)

It is in the LORD that we take refuge,
in his righteousness that he delivers and rescues us.

Incline your ear to us and save us.

For the LORD is our rock and our refuge.

For you, O LORD, is our hope, our trust, from our youth.

Upon him we have leaned from our birth,
it was he who took us from our mothers' wombs.

Let our praise be continually with our LORD and give him thanks.

✠ **HYMN #393**

"O Day of Rest and Gladness"

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

✠ **PRAYER OF ADORATION**

✠ **STIRRING OF THE SPIRIT**

"God of Wonders"

Chris Tomlin (2015)

"God that Saves"

Iron Bell Music (2016)

Psalm 66 Praise Band / Keaton Belliveau, *Leader*

MAKING OUR CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of consuming fire: All creation worships you, acknowledging your boundless majesty, trembling before your holy judgment — Yet we often indulgently seek to please ourselves, and cravenly seek to please others, rather than seeking only to please you.

In your mercy, forgive us, O God. Burn away all in us that dishonors you; ignite in us the fire of your Spirit, that we may serve you only, and worship you wholly, all for the sake of 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

Pastor Teng

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *"Thank God I Do"* Lauren Daigle (2023)
Trinity Plata, Madalynn Pearson, and Jordan Boggs, *Vocals / Diana Amtower, Piano*

✠ DOXOLOGY #606

OLD HUNDREDTH

✠ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

READING AND HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — Jeremiah 1:4-10 (Old Testament, p. 698) Elder Susan White
The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

✠ HYMN #722 *"Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak"*

CANONBURY

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — Hebrews 12:18-29 (New Testament, p. 227) Pastor Teng
The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

SERMON

"Is Our God a Consuming Fire?"

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 #435 *"There Is a Wideness in God's Mercy"*

IN BABILONE

✠ CHARGE AND BLESSING

✠ SENDING SONG *"Open Up the Heavens"*

Vertical Worship (2014)



This Sunday's flowers are given to the glory of God by **Dick and Judy George** and in honor of **Bob Howard's birthday** and all **Bob and Judy** have done for Riverside.

SERMON NOTES



PSALM 66 PRAISE BAND

Guitar / Vocals — Keaton Belliveau, *Leader*

Bass guitar — Rafael Perez

Drums — Ryan Perez

Keyboard — Andrey Plata

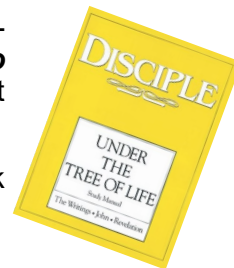
Backup Vocals — Madalynn Pearson

Backup Vocals — Jordan Boggs

Backup Vocals — Trinity Plata

First Tuesday Dinner — Join us **September 2 at 6:00 p.m.** for our First Tuesday Dinner catered by Brano's Italian Grill. Menu to include Chicken Piccata, Penna Florentine, garden salad, cooked veggies, bread, beverages, and dessert. Cost is \$12 per person. Our speaker will be **Tom Jordan**, President of *St. Vincent de Paul Society*.

DISCIPLE — *Under the Tree of Life* is the final study in the four-phase Disciple program. The topic tomorrow is **"Weeping Turned to Witness"** from John's gospel, chapter 21. Join us each Monday at 1:00 p.m. in Knox Hall led by Pastor Bill. *All are welcome!*



Wednesday Morning Men's Bible Study is now on summer break and will reconvene on **September 3**.

Mark your calendar! **Sunday, October 5**, we will have a Pops Spectacle with music from *Evita*, *The King and I*, *Forest Gump*, and *Star Wars*, featuring the Space Coast Symphony Orchestra. Concert proceeds, after expenses, will go to benefit **The Children's Hunger Project**! We will also be accepting specific food donations to help CHP pack meals.

