



First Sunday of Advent

Sunday Worship (In-Person & Online)

November 28, 2021, 10 a.m.

First United Methodist Church of Riverside

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

November 28, 2021: First Sunday of Advent; United Methodist Student Day

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.

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES / Joseph & Justice Juarez, Acolytes

PRELUDE: *“Savior of the Nations, Come”* (By Johann Sebastian Bach) / Robert Phillips, Organist

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

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Adapted from Jeremiah 33, Psalm 25) / The Rev. Beverly Devine, Liturgist

(Liturgist) Today is First Sunday of Advent – the Sunday of HOPE! Please join me in Call to Worship. Our promised salvation is at hand.

(People) A righteous branch has sprung forth, bringing hope to our world.

(Liturgist) Our eyes have beheld the goodness and mercy of the Lord.

(People) A Son has been given to us, bringing justice and virtue to our land.

(Liturgist) Our hearts have felt the stirrings of God’s Presence.

(People) The Spirit of truth is here to heal us, teaching transgressors God’s ways.

(Liturgist) Let us worship the God of our salvation.

(People) We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Hope.

(Liturgist) May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation.

(All) O come, O come, Emmanuel.

***LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE** (While Singing the Advent Candle Song) / Rev. Beverly Devine, Liturgist

***ADVENT CANDLE SONG:** *“Christ, Be Our Light!”* / All

Christ, be our light! Shine in our
 hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.
 Christ, be our light! Shine in your
 Church gath - ered to - day.

WELCOME / Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

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

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE: UM Hymnal #201 "Advent" / Led by Pastor Kim

Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation. Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may celebrate aright the commemoration of the nativity and may await with joy the coming in glory of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE: "*Hear Our Prayer, O Lord,*" from "Introits and Responses" (By C. Albert Scholin) / The Aldersgate Chorale (Directed by Yvonne Flagg)

CHILDREN'S TIME / The Rev. Beverly Devine

INTERLUDE: "*Two Chorale Preludes for Advent ('Savior of the Nations, Come,' and 'O Thou of God the Father')*" (By Johann Sebastian Bach) (Video) / Robert Phillips, Organist

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 25:1-10 (KJV) / The Rev. Beverly Devine, Liturgist
A Prayer for God's Faithful Mercy

¹Unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

²O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me.

3 Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause.

4 Shew me thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths.

5 Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.

6 Remember, O Lord, thy tender mercies and thy lovingkindnesses; for they have been ever of old.

7 Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O Lord.

8 Good and upright is the Lord: therefore will he teach sinners in the way.

9 The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.

10 All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

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

(All) Thanks be to God! Amen!

ANTHEM: "How Shall We Know Him?" (By Gilbert M. Martin) / The Aldersgate Chorale
(Directed by Yvonne Flagg)

***GOSPEL READING: Luke 21:25-36 (NRSV)**

The Coming of the Son of Man

25 "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. 26 People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 27 Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. 28 Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

The Lesson of the Fig Tree

29 Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; 30 as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. 31 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. 32 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. 33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."

Exhortation to Watch

34 "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, 35 like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. 36 Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

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

SERMON: "ADVENT: WAITING AND REMEMBERING" / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

SERMON SONG: "Unto Thee, O Lord" (Words and Music by Charles F. Monroe) / All (Led by The Rev. J. T. Kim - During the Sermon)

Verse 1

**Unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.
Unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.**

Refrain

**O my God, I trust in thee;
Let me not be ashamed,
Let not mine enemies triumph over me.**

Verse 2

**Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed.
Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed.
[Refrain]**

Verse 3

**Show me thy ways, thy ways, O Lord.
Teach me thy paths, thy paths, O Lord.
[Refrain]**

Verse 4

**Remember not the sins of my youth.
Remember not the sins of my youth.
[Refrain]**

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: #213 "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" (Words by Georg Weissel, trans. by Catherine Winkworth; Music: *Psalmodia Evangelica*) / All (Led by Kris Lovekin, Accompanied by Robert Phillips)**

Verse 1

**Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
behold the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near;
the Savior of the world is here!**

Verse 2

**Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple set apart**

from earthly use for heaven's employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Verse 3

Redeemer, come, with us abide;
our hearts to thee we open wide;
let us thy inner presence feel;
thy grace and love in us reveal.

Verse 4

Thy Holy Spirit lead us on
until our glorious goal is won;
eternal praise, eternal fame
be offered, Savior, to thy name!

