



First United Methodist Church of Riverside (<https://firstchurchriverside.org>)

November 29, 2020: First Sunday of Advent (HOPE)

ALL ARE WELCOME TO WORSHIP ONLINE (Livestream): 10:00 AM

<https://facebook.com/firstchurchriverside/live>

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE: *"Savior of the Nations, Come"* (by Johann Sebastian Bach) / Robert Phillips, Organist

TRINITY BELLS / Robert Phillips, Organist

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY (VIDEO) / Melissa & Jonathon Williams (Williams Family)

Today is First Sunday of Advent – the Sunday of HOPE!

Isaiah 60:2-3

For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Hope. May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation.

(All) O come, O come, Emmanuel.

ADVENT CANDLE SONG: *"Christ, Be Our Light!"* / All (Led by Kris Lovekin; Carmen Lonsbery and Gayla Lonsbery, Bells; Accompanied by Robert Phillips, Organist)

Christ, be our light! Shine in our
 hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.
 Christ, be our light! Shine in your
 Church gath - ered to - day.

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE (While Singing the Advent Candle Song) / David Fraser, Liturgist

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Adapted from Isaiah 64, Mark 13*) / David Fraser, Liturgist

(Liturgist) We are waiting . . .
 in the dark of the year we are waiting.

**(All) We are waiting . . .
 for the potter to shape our lives.**

(L) We are waiting . . .
 to see clearly what lies hidden in darkness.

**(All) We are waiting, awake and alert . . .
 ready for God to come.**

(L) In the darkness a candle is lit.
 The light comforts our waiting.

(All) The light reminds us of the one who is come. Amen!

WELCOME / Rev. J. T. Kim

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER (ADVENT): UM Hymnal #201 / Led by Rev. J. T. Kim

Merciful God, you sent your messengers, the prophets, to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation. Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may celebrate aright the commemoration of the nativity, and may

await with joy the coming in glory of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME / Sarah Overton-Fraser

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Peter 1:3-9, 13-16 (NRSV) / David Fraser, Liturgist

A Living Hope

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith – being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire – may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

A Call to Holy Living

¹³Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. ¹⁴Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance. ¹⁵Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; ¹⁶for it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.'

(Liturgist) This is the Word of God for the People of God!

(All) Thanks be to God! Amen!

INTERLUDE: "*The Call*" Kris Lovekin, Soloist / Robert Phillips, Organist

SERMON: "AD FONTES" / Rev. J. T. Kim

HYMN OF DEDICATION: #140 "*Great is Thy Faithfulness*" / All

(Led by Kris Lovekin; Accompanied by Robert Phillips, Organist)

Verse 1

Great is Thy faithfulness,

O God my Father;

There is no shadow

Of turning with thee;

Thou changest not,

Thy compassions, they fail not;

As Thou hast been,

Thou forever wilt be.

Chorus

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning
New mercies I see;
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness,
Lord unto me!

Verse 2

Summer and winter
And springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars
In their courses above
Join with all nature
In manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness,
Mercy, and love.

Verse 3

Pardon for sin
And a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence
To cheer and to guide;
Strength for today
And bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine,
With ten thousand beside!

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING / David Fraser, Liturgist

(Liturgist) Dear Church Family and Friends: I invite you to give your tithes and offerings generously to support our church's missions and ministries. You can give online 24/7 through our church's website: www.firstchurchriverside.org/giving/ Or you can simply mail your offering to the church address. Or you can also drop off your offering envelope into the church office mail slot. Or you may set up automatic draft through your bank. Thank you for being faithful to God through our Church!
(All) Amen!

DOXOLOGY #95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (UNISON) / All (Led by David Fraser, Liturgist)

Generous and loving God, you give us everything we need.

Surrounded and supported by your love, there is nothing we lack.

**As we bring our offerings to you, may they support your work of peace and justice,
and bring hope to the world. As we bring our very selves to you, mold and shape us as
you will, then send us forth to serve. Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN: #196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" / All (Led by Kris Lovekin;
Accompanied by Robert Phillips, Organist)**

Verse 1

**Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.**

Verse 2

**Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.**

BENEDICTION / Rev. J. T. Kim

**POSTLUDE: "Two Chorale Settings for Advent" (by Johann Sebastian Bach) /
Robert Phillips, Organist**

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God Bless You! Stay in Love with God!



A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

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