



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday Worship (In-Person & Online)

Remembrance Sunday (The 20th Anniversary of 9/11)

First United Methodist Church of Riverside (<https://firstchurchriverside.org>)
September 12, 2021: 16th Sunday after Pentecost; Remembrance Sunday (20th Anniversary of 9/11)
ALL ARE WELCOME TO WORSHIP IN-PERSON OR ONLINE AT 10:00 AM

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

(Audio Only: To listen to Sunday Livestreaming - Call 1-877-755-5136)

ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Please stand if you are able.

PRELUDE: "Adagio for Strings" (By Samuel Barber; arranged by William Strickland) /
Robert Phillips, Organist

***TRINITY BELLS** / Robert Phillips, Organist

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** (Adapted from Proverbs 1) / Sarah Overton-Fraser, Liturgist
(Liturgist) Wisdom shouts her warnings in the street.

(People) We have come to forsake our foolish ways.

(Liturgist) Wisdom longs to pour out her Spirit on all flesh.

(People) We will not shrink from her blessings.

(Liturgist) Wisdom imparts holy knowledge to save us.

(People) We will not shut out the lessons she teaches.

(Liturgist) Let us worship in spirit and in truth.

(All) Amen!

***OPENING HYMN:** #157 "Jesus Shall Reign" (Verses 1, 3, & 5 only) (Words by Isaac Watts;
Music by John Hatton) / All (Led by Yvonne Flagg)

Verse 1

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom spread from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

Verse 3

People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

Verse 5

Let every creature rise and bring
honors peculiar to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen!

WELCOME / Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

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

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER FOR THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

(Pastor) We remember, God of history and remembrance, we remember.

(People) We remember when the towers fell and the lives were lost; we remember the dust and the smoke, the despair, and the grief.

(Pastor) We remember that sense of vulnerability and shock.

(People) We remember the numbness that overwhelmed us as we watched our screens for hours and hours, waiting for an explanation and understanding that never came.

(All) We remember.

(Pastor) We remember, God of hope and presence, we remember.

(People) We remember the heroes, those who rushed to help, who guided the wounded down innumerable flights of stairs, who rose to overwhelm those who held death in their hands.

(Pastor) We remember the hours and the days of binding wounds and healing hurts, giving comfort, drying tears.

(People) We remember words of support and compassion from nations far and wide.

(All) We remember.

(Pastor) We remember in part because we see the ripples of that tragic day continue to impact our world twenty years later.

(People) We grieve with allies today as our allies grieved with us twenty years ago.

(Pastor) And together we wonder if there will ever be an end . . . to violence, to war, to hatred, to death.

(People) We remember and we grieve our world's inability to learn the things that lead to peace.

(Pastor) We call to you now in our remembrance, God of justice and of peace.

(People) Give us a will to truly pray that your kin-dom may come on earth as it is in heaven.

(All) Amen and Amen.

(Pastor) On this day of solemn remembrance:

(People) May we honor the lives that were lost in this tragic act.

(Pastor) May we give thanks for those who served and saved, rendered aid and assistance.

(People) May we give comfort to those who live with loss.

(All) May we seek justice and peace where it is within our ability, and rely on you when the ability escapes us.

(Pastor) On this day of solemn remembrance:

(People) May we build what has been torn down.

(Pastor) May we mend what has been broken.

(People) May we live your love when hate seems to reign.

(All) May we bear witness to the cause of peace. Amen.

(Adapted from "Prayers for the Twentieth Anniversary of 9/11," Written by Derek Weber; Online Resource from Discipleship Ministries of The United Methodist Church)

CHILDREN'S TIME / Sarah Overton-Fraser

SCRIPTURE READING: James 3:1-12 (CEB) / Sarah Overton-Fraser, Liturgist

Taming the tongue

¹My brothers and sisters, not many of you should become teachers, because we know that we teachers will be judged more strictly. ²We all make mistakes often, but those who don't make mistakes with their words have reached full maturity. Like a bridled horse, they can control themselves entirely. ³When we bridle horses and put bits in their mouths to lead them wherever we want, we can control their whole bodies.

⁴Consider ships: They are so large that strong winds are needed to drive them. But pilots direct their ships wherever they want with a little rudder. ⁵In the same way, even though the tongue is a small part of the body, it boasts wildly.

Think about this: A small flame can set a whole forest on fire. ⁶The tongue is a small flame of fire, a world of evil at work in us. It contaminates our entire lives. Because of it, the circle of life is set on fire. The tongue itself is set on fire by the flames of hell.

