



First United Methodist Church of Riverside (<https://firstchurchriverside.org>)
February 28, 2021: Second Sunday in Lent; Black History Celebration Sunday
ALL ARE WELCOME TO WORSHIP ONLINE (Livestream): 10:00 AM

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE: *"There Is a Balm in Gilead"* (by Adolphus Hailstork) / Robert Phillips, Organist

TRINITY BELLS / Robert Phillips, Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP / Valerie Othon, Liturgist

(Liturgist) My Lord, what a morning! You have raised up a mighty nation and a mighty people

(All) And we are strong, proud, and yours.

(L) My Lord, what a morning! You have brought us through the dips and hollows, up and down the streets, over the hills and mountains and through the valleys.

(All) And we are strong, proud, brave and yours.

(L) My Lord, this morning, we have come to celebrate you, to affirm ourselves as images of you in all your glory and to say, "Yes, Lord, we are strong, proud, brave, and yours in every way."

(All) We count it all joy! Amen!

(Adapted from Online *Liturgy Resources for Black History Month Worship*: Discipleship Ministries of The United Methodist Church)

OPENING HYMN: #494 "Kum Ba Yah (Come by Here)" (African-American Spiritual, harm. by Carlton R. Young) / All (Led by Val Othon; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

Verse 1

Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah.

Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah.

**Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah.
Oh, Lord, kum ba yah!**

Verse 2

**Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah.
Oh, Lord, kum ba yah!**

Verse 3

**Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah.
Oh, Lord, kum ba yah!**

Verse 4

**Someone needs you, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone needs you, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone needs you, Lord, kum ba yah.
Oh, Lord, kum ba yah!**

Verse 5

**Someone's singing, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone's singing, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone's singing, Lord, kum ba yah.
Oh, Lord, kum ba yah!**

Verse 6

**Let us praise the Lord, kum ba yah.
Let us praise the Lord, kum ba yah.
Let us praise the Lord, kum ba yah.
Oh, Lord, kum ba yah!**

WELCOME / Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

**THE CHURCH AT PRAYER / Rev. J. T. Kim
Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

**PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE (UNISON) / All (Led by Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor)
Spirit of God among us, you have chased us. And far too often we have run from you.
We have resisted the call to be blameless in your sight. We have rejected your mandate
to eradicate racism and sexism. We have ignored your plea to care for the children and to**

bless the elderly. Forgive us, we pray, and renew in us a clean heart. Help us to speak continuously a new Holy-Spirit-created language of unity and peace. Amen.

(B. Kevin Smalls, *The Africana Worship Book*, For Year B, Valerie Bridgeman Davis, PhD and Safiyah Fosua, eds.; *Discipleship Resources*, 2007)

CHILDREN'S TIME / Valerie Othon

GOSPEL READING: Mark 8:31-38 (NRSV) / Valerie Othon, Liturgist

Jesus' Call to Discipleship

³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel,^[a] will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸ Those who are ashamed of me and of my words^[b] in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

(All) Glory to You, O Christ! Amen!

MUSIC INTERLUDE (Video): "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" (arranged by Larry Sue) / Handbells (Steefeni Johnson, Jason Handen, Carmen Lonsbery and Gayla Lonsbery)

SERMON: "TAKING UP YOUR CROSS DAILY" / Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

HYMN OF DEDICATION #533: "We Shall Overcome" (Afro-American Spiritual, music adapt. by William Farley Smith) / All (Led by Valerie Othon; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

Verse 1

We shall overcome, we shall overcome,
we shall overcome someday!
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe
we shall overcome someday!

Verse 2

We'll walk hand in hand, we'll walk hand in hand,
we'll walk hand in hand someday!
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe
we'll walk hand in hand someday!

Verse 3

We shall all be free, we shall all be free,
we shall all be free someday!
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe
we shall all be free someday!

Verse 4

We shall live in peace, we shall live in peace,
we shall live in peace someday!
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe
we shall live in peace someday!

Verse 5

The Lord will see us through, the Lord will see us through,
the Lord will see us through someday!
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe
the Lord will see us through someday!

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (Adapted from Genesis 17, Psalm 22) / Valerie Othon, Liturgist
(Liturgist) The psalmist proclaims that creation will remember and return to God. As those
blessed to be a blessing to others, may we return to God with the gifts of our hands and hearts.
(All) Amen!

DOXOLOGY #95 / All (Led by Valerie Othon, Accompanied by Robert Phillips)
**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 (Adapted from Genesis 17, Psalm 22) / All (Led by Valerie
Othon, Liturgist)
**God of manifold blessings, bless our lives to your service, even as we consecrate these gifts
in service of a world in need. May our offering go forth this day, and be a reflection of your
glory for all who struggle to know your ways. As these gifts go forth to do your work, may
they help others hear your voice as you call their names. In the spirit of your grace and
peace, we pray. Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: #402 "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" (Afro-American Spiritual, adapt. and arr. by William Farley Smith) / All (Led by Valerie Othon; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

Verse 1

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Verse 2

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Verse 3

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

Verse 4

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

BENEDICTION (UNISON) / All (Led by Pastor Kim)

Today is all we have. We will rejoice, we will be renewed and we will learn from the past, cherish today, and welcome the future because you have given us a powerful and sacred history. We will teach and learn, speak and listen, and grow strong every day of every month. Amen.

(Adapted from Online Liturgy Resources for Black History Month Worship: Discipleship Ministries of The United Methodist Church)

POSTLUDE: "Postlude on Two Spirituals ("Go Down, Moses" and "I Want to Be Ready")" (by Charles Callahan) / Robert Phillips, Organist

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God Bless You! Stay in Love with God!



*(Our Big Thanks to the Worship/Media Team members who have faithfully served today:
Organist: Robert Phillips
Children's Time/Liturgist/Hymn Leader: Valerie Othon
Handbell Ringers: Steefeni Johnson, Jason Handen, Carmen Lonsbery and Gayla Lonsbery
Media/Livestream Team: Dan Lonsbery, Cassie Lonsbery, Gayla Lonsbery,
and Steve Grimes
Online Greeter: Kris Lovekin
Altar Décor: Rev. Beverly Devine and the Décor Team)*

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