



Epiphany of the Lord Sunday; New Year's Sunday; Holy Communion

## Sunday Worship (In-Person & Online)

January 2, 2022, 10 a.m.

First United Methodist Church of Riverside

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

January 2, 2022: New Year's Sunday; Holy Communion Sunday

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** / Acolytes

**PRELUDE:** *"The Old Year Now Has Passed Away"* (By Johann Sebastian Bach) / Robert Phillips, Organist

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

\***CALL TO WORSHIP:** (Adapted from Psalm 33) / Jeff Ashworth, Liturgist  
(Liturgist) Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Delight in praise, O you upright!  
**(People) Praise the Lord with the lyre, make melody to the Lord with the harp of ten strings!**

(Liturgist) Sing to the Lord a new song, play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

**(People) Upright is the word of the Lord, whose work is done in faithfulness.**

(Liturgist) The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.

**(People) By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all their host by the breath of God's mouth.**

**(All) Amen!**

\***OPENING HYMN:** #249 *"There's A Song in the Air"* (Words by Josiah G. Holland; Music by Karl P. Harrington) / All (Led by Phil Bremenstuhl; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

#### Verse 1

There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky!  
There's a mother's deep prayer and a baby's low cry!  
And the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing,  
for the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

### Verse 2

There's a tumult of joy o'er the wonderful birth,  
for the virgin's sweet boy is the Lord of the earth.  
Ay! the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing,  
for the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

### Verse 3

In the light of that star lie the ages impearled;  
and that song from afar has swept over the world.  
Every hearth is aflame, and the beautiful sing  
in the homes of the nations that Jesus is King!

### Verse 4

We rejoice in the light, and we echo the song  
that comes down through the night from the heavenly throng.  
Ay! we shout to the lovely evangel they bring,  
and we greet in his cradle our Savior and King!

WELCOME / Rev. Roy Riggs, Guest Preacher

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER / Rev. Roy Riggs

Thank you, Lord our God, for being our God. We know that our God is always on time. Our God doesn't waste time. Our God makes time and teaches us what it looks like to make good use of our time on this earth. Without our God, our time is nothing in its impact; our time merely passes by with nothing changing in the world. Thank you, God, for allowing our time to be under your guidance. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME (VIDEO) / Mateo Mamea

INTERLUDE: "*The Kings*" by Peter Cornelius / Phil Bremenstuhl, Soloist

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 9:16-17 (NRSV) / Jeff Ashworth, Liturgist

<sup>16</sup>No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak, for the patch pulls away from the cloak, and a worse tear is made. <sup>17</sup>Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are destroyed; but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved.

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

(All) Thanks be to God! Amen!

SERMON: "OUR SONG" / Rev. Roy Riggs

**\*HYMN OF DEDICATION: #223 "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light"** (Words by Johann Rist; Music by Johann Schop; harm. by J. S. Bach) / All (Led by Phil Bremenstuhl; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

**Verse 1**

Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light,  
and usher in the morning;  
O shepherds, shrink not with affright,  
but hear the angel's warning.  
This child, now weak in infancy,  
our confidence and joy shall be,  
the power of Satan breaking,  
our peace eternal making.

**Verse 2**

This night of wonder, night of joy,  
was born the Christ, our brother;  
he comes, not mighty to destroy,  
to bid us love each other.  
How could he quit his kingly state  
for such a world of greed and hate?  
What deep humiliation  
secured the world's salvation!

**Verse 3**

Come, dearest child, into our hearts,  
and leave your crib behind you!  
Let this be where the new life starts  
for all who seek and find you.  
To you the honor, thanks, and praise,  
for all your gifts this time of grace;  
come, conquer and deliver  
this world, and us, forever.

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING / Jeff Ashworth, Liturgist**

(Liturgist) The Lord is Creator of all and the Giver of every good gift. Let us offer to God a portion of these gifts, that all needs may be met, and that all people may come to know the grace and joy of God.

**(All) Amen!**

**HOW TO GIVE / Jeff Ashworth, Liturgist**

- 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 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 Jeff Ashworth, Liturgist)

**Gracious God, thank you for these gifts. We offer them to you and ask that you bless them, that all may have food, clothing, and shelter. We also offer you our very lives, asking that you bless us and use us, that all may come to know your steadfast love and your unending grace. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

(Pastor) The Lord be with you.

**(People) And also with you.**

(Pastor) Lift up your hearts.

**(People) We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

**(People) 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.

You formed us in your image  
and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed,

your love remained steadfast.  
You delivered us from captivity,  
made covenant to be our sovereign God,  
and spoke to us through the prophets.  
And so, with your people on earth  
and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**(People) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

(Pastor) Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.  
Your Spirit anointed him  
to preach good news to the poor,  
to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovering of sight to the blind,  
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,  
and to announce that the time had come  
when you would save your people.  
He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.  
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.  
When the Lord Jesus ascended,  
he promised to be with us always,  
in the power of your Word and Holy 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.

**(People) Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

(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) Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**(All) Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

## **BREAKING THE BREAD**

(Pastor) Because there is one loaf,  
we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.  
The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.  
The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

## **GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP**

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

**(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.**

**LAITY BLESSINGS / Loretta Cudney, Co-Lay Leader**

**\*SENDING HYMN: #2223 "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love" (By Peter Scholtes)  
/ All (Led by Phil Bremenstuh; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)**

### **Verse 1**

**We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:**

### **Refrain**

**And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

### **Verse 2**

**We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,  
we will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,  
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:  
[Refrain]**

### **Verse 3**

**We will work with each other, we will work side by side,  
we will work with each other, we will work side by side,  
and we'll guard human dignity, and save human pride:**

[Refrain]

Verse 4

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,  
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,  
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:

[Refrain]

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "In Thee Is Gladness" (By Johann Sebastian Bach) / Robert Phillips, Organist

CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST TO THE WORLD / Acolytes

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*Happy New Year!*



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

*Guest Preacher: Rev. Roy Riggs*

*Interlude & Hymn Leader: Phil Bremenstuhl*

*Organist: Robert Phillips*

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

*Online Greeter: Kris Lovekin*

*Laity Blessings: Loretta Cudney, Co-Lay Leader*

*Communion Coordinator: Lee Ann Salmon*

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

*Head Usher: Matt Gorder*

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**Interlude:** "The Kings" by Peter Cornelius; the poem by Cornelius, translation by H. N. Bate. Public Domain.

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