



Welcome! – Riviera Church is an unapologetic 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.

- We celebrate The Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of every month. All are welcome at the table. Gluten-free option available.
- 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
Palm Sunday
March 24, 2024 at 11:00 am

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

****Please stand in body or spirit***

INTROIT & PROCESSIONAL

Bringing in the Light of Christ

Riviera Chancel Choir

Liturgist

Cindy Hershey

Worship Leader

Rev. Melanie Marsh

THE KING OF GLORY

KING OF GLORY

Refrain



The King of glo - ry comes, the na - tion re - joic - es.



O - pen the gates be - fore him, lift up your voic - es.

Verses



1. Who is the King of glo - ry; how shall we call him?
2. In all of Gal - i - lee, in cit - y or vil - lage,
3. Sing then of Da - vid's Son, our Sav - ior and broth - er;
4. He gave his life for us, the pledge of sal - va - tion,
5. He con - quered sin and death; he tru - ly has ris - en,



1. He is Em - man - u - el, the prom - ised of a - ges.
2. He goes a - mong his peo - ple cur - ing their ill - ness.
3. In all of Gal - i - lee was nev - er an - oth - er.
4. He took up - on him - self the sins of the na - tion.
5. And he will share with us his heav - en - ly vi - sion.

Text: 12 12 with refrain. Text © 1967, Willard F. Jabusch. Administered by OCP. All rights reserved.
Music: Trad. Israeli Folk Song.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR



Please let us know you worshiped 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.

WELCOME

Rev. Melanie Marsh

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We give thanks to You, O Holy One, for You are good -

All: And your steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say,

“Your steadfast love endures forever.”

Let the house of Aaron say,

“Your steadfast love endures forever.”

Let all those who worship and adore you say,

“Your steadfast love endures forever.”

With You, O God by my side I do not fear.

For what can mortals do to me?

One: We give thanks to You, O Holy One, for you are good -

All: And your steadfast love endures forever!

*OPENING HYMN

JESUS CHRIST: PASSION AND DEATH

All Glory, Laud, and Honor 196

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re-deem-er, King,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho-san-nas ring!

1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
3 To thee, be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
4 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One.
our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.
to thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King!

These stanzas for Palm Sunday have been selected and translated from a much longer Latin poem written by a bishop who was the leading theologian in Charlemagne's court. They are sung to a 17th-century German chorale, as adapted for these words in the mid-19th century.

TEXT: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 820; trans. John Mason Neale, 1851, alt.
MUSIC: Melchior Teschner, 1614; arr. William Henry Monk, 1861

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN
7.6.7.6.D

CALL TO CONFESSION

Cindy Hershey

To stand at the foot of the cross, to witness the suffering of an innocent man, is to be humbled in a profound way. Whether we think Jesus died for our sins, or whether we think Jesus died because of the corruption and evil of a few, the truth remains that he died, and we are changed, and we remain unchanged. For those ways in which we remain unchanged by that suffering and sacrifice, let us make our confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lamb of God, we are eager to rejoice with you as you move through the streets of Jerusalem... yet we remain unmoved by your tears, by your slow dying. We sing out Hosana, yet we refuse to hear the cries of those in need.

We watch you forgive, and hoard grace for ourselves. We hear the taunts, and pretend our words are always sweet.

We know you will die, and we go on about our usual way.

Forgive us for not stopping, for not weeping, for not acknowledging that we allow your children in our time to suffer.

Heal our broken, imperfect hearts, that we might love more fully and more wondrously, following You, O Lamb, not into death but into life. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, this Good News is for all the world: Christ was born, lived and died, and rose again that we would be freed from sin and death. Know that indeed you are forgiven, and be at peace.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also, with you.

***GLORIA PATRI #583 Taizé Glory To God**

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

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God!

TIME FOR ALL AGES

CHILDREN'S RESPONSE

#227 Jesus, Remember Me

-- Children 5 and under will go with Josephine at the back table.

CHORAL ANTHEM Hosanna to the King!

Lloyd Larson

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Come, Lord Jesus, and live among us this day. Open our hearts to receive your love; open our minds to hear your story; open our hands to receive your grace. In praise and adoration, we raise our palms to you. Amen.

PSALTER

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

1 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! 2 Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. 20 This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. 21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. 22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

“Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹¹Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Melanie Marsh

HYMN OF RESPONSE #471 O Lord, Hear My Prayer

JOYS AND CONCERNS

If you are attending in person, we invite you to share your joys and concerns by raising your hand. 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.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

We appreciate the diverse traditions and backgrounds that make up the Riviera community of faith and encourage you to use whatever words for the Lord's prayer are meaningful for you.

THE LORD'S PRAYER unison

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kin-dom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

All that we have, and all that we are belongs to God. Let us now with joyful and generous spirits give back to God our gifts. May they be a blessing to the church and to this world.

THE ACT OF GRATITUDE *The physical act of giving by placing your offering in the offering plate is a tangible act of gratitude. However, if your pledge is mailed or sent electronically, 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.*



How You Can Give

**ACH**
You may set up online payment via your bank bill pay program.

**VANCO MOBILE**
You may download the free Vanco app (IOS & Android)

**MAIL CHECK TO US**
Riviera Presbyterian Church 5275 Sunset Drive, Miami, FL 33143

**DIGITAL PAYMENT**

Cash App **venmo**
@rivierachurch5275
305-666-8586

www.rivierachurch.org

OFFERTORY #200 A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd

*LENTEN DOXOLOGY

ERHALT UNS, HERR

Praise_ God from_ whom all_ bless - ings flow. Praise God, all

Crea - tures here be - low. Praise God, a - bove_, | ye

Heav - en - ly host. Praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bless, O God, these gifts that we have received from your bounty. As we return them to you, may they honor you. As we use them in your service, may they be a blessing to all. Amen.


