

Riverside Presbyterian Staff

Ministers: All God's People
Pastor: The Rev. Michael Hafele
Interim Music Director: Judy Bartine
Organist: Diana Amtower
Office Manager: Elizabeth Britton
Treasurer: Doug Kasimier
Sexton: Chuck Torgler
Nursery Care: Cecilia Quist
Audio Visual Leader: Jeff Janowich
Praise Band (Psalm 66) Worship Leader: Mike Reed
Praise Band (Psalm 66) Music Leader: Scott LaChance

THIS WEEK AT RIVERSIDE

Sun 12/17 8:45 AM Contemporary Worship
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:15 AM Traditional Worship
Family Promise will be here all week

Mon 12/18 7:00 PM NA Meeting—Fellowship Hall

Tue 12/19 9:30 AM Senior Fitness—Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM Bell Choir —Calvin Hall

Wed 12/20 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study—Knox Parlor
9:30 AM Stitchin' Sisters
10:00 AM Prayer Circle—Knox Parlor

Thu 12/21 7:00 PM Choir—Calvin Hall

Fri 12/22 9:30 AM Senior Fitness—Fellowship Hall



To reach our website, feel free to take a picture of the RPC's QR code with your cell phone and you'll be redirected.



Third Sunday *of* Advent

Riverside Presbyterian Church

3400 North Atlantic Avenue
Cocoa Beach, Florida 32931
321.783.6085

www.riversidepres.org

Follow us on Facebook

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

8:45 & 11:15 A.M.
Services of Worship

SEASON OF ADVENT

December 17, 2017

8:45 SERVICE OF WORSHIP OF JESUS CHRIST

GATHERING

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming+

Riverside Handbell Choir & Bob Yost, Soloist with the Congregation

WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Please see page 4 for the Advent Candle Litany

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAISE THROUGH SONG

**Let's Make A Baby King*

**Open The Eyes Of My Heart*

O Holy Night (Confession)

O Come O Come Emmanuel (Offering)

HOLY SCRIPTURE

John 1:19-28

SERMON

A Prophet Not Expected or Wanted

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

The Lord's Prayer

TAKING OUR FAITH INTO THE WORLD

Jesus Messiah

*BENEDICTION

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

CHRISTMAS EVE is on a Sunday. There will be NO morning Worship Services. Evening services will be at 4 PM (Family Friendly) and 7 PM (Candlelight).

NEW YEAR'S EVE SUNDAY will have one service at 10 AM.

RESERVED DEVOTIONALS READY FOR PICK UP

Reserved copies of *THESE DAYS* for January, February and March 2018 and **UPPER ROOM** for January, February 2018 are available for pickup. There are some unreserved copies available. If you would like to receive a copy, please contact Sonja Buckley at 321-452-8569.

DIRECTORIES

There are several directories that have not been picked up. If you did not receive a directory, please check with an usher to locate yours in the Narthex Usher Room.

RIVERSIDE'S DR. VERNON BOUSHELL CONCERT SERIES presents a free concert of "Big Band Greatest Hits" on Sunday, January 14, 2018, 3:30 & 7:00 PM. Conductor Art Martin will lead the Swing time Band. Be sure to bring your family, neighbors and friends as we kick off the New Year with some feel-good enjoyment. A free ticket is required and is available in our Box Office, printed online from our website at www.RiversidePres.org, or by calling our Ticket Line at [321-525-7825](tel:321-525-7825).

PLEDGE ENVELOPES for 2018 are in the Narthex.

Please pick up yours and if you see one for a family member, neighbor or friend, please pick up their pack as well. Using your envelopes helps to insure accurate recording of your donations. If you are a regular visitor and would like offering envelopes, please leave a message at the church office, 783-6085.

A note from the I.R.S.: All contributions for 2017 must be either in the church office by December 31st or mailed to the church with a postmark of December 31st or before.

