



## Ash Wednesday Service With Holy Communion

*March 2, 2022, 7 p.m. (In-Person & Online)*

First United Methodist Church of Riverside

**March 2, 2022: Ash Wednesday Service with Holy Communion**

ALL ARE WELCOME TO WORSHIP IN-PERSON & ONLINE (Livestream): 7 p.m.

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

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

\*Please stand if you are able.

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

**PRELUDE:** *"Choral Dorian"* (By Jehan Alain) / Robert Phillips, Organist

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

\***CHORAL INTROIT:** *"Seek the Lord"* (By Hal H. Hopson) / The Aldersgate Chorale (Directed by Yvonne Flagg; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

\***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Adapted from Psalm 51) / Rev. Beverly Devine, Liturgist  
(Liturgist) Praise God, who has taught us to sing.

**(People) Praise God, who has gathered us together.**

(Liturgist) We come before God to begin again,

**(People)** to renew our hearts and our spirits.

(Liturgist) Be assured that God's steadfast love surrounds us and upholds us.

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

\***OPENING HYMN:** #269 *"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"* (verses 1, 2, & 3 only) (by Claudia F. Hernaman) / All (Led by Yvonne Flagg, Hymn Leader; Accompanied by Robert Phillips, Organist)

### Verse 1

Lord, who throughout these forty days  
For us didst fast and pray,  
Teach us with thee to mourn our sins  
And close by thee to stay.

### Verse 2

As thou with Satan didst contend,  
And didst the victory win,  
O give us strength in thee to fight,  
In thee to conquer sin.

### Verse 3

As thou didst hunger bear,  
And thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord,  
To die to self, and chiefly live  
by thy most holy word.

(Rev. Beverly Devine, Liturgist) Today marks the beginning of our Lenten journey. As we walk with Jesus toward Jerusalem, we are invited by the prophet Joel to gather as God's people.

(All) Amen!

**SCRIPTURE READING: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 (NRSV) / Rev. Beverly Devine, Liturgist**  
*A Call to Repentance and Prayer*

<sup>1</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near –  
<sup>2</sup> a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come.

<sup>12</sup> Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; <sup>13</sup>rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. <sup>14</sup> Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain-offering and a drink-offering for the Lord, your God? <sup>15</sup> Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; <sup>16</sup>gather the people. Sanctify the congregation;

assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. <sup>17</sup> Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"  
(Liturgist) This is the Word of God for the People of God!  
**(All) Thanks be to God! Amen!**

(Rev. Beverly Devine, Liturgist) We are invited by the psalmist to renew our hearts and to confess our wrongdoings before God. Let us sing "Create in Me a Clean Heart" based on Psalm 51.  
**(All) Amen!**

**\*HYMN OF CONFESSION & RENEWAL:** "*Create in Me a Clean Heart*" / All (Led by Yvonne Flagg; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

### Chorus

**Create in me a clean heart, O Lord my God,  
And renew a right spirit within me (within me).**

### Verse

**Cast me not away from Thy presence, O Lord.  
Take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation (O Lord)  
And renew a right spirit within me.**

(Rev. Beverly Devine, Liturgist) As Matthew proclaims, when we give our hearts to God, we discover the joy of knowing God, the joy of finding our treasure. Please stand for the Gospel Reading!  
**(All) Amen!**

**\*GOSPEL READING:** Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 (NRSV) / Rev. Beverly Devine,  
Liturgist  
*Concerning Almsgiving*

<sup>1</sup> "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. <sup>2</sup> "So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they

have received their reward. <sup>3</sup> But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup> so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

*Concerning Prayer*

<sup>5</sup> "And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup> But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

*Concerning Fasting*

<sup>16</sup> "And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup> But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup> so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

*Concerning Treasures*

<sup>19</sup> "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; <sup>20</sup> but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

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

**ANTHEM:** "*O Love That Will Not Let Me Go*" (Words by George Matheson, Melody by Albert L. Peace, arr. by Molly Ljames) / The Aldersgate Chorale (Directed by Yvonne Flagg; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

**SERMON: "WITNESS AT THE CROSS - INTRODUCTION: SIMON OF CYRENE"** / Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

**INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENTEN DISCIPLINES** / Rev. Kim

**\*HYMN OF EUCHARIST: #623 "Here, O My Lord, I See Thee"** (Verses 1, 2, & 3 only) / All (Led by Yvonne Flagg; Accompanied by Robert Phillips, Organist)

**Verse 1**

**Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;  
here would I touch and handle things unseen;**

here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace,  
and all my weariness upon thee lean.

Verse 2

This is the hour of banquet and of song;  
this is the heavenly table spread for me;  
here let me feast, and feasting, still prolong  
the hallowed hour of fellowship with thee.

