



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

February 7, 2021: 5th Sunday after the Epiphany; Holy Communion Sunday

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

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE: *"Let Us Break Bread Together"* (by Charles Callahan) / Robert Phillips, Organist

TRINITY BELLS / Robert Phillips, Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP (Adapted from Isa 40, Ps 147, 1 Cor 9) / Ruth Walker and Jennifer Walker, Co-Liturgists

Voice 1: Is anyone here feeling tired?

Voice 2: YES! I am weary and weighed down with burdens.

All: Take heart! God gives us strength and energy.

Voice 1: Is anyone here hurt or grieving?

Voice 2: YES! I am wounded and in pain.

All: Take heart! God heals broken hearts.

Voice 1: Is anyone here short on cash, pinched for resources?

Voice 2: YES! I am overwhelmed with debt and the effort of making ends meet.

All: Take heart! God's reward is free for the taking.

Voice 1: Is anyone here left out, shunned, outcast?

Voice 2: YES! I have been pushed to the margins, labeled unworthy of inclusion.

All: Take heart! God is calling your name and waiting to gather you close in love! Amen!

OPENING HYMN: #139 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" Verses 1, 3, 5 only (by Joachim Neander and Catherine Winkworth) / All (Led by Phil Bremenstuhl, Hymn Leader; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

Verse 1

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
The King of creation!
O my soul, praise him,
For he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!

Verse 3

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper
Thy work and defend thee;
Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
Who with his love doth befriend thee.

Verse 5

Praise to the Lord!
O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath,
Come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
Gladly forever adore him.

WELCOME / Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

INTRODUCTION OF NEW DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY & YOUNG FAMILY
OUTREACH PROGRAMS (Video) / Mateo Mamea (with his wife Nidia Mesa-Mamea)

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

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

CHILDREN'S TIME / Ruth Walker and Jennifer Walker

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 40:28-31 (NRSV)/ Ruth Walker and Jennifer Walker,
Co-Liturgists

God Strengthens the Powerless

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹ He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.

**30 Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
31 but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.**

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

(All) Thanks be to God! Amen!

INTERLUDE: "On Eagle's Wings" (Based on Psalm 91; Music by Michael Joncas; arranged by Mark Hayes) / Phil Bremenstuhl, Soloist, Accompanied by Robert Phillips

SERMON: "IT'S A BETTER WORLD SINCE YOU CAME ALONG" / Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING / Ruth Walker and Jennifer Walker, Co-Liturgists

(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/ 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. You may also consider setting 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" (by Thomas Ken and Louis Bourgeois) / All (Led by Phil Bremenstuhl, 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 (Unison) / All (Led by Ruth Walker and Jennifer Walker, Co-Liturgists)

**God, you have created the universe.
Everything we see has come into being because of you.
Your glory is beyond our comprehension.
Yet you give us the most precious gift imaginable:
your everlasting love and faithfulness.
With great joy we now offer our own gifts –
puny in comparison, but given with grateful hearts
that belong to you, now and always.
We are thankful for the opportunity**

to put these gifts to work
proclaiming your gospel of love. Amen.

HYMN OF INVITATION: #618 "Let Us Break Bread Together" Verses 1, 2, 3 only (Afro-American Spiritual, adapted and arranged by William Farley Smith) / All (Led by Phil Bremenstuhl; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

Verse 1

Let us break bread together on our knees,
Let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Verse 2

Let us drink wine together on our knees,
Let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Verse 3

Let us praise God together on our knees,
Let us praise God together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

HOLY COMMUNION WITH MUSIC RESPONSES

INVITATION

(Pastor) Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

(All) Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

PARDON

(Pastor) Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

(People) In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

(All) Glory to God! Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

(Pastor) The Lord be with you.

(All) And also with you.

(Pastor) Lift up your hearts.

(All) We lift them up to the Lord.

(Pastor) Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

(All) It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(Pastor) It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(All Sing)

Elise Eslinger
(after NICAEA)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might.
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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(Pastor) Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

(All Sing)



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(Pastor) Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

(All Sing)



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THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Pastor) And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

(All) Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

(Please take your Bread and Cup now at your home)

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

(All) Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING HYMN: #534 "Be Still, My Soul" (by Katharina von Schlegel, music by Jean Sibelius, trans. by Jane Borthwick) / All (Led by Phil Bremenstuhl; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

Verse 1

**Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side.
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide;
In every change God faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**

Verse 2

**Be still, my soul: your God will undertake
To guide the future, as in ages past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
The Christ who ruled them while he dwelt below.**

Verse 3

**Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.**

BENEDICTION / Rev. J. T. Kim

POSTLUDE: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (by Johann Gottfried Walther) / 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:

Co-Liturgists: Ruth Walker and Jennifer Walker

Children's Time: Ruth Walker and Jennifer Walker

Organist: Robert Phillips

Hymn Leader: Phil Bremenstuhl

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and Steve Grimes*

Online Greeter: Kris Lovekin

Altar Décor: Rev. Beverly Devine and the Décor Team)

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