Tickets are \$15 and will go on sale on **Friday, September 5** at 8am. Make sure to get your tickets early, you won't want to miss this!! For more information, visit www.riversidepresbyterianchurch.org/events-1

POPS SPECTACLE

Sunday, October 5, 2025 at 3:30pm

Get ready for a Pop Spectacle that brings the dazzling excitement of Hollywood and the grandeur of Broadway straight to the stage!

Tickets are \$15 and all funds, after concert costs, will be donated to the Children's Hunger Project.

The Children's Hunger Project
"Forward Country's Backpack Program"

RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Lift your prayers this week to the Throne of Grace for: **Lucy McCoy, Linda Harris, Clift Schmitt, Jane Lovett, Glenn Stout, Roxanne Stout, David & Peggy Bishop, Betty Peterson**; peace for Ukraine and the Middle East; flood victims and their families.

DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Monday	Morning: Psalms 135; 145 / Evening: Psalms 97; 112 2 Samuel 17:24–18:8; Acts 22:30–23:11; Mark 11:12-26
Tuesday	Morning: Psalms 123; 146 / Evening: Psalms 30; 86 2 Samuel 18:9-18; Acts 23:12-24; Mark 11:27–12:12
Wednesday	Morning: Psalms 15; 147:1-11 / Evening: Psalms 48; 4 2 Samuel 18:19-33; Acts 23:23-35; Mark 12:13-27
Thursday	Morning: Psalms 36; 147:12-20 / Evening: Psalms 80; 27 2 Samuel 19:1-23; Acts 24:1-23; Mark 12:28-34
Friday	Morning: Psalms 130; 148 / Evening: Psalms 32; 139 2 Samuel 19:24-43; Acts 24:24–25:12; Mark 12:35-44
Saturday	Morning: Psalms 56; 149 / Evening: Psalms 118; 111 2 Samuel 23:1-7, 13-17; Acts 25:13-27; Mark 13:1-13
Sunday	Morning: Psalms 67; 150 / Evening: Psalms 46; 93 2 Samuel 24:1-2, 10-25; Galatians 3:23–4:7; John 8:12-20

WHAT HAPPENED ON THIS DAY IN CHRISTIAN HISTORY

✦ The Visigoths sacked Rome, disillusioning Christians who were trusting in God's protection of this ecclesiastical center of early Christianity on August 24, 410. **St. Augustine** (354-430) later tackled this religious problem in his monumental work, *"City of God"* (ca.413-27). ✦ **Menas**, patriarch of Constantinople, died on this day in 552. He had been actively engaged in the issues of his day as an opponent of monophysitism and of Origen's teachings, but was largely subservient to the Roman pope. ✦ In Mainz, Germany, volume two of the famed **Gutenberg Bible** was bound on August 24, 1456, completing a two-year publishing project, and making it the first full-length book to be printed using movable type. ✦ On this day in 1572, the **St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre** took place all across France, where thousands of French Protestants (Huguenots) were slaughtered. depleted the intellectual, educational, and financial reserves of the French nation. ✦ **William Wilberforce**, English philanthropist, was born on August 24, 1759 in Yorkshire, England. He became a Christian in early life and entered politics in 1790. Wilberforce, John Newton, and Thomas Clarkson brilliantly undermined the arguments for slavery and, as a result, complete abolition of slavery came just before his death in 1833. Wilberforce was also instrumental in the founding of the Church Missionary Society in 1799 as well as the British and Foreign Bible Society in 1804. Wilberforce College in Ohio (founded in 1856), the second oldest institution for black higher education in the U.S., was named after him.

THIS WEEK AT RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

August 24 - 31, 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>Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost</i>
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship Time (Fellowship Hall)
Monday	1:00 p.m.	Disciple Bible Class (Knox Hall)
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Missions Team (Zoom)
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Circle (Knox Hall)
	2:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study (Knox Hall)
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:00 a.m.	Worship — <i>Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost</i>
	11:15 a.m.	Labor Day BBQ Potluck (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*

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