ANNOUNCEMENTS

Butch Sorenson

*CLOSING HYMN

JESUS CHRIST: PASSION AND DEATH


197 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna




1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil-dren sang;
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,
 3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an-cient song we sing,



through pil - lared court and tem - ple the joy - ful an - them rang.
 the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant-ing clear and loud;
 for Christ is our Re - deem - er; the Lord of heaven, our King.



To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to his breast,
 the Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,
 O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,



the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
 nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid-ding wait.
 and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice.

The opening two stanzas narrate the first Palm Sunday in the past tense, but the third stanza shifts to the present tense to emphasize what current singers do and believe. The repeated elements in this anonymous German tune suggest the repetitive patterns in a crowd's chant.

TEXT: Jennette Threlfall, 1873, alt.
 MUSIC: Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Württembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784; alt.

ELLACOMBE
 7.6.7.6.D

BENEDICTION

Rev. Melanie Marsh

POSTLUDE #198 Ride On in Majesty!

You are invited to Holy Week Services as we journey through the most sacred time in the Christian calendar. Here at Riviera Presbyterian Church, we will commemorate the final days of Jesus Christ, which led to His crucifixion, and celebrate His glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Maundy Thursday Service March 28 starting at 6:30 pm Soup Supper and 7:00 pm Service

On Maundy Thursday, we will gather for a powerful service to commemorate the Last Supper and recall the passion of our Lord, the pain, the suffering, and the grief he bore for our sake. Let us unite in humility and fellowship as we remember the profound love and sacrifice demonstrated by our Savior. As our special guests in this service, we welcome Miami Sound Space's Threshold Choir, which will share its compassionate presence, offering comfort and peace with their gentle voices and heartfelt melodies.

Good Friday Service March 29 at 12:00 noon at Coral Gables United Church of Christ.

Join us on Good Friday for a solemn service as we mark, through scripture, reflection, and music, Jesus's suffering and passion.

Easter Sunday Celebration March 31 at 11:00 am

Finally, join us on Easter Sunday as we rejoice in the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Experience the joy of new life and the triumph of light over darkness as we celebrate the Risen Lord in a service filled with joy through festive music, inspiring words, and thoughtful prayers.

Following worship, we will share fellowship time with refreshments, an Easter egg hunt, and an Easter photo station.

Hi Riviera family!

We are starting a new class right after Easter that will be similar to the Empathy class we did in the Fall.

The title is *"Don't Sing Songs to A Heavy Heart: How to Relate to Those Who Are Suffering"* by Kenneth Haugk (founder of Stephen Ministries)

This book is designed to give us tools to help others through times of loss and grief.

The class dates are all Sunday after service: April 7th and 21st, May 5th and 19th in the library.

Two of the dates fall on the first Sunday of the month so we will already have lunch provided.

For the other two, we will be asking people from the class to bring food to share.

Please contact me at kc33134@aol.com if you would like a copy of the book. Riviera will provide the books.

If you can't make all the dates, please feel free to join us when you can. We will have a few extra books available for you to use.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Karen Collier
Chair of Congregational Care



Christian Education for Adults:

On Sundays, we discuss the Bible scriptures for the day. Join us at 10:00 a.m. ET, in person, in the church library, or on Zoom.

Theology Uncorked: Join us for a discussion and fellowship on theology in the modern era on the second Sunday of the month at 5:00 p.m. at UnSeen Creatures Brewery.

Women's Study Group: If you are interested in finding out more about the Women's Study Group, which meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm via Zoom, please reach out to Karen Collier at kc33134@aol.com


Ukulele Ensemble: After worship, please speak to Walter if you are interested in joining the Ukulele Ensemble. We have ukuleles available to loan.

Bell Choir: If you wish to join the Bell Choir, please also speak to Walter.



Join Us for a Season of Creation Art Installation Project!

Calling all volunteers! Are you passionate about art and the environment? We're looking for dedicated individuals to help us assemble a special art installation for Season of Creation!

 When: First week of April

 Time: TBA

 Where: Riviera's Sanctuary

 Who: Volunteers of all ages welcome!

Be a part of something beautiful and impactful! This installation aims to raise awareness about environmental issues and celebrate our planet's beauty through art as we journey together through this Season of Creation.

No previous experience is required - just bring your enthusiasm and willingness to help! Speak to Pastor Melanie if you are interested.

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Riviera Presbyterian Church – PCUSA
(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

Certified Church Administrator

Church Bookkeeper

Nursery Caregiver

Sacred Space Caretaker

All the People

Rev. Melanie Marsh

Dr. Walter Busse

Barbara Prieto

Diana Florez

Josephine Gurri

Glenda Bertran

Session	Session	Session
<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>
Laura Fothergill	Karen Collier	Amparo Hernandez
Rey Prieto	Susan Mazzola	Kathy Stults
Alejandra Rondon		Lisa Torchut
Butch Sorenson		
Cris Sweeny		