

Fifth



SUNDAY
IN LENT

March 22, 2026

Fifth 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* 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 A):

Ezekiel 37:1-14; *Psalm 130*; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

✦ **Standing for those who are able**

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

APPROACHING THE THRONE OF GRACE

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP: *"For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord"* (Romans 8:38-39).

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

"Be Thou My Vision"
 Diana Amtower, *Piano*

Irish Folk Tune/*arr.* Marianne Kim (2019)

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP [from Psalm 130:1; Ezekiel 37:1-4; John 11:25-26]

Out of the depths we cry to the LORD.
In the valley of death, we await God's Word.
 Jesus says: I am the resurrection and the life.
Let us turn to him in faith, and live.

✦ **HYMN #393**

"O Day of Rest and Gladness"

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

✦ PRAYER OF ADORATION

STIRRING OF THE SPIRIT

"This Is Amazing Grace"
"Holy Spirit"

Bethel Music (2013)
 Jesus Culture (2012)

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 speak as though hope is lost, even while you are still speaking; we act as though death is the end, even while you are still acting.

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

"Shall We Gather at the River"
Andrew Hiers, *Baritone* / Diana Amtower, *Piano*

Robert Lowry (1864)

✦ DOXOLOGY #606

OLD HUNDREDTH

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

READING AND HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — Romans 8:24-39 (New Testament, p. 158)
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Elder Susan White

✦ HYMN #833

"O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"

ST. MARGARET

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — John 11:1-7, 17-27, 32-45 (New Testament, p. 104)
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor Teng

SERMON

"Living Faith ... Living Hope"

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 #353

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

SOLID ROCK

✦ CHARGE AND BLESSING

✦ SENDING SONG

"Yes, I Will"
Psalm 66 Praise Band / Keaton Belliveau, *Leader*

Vertical Worship (2019)



This Sunday's flowers are given to the glory of God by **Richard & Janice Eastes** and with thankfulness to God on the occasion of their 42nd Wedding Anniversary.

CELEBRATING RIVERSIDE'S 70TH YEAR OF MINISTRY IN 2026

While kids of the 70s were wearing tube socks, riding bikes with banana seats, and playing with nerf balls, our church was entering its second decade on the Space Coast. Calvin Hall became a reality and Riverside membership surpassed the 500 mark. The 70th Anniversary Committee has gathered more interesting tidbits about church history from 1966-1976 on a display table in Fellowship Hall – don't forget to take a peek after worship today!



ANCHOR
Youth

Riverside Presbyterian Church Youth Group

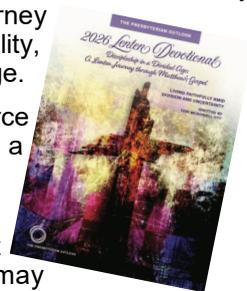
Riverside's Session has joyfully approved an exciting new proposal by Robbie Ward to launch a weekly youth evening on Tuesday nights in Calvin Hall. The vision is simple and welcoming: a safe, relaxed, and inviting place for youth in our community to gather. As the group grows, one or more rooms in Calvin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

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL - DISCIPLESHIP IN A DIVIDED AGE

In a world marked by division, uncertainty and competing narratives, Matthew's Gospel speaks with striking relevance. Matthew's first audience — a young, fragile community navigating conflict, identity and fear — sounds a lot like the church today. This Lenten devotional by *Presbyterian Outlook* editor Teri McDowell Ott invites readers to journey through Matthew's Gospel to discover how Jesus leads us toward humility, courage, compassion, and faithful discipleship amid the fractures of our age.

Grounded in Scripture and written with pastoral warmth, this resource guides individuals and congregations through daily reflections, including a weekly *visio divina* practice. Each entry includes Scripture, a focus verse, a theologically rich reflection, guided questions, and a closing prayer.

It's never too late to begin taking advantage of the wisdom and insight that this devotion offers. There are extra copies in the Narthex for you, or you may simply call the church Office to have one emailed to you.