⁷People can tame and already have tamed every kind of animal, bird, reptile, and fish. ⁸No one can tame the tongue, though. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we both bless the Lord and Father and curse human beings made in God's likeness. ¹⁰Blessing and cursing come from the same mouth. My brothers and sisters, it just shouldn't be this way!

¹¹Both fresh water and salt water don't come from the same spring, do they? ¹²My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree produce olives? Can a grapevine produce figs? Of course not, and fresh water doesn't flow from a saltwater spring either.

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

(All) Thanks be to God! Amen!

INTERLUDE: *"I Will Sing New Songs"* (By Antonin Dvorak) / Yvonne Flagg, Soloist;
Accompanied by Robert Phillips

SERMON: **"GUARDING YOUR HEART"** / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

***HYMN OF DEDICATION:** #408 *"The Gift of Love"* (Words by Hal Hopson; Music trad.
English melody; adapt. by Hal Hopson) / All (Led by Yvonne Flagg)

Verse 1

**Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain,
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.**

Verse 2

**Though I may give all I possess,
and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within,
the profit soon turns strangely thin.**

Verse 3

**Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
by this we worship, and are freed.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (Adapted from Psalm 19) / Sarah Overton-Fraser,
Liturgist

(Liturgist) Sing praises to God with the mighty firmament, for truly the heavens are telling
the glory of God. As we sing our praises, let us share from our abundance, to the glory of
God.

(All) Amen!

HOW TO GIVE/ Sarah Overton-Fraser, Liturgist

- Online: Please click 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 Yvonne Flagg, 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 /** Sarah Overton-Fraser, Liturgist

**Glorious God, your teachings are more to be desired than fine gold and precious silver;
your blessings are more to be sought than all the jewels of the earth. May the gifts we
bring before you today share your blessings with those in need. In Jesus's name, we pray.
Amen.**

LEGACY GIVING MOMENT: "Frances Franz" / Bob Nelson

LAITY BLESSINGS / Loretta Cudney, Co-Lay Leader

***SENDING HYMN:** #472 *"Near to the Heart of God"* (By Cleland B. McAfee) / All (Led by Yvonne Flagg; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

Verse 1

**There is a place of quiet rest,
near to the heart of God;
a place where sin cannot molest,
near to the heart of God.**

Refrain

**O Jesus, blest Redeemer,
sent from the heart of God,**

hold us who wait before thee
near to the heart of God.

Verse 2

There is a place of comfort sweet,
near to the heart of God;
a place where we our Savior meet,
near to the heart of God.

[Refrain]

Verse 3

There is a place of full release,
near to the heart of God;
a place where all is joy and peace,
near to the heart of God.

[Refrain]

***RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION** (Adapted from Prov 1, Ps 19, Jas 3, Mark 8)

(Pastor) As we go forth, may the words of our mouths be acceptable and true.

(People) May the meditations of our hearts be loving and pure.

(Pastor) As we leave this place, may the actions of our lives be compassionate and just.

(All) May the stirrings of our hearts be guided by God's thoughts and wisdom. Amen!

POSTLUDE: "Toccata on 'Jesus Shall Reign'" (By Gilbert M. Martin) / Robert Phillips,
Organist

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God Bless You!



A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

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

Liturgist & Children's Time: Sarah Overton-Fraser

Interlude & Hymn Leader: Yvonne Flagg

Organist: Robert Phillips

Media/Livestream Team: Dan Lonsbery, Cassie Lonsbery, and Gayla Lonsbery
Online Greeter: Kris Lovekin
Laity Blessings: Loretta Cudney, Co-Lay Leader
Altar Décor: Rev. Beverly Devine and the Décor Team
Head Usher: Matt Gorder

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

(Since August 2021)

Lynn Ashworth, Cheryl Riggs, Taylor Family, Eugene Brown, Jason Pritchard, Nathaniel Pritchard, Don Nauss, Greg Campbell, Tony Miller, Lisa & David Wallace, Winston, Madison (and her father), Jeff Rindskopf, Randy, Jordan, Jim Ashworth, Family of LuEtta Dodge, Margaret Berger, Caleb Fruean-Brown, Lee Ann and Alfred Kocharian, Family of Clarence Darrow (Kelly Weakly's father), Family of Oliver Marley, Buddy Irving, Brian Weidinger, Rosalie Bustamante.

(Please update our prayer list by contacting our church office. Thank you!)

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