



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

**May 23, 2021: Pentecost Sunday**

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

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

## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**PRELUDE:** *"Veni, Creator Spiritus"* (By James Biery) / Robert Phillips, Organist

**TRINITY BELLS** / Robert Phillips, Organist

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** (Adapted from Acts 2) (Video) / Richard Rajaratnam, Co-Liturgist  
(Liturgist) Come, Holy Spirit, come.

**(All) We are ready and waiting.**

(Liturgist) Come, Holy Spirit, come.

**(All) We yearn for your presence and power.**

(Liturgist) Come, Holy Spirit, come.

**(All) Bring your gifts and your guidance.**

(Liturgist) Come, Holy Spirit, come.

**(All) Amen!**

**OPENING HYMN:** #393 *"Spirit of the Living God"* (By Daniel Iverson) / All (Led by Kris Lovekin, Hymn Leader; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

**Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.**

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

**WELCOME** / Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

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

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

**PRAYER FOR THE DAY OF PENTECOST (UNISON) (UM Hymn #542) /**

Led by Pastor Kim

**God of grace,**

**you sent the promised gift of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and the women,  
upon Mary, the mother of Jesus, and upon his brothers.**

**Fill your church with power, kindle flaming hearts within us,**

**and cause us to proclaim your mighty works in every tongue,**

**that all may call on you and be saved;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S TIME (Video) / Tina Rajaratnam, Co-Liturgist**

**SCRIPTURE READING: Romans 8:22-27 (NRSV) (Video) / Richard Rajaratnam, Co-Liturgist**

*The Spirit Helps Us in Our Weakness*

**<sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.**

**<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.**

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

**(All) Thanks be to God! Amen!**

**INTERLUDE: "I Waited For the Lord" (From the cantata "Hymn of Praise" by Felix Mendelssohn) / Duet by Yvonne Flagg and Kris Lovekin, Accompanied by Robert Phillips**

**GOSPEL READING: John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15 (NRSV) (Video) / Tina Rajaratnam, Co-Liturgist**

*When the Holy Spirit Comes*

**<sup>26</sup>"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. <sup>27</sup>You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning...**

*The Work of the Spirit*

**<sup>6:4b</sup>... "I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup>But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' <sup>6</sup>But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup>And**

when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: <sup>9</sup>about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup>about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

<sup>12</sup>"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

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

**SERMON: "HOPE AND THE HOLY SPIRIT" / Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor**

**HYMN OF DEDICATION: #368 "My Hope Is Built"** (Verses 1, 2 & 3 only) (Words by Edward Mote; Music by William B. Bradbury) / All (Led by Kris Lovekin; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

### Verse 1

My hope is built on nothing less  
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

### Refrain

On Christ the solid rock I stand,  
all other ground is sinking sand;  
all other ground is sinking sand.

### Verse 2

When darkness veils his lovely face,  
I rest on his unchanging grace.  
In every high and stormy gale,  
my anchor holds within the veil.

[Refrain]

### Verse 3

His oath, his covenant, his blood  
supports me in the whelming flood.  
When all around my soul gives way,  
he then is all my hope and stay.

[Refrain]

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING** (Adapted from Romans 8) (Video) / Richard Rajaratnam, Co-Liturgist

(Liturgist) We were saved in hope, and in this time of offering, we are invited to hope for what we don't see; we are encouraged to help create hope for what others can't see. Let us give generously through the power of God's Holy Spirit, for we are the sons and daughters of God.

**(All) Amen!**

**HOW TO GIVE:**

- Online: Please click [www.firstchurchriverside.org/giving](http://www.firstchurchriverside.org/giving)
- Scan: This QR code (shown below) will lead you to our church website's eGiving page (it's handy if you use your smart phone).



- Mail: To First UMC of Riverside, 4845 Brockton Ave., Riverside, CA 92506.
- Drop Off: Please use the church's mail slot.
- Automatic Draft: Please set it up through your bank, if you have not done so yet.

Thank you so much for being faithful to God through our Church!

**DOXOLOGY:** #95 *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"* / All (Led by Kris Lovekin, 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)** (Video) / All (Led by Richard Rajaratnam, Co-Liturgist)

**(All) When we do not know how to pray, your Holy Spirit prays for us in sighs too deep for words. Hear our prayers for goodness in the world. Receive these gifts, that they may help answer the Holy Spirit's hope for all creation. Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN:** #347 *"Spirit Song"* (By John Wimber) / All (Led by Kris Lovekin; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

Verse 1

O let the Son of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love.  
Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.  
O let him have the things that hold you,  
and his Spirit like a dove will descend  
upon your life and make you whole.

Refrain

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.  
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

Verse 2

O come and sing this song with gladness  
as your hearts are filled with joy.  
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.  
O give him all your tears and sadness;  
give him all your years of pain,  
and you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.  
[Refrain]

BENEDICTION / Pastor J. T. Kim

POSTLUDE: "*Fantasia in G (Abridged)*" (By Johann Sebastian Bach) / Robert Phillips,  
Organist

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*God Bless You! Stay in Love with God!*



A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

*(Our Big Thanks to the Worship/Media Team members who have faithfully served today:*

*Co-Liturgists: Tina and Richard Rajaratnam*

*Children's Time: Tina Rajaratnam*

*Organist: Robert Phillips*

*Hymn Leader: Kris Lovekin*

*Duet: Yvonne Flagg and Kris Lovekin*

*Media/Livestream Team: Dan Lonsbery, Cassie Lonsbery, and Gayla Lonsbery*

*Online Greeter: Kris Lovekin*

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

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