



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

November 8, 2020: 23rd Sunday After Pentecost

ALL ARE WELCOME TO WORSHIP ONLINE (Livestream):

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE: "Blessed Assurance" (by J. Bert Carlson) / Robert Phillips, Organist

TRINITY BELLS / Robert Phillips, Organist

OPENING HYMN: #117 "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" / All (Led by Phil Bremenstuhl; Accompanied by Robert Phillips, Organist)

Verse 1

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home!

Verse 2

Under the shadow of Thy throne,
Still may we dwell secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.

Verse 3

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting, Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

Verse 4

A thousand ages, in Thy sight,
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night,
Before the rising sun.

Verse 5

Time, like an ever rolling stream,
Bears all who breathe away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

Verse 6

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come;
Be Thou our guide while life shall last,
And our eternal home.

WELCOME / Rev. J. T. Kim

CALL TO WORSHIP / Yvonne Flagg, Liturgist

(Liturgist) Our ancestors have led us here.

(All) We are witnesses of their faith.

(L) The wisdom of the ages has called us here.

(All) We are children of its call.

(L) The choice to follow God lies before us.

(All) We are heirs of its promise.

(L) The Lord of life has called us here.

(All) We are here to worship the Lord. Amen!

(Adapted from Joshua 24, Psalm 78, 1 Thess. 4)

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER / Rev. J. T. Kim

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

CHILDREN'S TIME / Pastor J. T. Kim

SCRIPTURE READING: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 (NRSV) / Yvonne Flagg, Liturgist
Covenant Renewal

¹Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ²And Joshua said to all the people, 'Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors – Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor – lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. ³Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many...

¹⁴'Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the

gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.'

¹⁶Then the people answered, 'Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

¹⁹But Joshua said to the people, 'You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. ²⁰If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.' ²¹And the people said to Joshua, 'No, we will serve the Lord!' ²²Then Joshua said to the people, 'You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him.' And they said, 'We are witnesses.' ²³He said, 'Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.' ²⁴The people said to Joshua, 'The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey.' ²⁵So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

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

(All) Thanks be to God! Amen!

INTERLUDE: *"Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior"* (words by Fanny Crosby, music by William H. Doane) / Phil Bremenstuhl, Soloist (Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

SERMON: *"YOUR CHOICES MAKE WHO YOU ARE"* / Rev. J. T. Kim

HYMN OF DEDICATION: #2188 "The Family Prayer Song" / All (Led by Phil Bremenstuhl; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)



1. Come and fill our homes with your pres - ence;
2. Lord we vow to live ho - ly,



you a - lone are wor - thy of our rev - erence.
bow - ing our knees to you on - ly.



As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. As for



me and my house, we will serve the Lord. As for me and my house,



we will serve the Lord. We will serve the Lord.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING / Yvonne Flagg, Liturgist

(Liturgist) We need oil for our lamps, food for our tables, and love for our lives. Let us share the bounty we have received, that no one may be left out alone in the dark.

(All) Amen!

Online Giving: <https://www.firstchurchriverside.org/giving/>

Mail To: First United Methodist Church, 4845 Brockton Ave., Riverside, CA 92506;

You can also drop off your offering envelope into the church office mail slot;

Or please consider automatic draft through your bank.

Thank you for being faithful to God through our Church!

DOXOLOGY: #95 / All

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow / Praise Him, all creatures here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts / Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (UNISON) / All (Led by Yvonne Flagg, Liturgist)

We come before you, O God, with gifts in your name in service of the world.

We bring you this offering, as a symbol of our choice to follow you.

Receive these gifts of love, that they may go forth as your blessing and wisdom for the world. Amen.

SENDING HYMN: #369 "Blessed Assurance" / All (Led by Phil Bremenstuhl; Accompanied by Robert Phillips, Organist)

Verse 1

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Chorus

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Verse 2

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Verse 3

Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

BENEDICTION / Rev. J. T. Kim

POSTLUDE: "Toccata on 'St. Anne'" (by Page C. Long) / Robert Phillips, Organist

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God Bless You! Stay in Love with God!



*(Our Big Thanks to the Worship/Media Team who has faithfully served today:
Phil Bremenstuhl, Yvonne Flagg, Steve Grimes, Kris Lovekin,
Robert Phillips, Cassie Lonsbery, Dan Lonsbery and Gayla Lonsbery)*

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