Verse 3

Here would I feed upon the bread of God,  
here drink with thee the royal wine of heaven;  
here would I lay aside each earthly load,  
here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.

HOLY COMMUNION

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (ASH WEDNESDAY)**

(Rev. J. T. Kim) The Lord be with you.

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

(Rev. Kim) Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

(Rev. Roy Riggs) It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You brought all things into being and called them good. From the dust of the earth, you formed us into your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

(Rev. Kim) When rain fell upon the earth for forty days and forty nights, you bore up the ark on the waters, saved Noah and his family, and made covenant with every living creature on earth. When you led your people to Mount Sinai for forty days and forty nights, you gave us your commandments and made us your covenant people.

(Rev. Riggs) When your people forsook your covenant, your prophet Elijah fasted for forty days and forty nights; and on your holy mountain, he heard your still, small voice. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**(All Sing) 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.**

(Rev. Kim) Holy are you and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. When you gave him to save us from our sin, your Spirit led him into the wilderness, where he fasted forty days and forty nights to prepare for his ministry. When he suffered and died on a cross for our sin, you raised him to life, presented him alive to the apostles during forty days, and exalted him at your right hand.

(Rev. Riggs) 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. Now, when we your people prepare for the yearly feast of Easter, you lead us to repentance for sin and the cleansing of our hearts, that during these forty days of Lent we may be gifted and graced to reaffirm the covenant you made with us through Christ.

(Rev. Kim) 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."

(Rev. Riggs) 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."

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

## **PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

(Rev. Riggs) 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 God, now and for ever.

**(All Sing) Amen. Amen. Amen.**

## **GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP**

(Rev. Kim) The body of Christ, given for you.

**(All) Amen!**

(Rev. Kim) The blood of Christ, given for you.

**(All) Amen!**

(Rev. Kim) Please take your Bread and Cup now here or at your home.

**(All) Amen!**

## **SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

**UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION / All (Led by Rev. Riggs)**

**(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.**

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (Adapted from Matthew 6) / Rev. Beverly Devine, Liturgist**

(Liturgist) Knowing how much God has given us, let us come with grateful hearts to offer our tithes and our gifts.

**(All) Amen!**

**HOW TO GIVE / Rev. Beverly Devine, Liturgist**

There are many ways to get your donation to our church. You may give online on the church's website: [www.firstchurchriverside.org/giving](http://www.firstchurchriverside.org/giving).

Using your smart phone, you may scan the QR code shown on the screen

or on the order of worship sent to you via email. It leads you to the eGiving page.

You may mail your donation directly to the church, [4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506](#). You can also drop it into the mail slot at the church office. Or you may take it directly into the church office.



A convenient way to make your donation is to set up an automatic draft through your bank.

Or you may simply hand your donation to the usher as you leave the church today. An offering plate is always available in the narthex for you to place your offering when entering or leaving.

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, Hymn Leader; 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.**

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** (Adapted from Matthew 6) / All (Led by Rev. Beverly Devine, Liturgist)

**We bring our gifts, our hearts, and our very lives to you, O God. Bless these gifts, these hearts, these lives, that we offer to you and to the world in your holy name. Send us forth as your holy people to bless others with hearts wide open with love. Amen!**

**\*SENDING HYMN: #269 "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"** (Verses 4 & 5 only) (By Claudia F. Hernaman) / All (Led by Yvonne Flagg, Hymn Leader; Accompanied by Robert Phillips, Organist)

**Verse 4**

**And through these days of penitence,  
And through thy passion-tide,  
Yea, evermore in life and death,  
Jesus, with us abide.**

**Verse 5**

**Abide with us, that so, this life  
Of suffering overpast,  
An Easter of unending joy  
We may attain at last!**

**\*BENEDICTION** (Adapted from 2 Corinthians 5) / Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor  
(Pastor) Go forth to begin again. Go to walk this journey of faith with Jesus Christ, knowing that God's grace goes with you. Go in peace!  
**(All) Amen!**

**POSTLUDE "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"** (By Dale Wood) / Robert Phillips, Organist

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

***May God's Peace Be Upon You!***



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

*Communion: Rev. Roy Riggs*

*Acolytes: Joseph & Justice Juarez*

*Organist: Robert Phillips*

*Liturgist: Rev. Beverly Devine*

*Hymn Leader: Yvonne Flagg*

*Chorale Director: Yvonne Flagg*

*Anthem: The Aldersgate Chorale*

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

*Online Greeter: Mary Herrmann*

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

*Head Usher: Matt Gorder*

*Communion Coordinator: Lee Ann Salmon*

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**Anthem:** "O Love That Will Not Let Me Go," words by George Matheson, Melody by Albert L. Peace, arr. by Molly Ljames. OneLicense Song #1046057, OneLicense #A-735776.

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