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

Easter Sunrise
COMMUNITY SERVICE
ON THE BEACH

SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2026 @ 6:50 AM

**Bring a beach chair or towel*

Join Us

Cocoa Beach
Community Church

FIRST
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF COCOA BEACH

LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE RESURRECTION
COCOA BEACH, FL

Riverside
Presbyterian Church
COCOA BEACH, FL

Sidney Fischer Park | 2200 N Atlantic Ave. | Cocoa Beach, FL

SERMON NOTES



Lift your prayers this week to the Throne of Grace for: **Paula Yost, Rebecca Burns, Betty Gould, Judy Howard, Bill Cheney, 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
Exodus 4:10-31; 1 Corinthians 14:1-19; Mark 9:30-41
- Tuesday** Morning: Psalms 34; 146 / Evening: Psalms 25; 91
Exodus 5:1–6:1; 1 Corinthians 14:20-33a, 39-40; Mark 9:42-50
- Wednesday** Morning: Psalms 5; 147:1-11 / Evening: Psalms 27, 51
Exodus 7:8-24; 2 Corinthians 2:14–3:6; Mark 10:1-16
- Thursday** Morning: Psalms 27; 147:12-20 / Evening: Psalms 126; 102
Exodus 7:25–8:19; 2 Corinthians 3:7-18; Mark 10:17-31
- Friday** Morning: Psalms 22; 148 / Evening: Psalms 105; 130
Exodus 9:13-35; 2 Corinthians 4:1-12; Mark 10:32-45
- Saturday** Morning: Psalms 43; 149 / Evening: Psalms 31; 143
Exodus 10:21–11:8; 2 Corinthians 4:13-18; Mark 10:46-52
- Sunday** Morning: Psalms 84; 150 / Evening: Psalm 42, 32
Zechariah 9:9-12; 1 Timothy 6:12-26; Luke 19:41-48

WHAT HAPPENED ON THIS DAY IN CHRISTIAN HISTORY

✠ March 22 was an important day in the world of fourth-century Christianity. At the **Counsel of Nicea**, summoned by **Emperor Constantine** to resolve disputes within the Christian world, it was determined that Easter would always be celebrated on the Sunday after the first full moon following the Spring equinox. That means that March 22nd is the earliest possible date in any given year when Easter can be celebrated. Then, on March 22, 337, Constantine died at age forty-seven. ✠ While it can't be proved, many authorities and almanacs say that the famous **Gutenberg Bible**, the first book ever printed, was first published on March 22, 1457. ✠ On March 22, 1630, the Massachusetts Bay colonists sailed for America led by Puritan **John Winthrop**. But on March 22, 1638, religious dissident **Anne Hutchinson** was expelled from Massachusetts Bay Colony for insisting she had received divine revelations. ✠ Today is the feast day of England's **Nicholas Owen**. Roman Catholics were persecuted in England during the days of **Queen Elizabeth I**, and Owen, probably a builder by trade, designed countless hiding places for them. He hid them in secret rooms and between the walls and under the floors. He designed nooks and crannies that looked like anything but hiding places. He also proved a master at devising getaways, and he invented brilliant schemes for helping Catholics escape prison. He was an escapist himself, having several aliases and disguises. Perhaps no one saved the lives of more Catholics in England during these days than Nicholas Owen. But Owen was at last betrayed. Taken to the Tower of London, his arms were fixed to iron rings and he was hung for hours, his body dangling. He was canonized and is honored each year on March 22 .

THIS WEEK AT RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 22 - 29, 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 in Lent</i>
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship Time (Fellowship Hall)
Monday	1:00 p.m.	Lenten Bible Study (Knox Hall)
Tuesday	5:30 p.m.	Anchor Youth (Calvin Hall)
	7:00 p.m.	Missions Team (Zoom)
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.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:00 a.m.	Worship — <i>Palm/Passion Sunday</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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