2018 FLOWER CHART

The new sanctuary flower chart for 2018 is up in the hallway in the Narthex. If you would like to provide flowers for the Sunday service, please sign up. We appreciate those of you who provide the flowers that beautify our sanctuary for our Sunday services.



The sanctuary
flowers are given
by
Wendy & Mark
Gordon

“With thanks and
praise be to God
for our many
blessings”



*HYMN 133 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL CHORUS (please sing)

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray
cast out of sin and enter in; be born to us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell,
O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

POSTLUDE *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* J.S. Bach

*Please stand if you are able

About the gathering song "Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming
Est Ist ein Ros Entsprungen" is an ancient, but for many Christians, a beloved carol
of German origin, which first appeared in print in the later 16th century. The
author and the composer of the melody are unknown. Michael Praetorius wrote the
beautiful harmonization.
Just as in the prophecies from Isaiah, a "rose," or stem, shoots up from the stump, so
too, do we celebrate Christ's birth in the knowledge that He brings life out of death--
the ultimate life we are promised in Christ. The hymn has been recorded by many,
including Mannheim Steamroller, Sting, Von Trap Family Singers, and the Mormon
Tabernacle Choir, and has appeared in feature film soundtracks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FELLOWSHIP

There will be a time for fellowship in the "hall" after both services. Please
join us for conversation and refreshments.

*"We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have
fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus
Christ. We write this to make our joy complete."* 1 John 1:3-4

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING is today! Please pick up an envelope in
the Narthex. In gratitude to God for the gift of Jesus, the Presbyterian
Church invites congregations to join this celebration of God's presence with
us by supporting those in need of help and hope.

To Quote:

*Politicians
compete for the
highest offices.
Business tycoons
scramble for a
bigger and
bigger piece of
the pie.
Armies march
and scientists
study and
philosophers
philosophize and
preachers preach
and laborers
sweat.*

*But in that silent
baby, lying in
that humble
manger, there
pulses more
potential power
and wisdom and
grace and
aliveness than all
the rest of us can
imagine.*

-Brian McLaren

11:15 SERVICE OF WORSHIP OF JESUS CHRIST

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming
Riverside Handbell Choir
Ding, Dong Merrily On High
Chancel Choir

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* James Dentin

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary;
Praise him in his mighty firmament!
Praise him for his mighty deeds;
Praise him according to his surpassing greatness!
Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!
Praise him with tambourine and dance;
Praise him with strings and pipe!
Praise him with clanging cymbals;
Praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord!

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Please see the litany of the Lighting of the Candle on page 4

*HYMN 129 *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*
Bob Yost, Soloist with the Congregation

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of Your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and Your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what You say to us today. This we pray in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Watch and wait for Christ's coming! We light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

We light this candle in hope. *Light the first candle.*
We light this candle for peace. *Light the second candle.*
We light this candle in joy! *Light the third (pink) candle.*

Rejoice! For our Lord is coming into the darkness of oppression's exile to lead us home, as we hear in Isaiah 35:1-10:

Reader: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

Reader: Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Reader: Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

Reader: A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Let us pray.
O Lord, our redeemer, you lead us from languishing in sorrow's shadows into laughter's joy over your abundant restoration. Thank you that you are coming for us to lead us home along Your Way, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

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

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace and mercy, look upon us with favor and remind us of our own baptism, for it is not in our claims to you but your claim to us that we are redeemed in Christ. It is you who wrought redemption for our sake and on our behalf when we were powerless. Continue to claim us again as your people through your Spirit and grant us the joy of your divine forgiveness that we may go out into your world in the joy of Christ! For this we pray in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Moment of Silent Confession

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*SUNG RESPONSE *Gloria Patri*

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

ANTHEM *Still, Still, Still* Norman Luboff
Riverside Chancel Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

HOLY SCRIPTURE
Isaiah 61:1-11
John 1:19-28

SERMON *A Prophet Not Expected or Wanted* Rev. Michael Hafele

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Birthday Of A King* Neidlinger
Ruth Warobick, Soloist

*Doxology

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION & THE LORD'S PRAYER