

17

| SEPTEMBER 2023



Welcome! – Riviera Church is a **progressive-thinking community** in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

We are a family church where families come in all compositions.

We are a thinking church that wrestles with faith issues confronting our society today and strives to make our faith personally relevant and meaningful.

We are a mission-driven church that since the civil rights movement has worked for justice and peace for all of God's children.

In our worship, education, and mission, we strive that all will know they are loved unconditionally.



5275 Sunset Drive | Miami, FL 33143
rivierachurch.org
305-666-8586

Ministry Statement

- We engage with each other in joyful worship and thoughtful education;
 - We dedicate our resources and talents to God's work;
 - And we open our hearts in active mission to others.
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- *We celebrate The Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of every month. All are welcome at the table.*
 - *Child Care –infant through age five- is available. Our childcare attendant, Josephine, will greet you in the Welcome Area/Narthex.*
 - *Hearing devices, large print bulletins, and hymnals are available. Please ask an usher.*
 - *Restrooms are accessible by the ramp in the sanctuary. Follow the signs. Changing tables are in both restrooms.*
 - *We want to serve you. If you have a ministry need, don't hesitate to contact Congregational Care Committee Chair Karen at kc33134@aol.com. For prayer requests, please email bfah@me.com*
 - *Riviera Presbyterian Church is a proud member of these organizations and a Matthew 25 congregation.*



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS



Matthew 25:31-46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities."
(www.pcusa.org/matthew25)

Riviera Presbyterian Church
Sunday, September 17, 2023
Season of Creation Week 3 – The Waters

Please note that this service is broadcast via live stream and digitally recorded.

**Please stand in body or spirit*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

PRELUDE Water Music: Air in F

George Frideric Handel

WELCOME

Rev. Melanie Marsh



Please let us know you worshipped with us today by scanning this QR code and filling out our welcome form online or using the Welcome Pad on the aisle seat. If you are watching online, say “Hello” in the chat.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Melanie Marsh

One: Let us turn our hearts to the West.

From there, the Thunders bring us cleansing rain.

ALL: Creator God, heal us and our relatives.

Let us turn our hearts to the North.

Winter comes to us from there and calls us to rest.

Creator God, restore our strength.

Let us turn our hearts to the East.

The morning Sun begins each day there.

Creator God, awaken us and help us to walk with a renewed life.

Let us turn our hearts to the South.

Where the warm winds come from to give us comfort and joy.

Creator God, soothe our aching souls.

Let us turn our hearts to the Sky.

From there, our Creator sees all around us.

Creator God, help us to trust you to lead us.

Let us turn our hearts to the Earth.

From there, quiet wisdom comes to teach us.

Creator God, hear us as we pray.

***OPENING HYMN #626 As the Deer**

626

As the Deer

As the deer pants for the wa - ter, so my
 soul longs af - ter you. You a - lone are my
 heart's de - sire, and I long to wor - ship you.
 You a - lone are my strength, my shield; to you a - lone
 may my spir - it yield. You a - lone are my
 heart's de - sire, and I long to wor - ship you.

Chord symbols: D, A, Bm, Dsus, D, G, A7sus, A7, D, Bm, Bm/A, G, D/F#, G, Bm, Em, F#sus, F#, D, A, Bm, Dsus, D, G, A7sus, A7, D.

This praise chorus begins as a paraphrase of Psalm 42:1 and later incorporates parts of Psalm 28:7. In some early Christian communities, people chanted or sang Psalm 42 on their way to be baptized, and many early Christian baptisteries were decorated with deer drinking water.

Please be seated

CALL TO CONFESSION **Carol Thompson**

The God who formed the waters and breathed life into the seas made us partners in care and love for the earth. Let us confess together all the ways that we fall short in our responsibility to one another, to God, and to Creation.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION **Carol Thompson**

One: Creator God, when we have taken your creation for granted;

All: In your grace, forgive us, Holy One.

When we have abused its resources and polluted its purity;

In your grace, forgive us, Holy One.

When we have not fulfilled our calling to steward your earth;

In your grace, forgive us, Holy One.

[Silent confession of sins]

May we work with you in the renewal of creation;

Empower us, Holy Spirit.

May we speak and act for the good of your planet.

Inspire us, Jesus Christ.

May we value and share the good gifts you provide;

Encourage us, Creator of all things. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Carol Thompson

Sisters, and brothers, and siblings in Christ, hear this good news: As far as the east is from the west, as far as the mountains are from the depths of the sea, so far has God removed our sin from us through Christ our Redeemer. Believe this Good News: In Christ, we are all forgiven.

PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. Melanie Marsh

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also, with you.

***GLORIA PATRI #583** Glory to God

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

TIME FOR ALL AGES

Anna E. Rosas

CHILDREN'S REPOSE #18 v.1

Hallelujah! Sing praise to your Creator, sun, moon, and stars and angels above. Praise the Lord, whose word established the heavens, who upholds all the earth in power and love. God reigns on high, let the heavens rejoice! God reigns on high, let the heavens rejoice!

--Children five and under can go with Ms. Josephine to the childcare room; parents are welcome to walk with them.

--Children six and older will go with Ms. Anna to Sunday School.

CHORAL ANTHEM Water of Life

Walter Busse

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Carol Thompson

Lead us, O Holy One, toward wisdom. Open in us a space for the presence of your Spirit. Create in us a desire to know and be known. Renew in us a connection to your love in all creation. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 1:9-10
Carol Thompson

9 And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. 10 God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 95:2-5
Rev. Melanie Marsh

2 Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. 3 For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods. 4 In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. 5 The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER

Rev. Melanie Marsh

PRESENTATION BY MIAMI WATERKEEPER

Natalia Tohme

HYMN OF RESPONSE #288

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rev. Melanie Marsh

If you are attending in person, we invite you to share your joys and concerns by raising your hand, and a member of our worship team will bring the microphone to you. Remember to bring the microphone close to your mouth; do not hold it down by your chest.

Please remember to guard people's privacy and ensure you have their permission to use their full name when requesting prayers in this public format.

If you are watching on Zoom, we invite you to raise your hand and unmute yourself when your name is called. If you are watching our live stream or on-demand, you may enter your joys and concerns in the comments, and they will be sent to our active prayer group or email our prayer coordinator directly at bfah@me.com.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Melanie Marsh

We will sing the Lord's Prayer – see the next page.

The Lord's Prayer (Ecumenical)

Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-low-ed be your
name, your king-dom come, your will be done on
earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our
dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as
we for-give those who sin a- gainst us.
Save us from the time of trial and de-
liv-er us from e- vil, for the king- dom, the pow'r and the
glo- ry are yours, now and for ev- er.

The musical score is written on ten staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The lyrics are: "Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-low-ed be your name, your king-dom come, your will be done on earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we for-give those who sin a- gainst us. Save us from the time of trial and de- liv-er us from e- vil, for the king- dom, the pow'r and the glo- ry are yours, now and for ev- er." The score ends with a double bar line.

CALL TO THE OFFERING **Carol Thompson**

As God calls forth bounty from creation all around us, so God calls us to give abundantly from God's many gifts to us. Let us bring to God our tithes and offerings.

THE ACT OF GRATITUDE

The physical act of giving by placing your offering in the plate is a tangible act of gratitude. However, suppose your pledge is mailed or sent electronically. In that case, you may still participate in this act of gratitude by placing the envelope inside the bulletin into the offering plate to symbolize your gratitude and participation in the worship service.

- You may leave your donation in the offering plate.
- You may donate today with a credit/debit card at www.rivierachurch.org, click the GIVE button, or use the scan me QRcode with your phone camera.
- You may download the free Vanco Mobile app (IOS & Android) to set up recurring donations or online payment via your bank bill pay program.
- You may also mail in your check to the church at Riviera Presbyterian Church at 5275 Sunset Drive, Miami, FL 33143



OFFERTORY #22 Come to the Water

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God above ye heavenly hosts;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Sing Praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Allelu - ia!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION - BODY PRAYER**

Carol Thompson

All that we have, we give to you, O God.

All that we are, we give to you, O God.

All that we will be, we give to you, O God.

May they all be a blessing to others. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Butch Sorenson

***CLOSING HYMN #479 Ho, All Who Thirst V. 1-2**

Ho, All Who Thirst

Come Now to the Water

479

Capo 3: (D)
 Refrain F All

(A) (G) (Em7) (A)
 C B \flat Gm7 C

Ho, all who thirst, come now to the wa - ter, and

(D) (Bm) (G) (Em) (G) (A)
 F Dm B \flat Gm B \flat C

all whose souls are parched and wea - ry, come and drink!

(D) (A) (G) (Em7) (A)
 F C B \flat Gm7 C

Ho, all who thirst, come now to the wa - ter, and

(D) (Bm) (G) (D) (A) (Dsus) (D)
 F Dm B \flat F C Fsus F fine

from your heart will flow a nev - er - fail - ing spring!