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (Adapted from Psalm 25) / The Rev. Beverly Devine,
Liturgist

(Liturgist) Those who keep God's covenant and decrees walk in the paths of steadfast love and faithfulness. It is right to share our blessings in a world where justice for many is still but a dream, and mercy is but a hope seen from afar. With thankful hearts, let us joyfully share our gifts in gratitude to our God.

(All) Amen!

HOW TO GIVE / The Rev. Beverly Devine, 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 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** (Adapted from 1 Thessalonians 3) / All (Led by The Rev. Beverly Devine, Liturgist)

(All) How can we thank you enough, Blessed One, for all you have given us. May we increase and enrich in love, even as you increase and enrich the gifts we bring before you this day. Send them forth into your world, as signs of the bounty of Christ coming into the world. In your precious name, we pray. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN: #196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"** (Words by Charles Wesley, Music by Rowland H. Prichard) / All (Led by Kris Lovekin, Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

Verse 1

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Verse 2

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

LAITY BLESSINGS / Loretta Cudney, Co-Lay Leader

VIDEO: "A Parable of the Hedgehog"

***BENEDICTION** / Rev. J. T. Kim

POSTLUDE: “*Finale from ‘Partita on Hyfrydol’*” (By Charles Callahan) / Robert Phillips, Organist

CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST TO THE WORLD / Joseph & Justice Juarez, Acolytes

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God Bless You!



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

Liturgist & Children’s Time: The Rev. Beverly Devine

Acolytes: Joseph & Justice Juarez

Chorale Director: Yvonne Flagg

Organist: Robert Phillips

Anthem: The Aldersgate Chorale

Laity Blessings: Loretta Cudney, Co-Lay Leader

Online Greeter & Hymn Leader: Kris Lovekin

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

Altar Décor: Rev. Beverly Devine and the Décor Team

Head Usher: Matt Gorder

“The Parable of the Hedgehog” Video: Lyn Knowles, Loretta Cudney, Mimi Luker, & the Media Team

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Rose Roberts (Jazz & Chandra Roberts’ Family), Chandra Roberts, Lynn Ashworth, Cheryl Riggs, Taylor Family, Eugene Brown, Jason Pritchard, Nathaniel Pritchard, Family of 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, Family of Caleb Fruean-Brown, Lee Ann and Alfred Kocharian, Family of Oliver Marley, Buddy Irving, Brian Weidinger, Rosalie Bustamante, Debbie Hofmann, Patty Binford, John Logger, Bill McInRoe, Dianne Purkey, Mary Bidwell, Mary Boon, Virginia Brawner, Melva Cooke, DeDe Earhart, Velma Wellborn, Bill Wolter, Ruth Walker, Family of Barbara in Germany, Family of Doris Wright.

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

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Please contact the church office for more details.

Sunday (Today), November 28

Children's Chime Choir (Fellowship Hall) - 9:30 am
First Sunday of Advent Worship (Sanctuary) - 10 am
Children's Sunday School (Fellowship Hall) - 10:15 am
Caring Ministry (Mary's Kitchen) - 11:30 am
All Church Conference 2021-2022 (Zoom) - 5:30 pm

Monday, November 29

The 150th Church Anniversary Celebration Task Force Meeting (Zoom) - 7 pm

Tuesday, November 30

Bell Rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) - 7 pm

Wednesday, December 1

Parents' Morning Out (PS Room 2) - 9 am
Youth (Youth Center) - 6:30 pm
Advent Study (Zoom) - 7 pm

Thursday, December 2

Aldersgate Chorale (Music Room) - 7 pm

Sunday, December 5

Children's Chime Choir (Fellowship Hall) - 9:30 am
Second Sunday of Advent Worship (Sanctuary) - 10 am
Children's Sunday School (Fellowship Hall) - 10:15 am
Alternative Gift Fair Setup (Patio) - 8 am
Alternative Gift Fair (Patio) - 11 am -- 3 pm

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Advent Candle Song: "Christ, Be Our Light!" by Bernadette Farrell. OneLicense Song #80229, OneLicense A-735776.

Prayer Response: "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord", from "Introits and Responses," by C. Albert Scholin. OneLicense #A-735776.

Anthem: "How Shall We Know Him?" by Gilbert M. Martin. OneLicense Song #1003388, OneLicense #A-735776.

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