(Bm) (A) (G) (Bm) (A)
 Dm C B \flat Dm C

Lester or All

1 Why for - sake the Lord, the fount of liv - ing wa - ter,
 2 For the Lamb will be our shep - herd and will guide us
 3 All who come may take this gift of liv - ing wa - ter.

(Bm) (C) (Bm) (A) (A7)
 Dm E \flat Dm C C7

to Refrain

choos - ing bro - ken cups that can - not be filled?
 to the well - springs of the wa - ter of life.
 They will thirst no more, for they shall be filled.

This song brings together many biblical references that help to enlarge an appreciation of the water of baptism. The refrain is based on Isaiah 55:1, stanza one adapts Jeremiah 2:13, stanza two draws on Revelation 7:17, and the third stanza condenses the imagery of John 4:10-14.

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Melanie Marsh

POSTLUDE Water Music: Hornpipe in D G.F. Handel



Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study is the best way to explore the day's scripture, ask questions, and connect with new and old friends. You do not have to be a member of the church to join this small group class. We offer the class in person and via Zoom. Child care is also available.

Introducing Miami's Waterkeeper: Natalia Tohme



Natalia recently earned her Masters in Climate and Health from the University of Miami. Her studies focused on water insecurity, climate refugees, and community health policy. As a Miami native, she is passionate about her hometown and preserving its unique natural environment and its vibrant culture. She believes that education is the foundation of change and through her position in education and outreach she will continue to advocate for climate and health equity. On her off time you'll find Natalia at the volleyball courts or planning her next trip!

FALL 2023 CALENDAR

SEASON OF CREATION

Over the coming fall season, we invite you to join us at Riviera Presbyterian as we celebrate the Season of Creation and the many gifts of our natural world. From meditation to special events; we will be out in the neighborhood, enjoying and exploring our local Gables and South Miami habitat. Here's how you can get involved in the celebration.

SEPT 03 ALL OF CREATION

11AM Interfaith Prayer Service
12PM Free Community Pot-Luck

SEPT 10 THE AIR

11AM Morning Breathing Meditation
12PM Neighborhood Birding Expedition

SEPT 17 THE WATERS

11AM Presentation by Miami Waterkeeper
04PM Chasing Coral Film Screening

SEPT 24 THE EARTH

11AM Earth Care Pilgrimage
11:30AM Community Bike Tour

OCT 01 THE PEOPLE

11AM Presentation by PACT
12PM Free Community Pot-Luck

OCT 08 THE ANIMALS

11AM Blessing of the Animals (Feast of St. Francis of Assisi)



FOR MORE INFO VISIT US AT
WWW.RIVIERACHURCH.ORG



Chasing Coral follows a team of divers, photographers, and scientists out to photograph the elusive process of coral bleaching, a phenomenon happening at an unprecedented rate around the world from warming ocean temperatures. The film took 3.5 years to make and features 500 hours of underwater footage and submissions from over 30 countries.

Did you all know there is a pending Petition to Amend the state constitution to create a "right to clean water"?

Florida NOW and hundreds of other organizations, businesses and local governments are supporting the Florida Right To Clean Water Drive to have a citizen-led Constitutional Amendment on the 2024 Ballot.

The Florida Right to Clean Water campaign is a citizens' initiative to amend the Florida Constitution with the right to clean and healthy waters.

Blank petitions are available on the table in the Welcome Area/Narthex.

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Children's Response: (PIANO) Hallelujah Sing! Praise to Your Creator - Psalm 148 - [#84955](#). Words - ©2009 Faith Alive Christian Resources Contributors: David Diephouse

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Doxology:(ORGAN) (All Creatures Doxology)Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow ([Public Domain](#)).

Closing Hymn: (ORGAN) [#479](#) Ho, All Who Thirst V. 1-2 [#59e6488285ad4](#). Contributors: Leonard Smith Tune: 1975 New Jerusalem Music Text: 1975 New Jerusalem Music

Postlude: (ORGAN) Handel Water Music: Hornpipe in D ([Public Domain](#))



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(A Vibrant Congregation of the Presbytery of Tropical Florida)
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Mission Statement

Riviera Presbyterian Church is a spiritual community that accepts and embraces all God's children.

Ministers

Pastor

Director of Music

Youth Education & Outreach

Certified Church Administrator

Nursery Caregiver

Custodian

All the People

Rev. Melanie Marsh

Dr. Walter Busse

Anna Rosas

Barbara Prieto

Josephine Gurri

Glenda Bertran

Session	Session	Session
<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>
Amparo Hernandez	Laura Fothergill	Karen Collier
Bryan Page	Rey Prieto	Susan Mazzola
Michele Ready	Alejandra Rondon	
	Butch Sorenson	