



Seventh Sunday of Easter; Ascension Sunday; Memorial Day Sunday

Sunday Worship

May 29, 2022, 10 a.m. (In-Person & Online)

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

7th Sunday of Easter; Ascension Sunday; Memorial Day Sunday

ALL ARE WELCOME TO WORSHIP IN-PERSON OR ONLINE AT 10:00 a.m.

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

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Please stand as you are comfortable.

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

PRELUDE: "Prayer from Christ Ascending Towards His Father" from *L'Ascension* by Olivier Messiaen / Robert Phillips, Organist

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

***CHORAL INTROIT:** "This Is the Day" by Hal H. Hopson / The Aldersgate Chorale (Directed by Yvonne Flagg; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** (Adapted from Philippians 2:5-11) / John McDonald, Liturgist
(Liturgist) In a world where power is the ultimate high, Jesus did not regard equality with God as something to exploit.

(People) Instead he emptied himself of power, claiming the lowly lot of a slave.

(L) In human form he was brought low by death, death on a cross.

(P) Therefore, God has highly exalted him, and granted him power above all the powers that be!

(L) Lift up your hearts,

(All) Jesus Christ is Lord! Hallelujah!

***OPENING HYMN: #312 "Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise" / All (Led by Yvonne Flagg)**

Verse 1

**Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!
To his throne above the skies, Alleluia!
Christ, awhile to mortals given, Alleluia!
Reascends his native heaven, Alleluia!**

Verse 2

**There the glorious triumph waits, Alleluia!
Lift your heads, eternal gates, Alleluia!
Christ hath conquered death and sin, Alleluia!
Take the King of glory in, Alleluia!**

Verse 3

**See! the heaven its Lord receives, Alleluia!
Yet he loves the earth he leaves, Alleluia!
Though returning to his throne, Alleluia!
Still he calls the world his own, Alleluia!**

Verse 4

**See! he lifts his hands above, Alleluia!
See! he shows the prints of love, Alleluia!
Hark! his gracious lips bestow, Alleluia!
Blessings on his church below, Alleluia!**

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

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

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

MEMORIAL DAY RESPONSIVE PRAYER / All (Led by Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor)

(Pastor) Almighty God, before whom stand the living and the dead, we your children, whose mortal life is but a hand's breadth, give thanks to you:

For all those through whom you have blessed our pilgrimage, whose lives that have empowered us, whose influence is a healing grace,

(People) We lift up thankful hearts.

(Pastor) For the dear friends and family members whose faces we see no more, but whose love is with us forever...

(People) We lift up thankful hearts.

(Pastor) For the teachers and companions of our childhood and youth, and for the members of our household of faith who worship you now in heaven...

(People) We lift up thankful hearts.

(Pastor) For those who sacrificed themselves, our brothers and sisters who have given their lives for the sake of others...

(People) We lift up thankful hearts.

(Pastor) That we may hold them all in continual remembrance, and ever think of them as with you in that city whose gates are not shut by day and where there is no night...

(People) We lift up thankful hearts.

(Pastor) That we may now be dedicated to working for a world where labor is rewarded, fear dispelled, and the nations made one,

(All) O Lord, save your people and bless your heritage. Day by day we magnify you, and worship your name, for ever and ever. Amen.

(Adapted from *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, #440, "Memorial Day Prayer," written by John Hunter)

PRAYER RESPONSE: "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord" by C. Albert Scholin / The Aldersgate Chorale (Directed by Yvonne Flagg; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

CHILDREN'S TIME / Pastor Mateo Mamea

***GOSPEL READING: Luke 24:44-53** (NRSV) / John McDonald, Liturgist

You Are My Witnesses!

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you — that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

The Ascension of Jesus

⁵⁰ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³ and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

(Liturgist) This Is the Gospel of Christ!

(All) Glory to You, O Christ!

ANTHEM: "Let Everything with Breath Praise God!" by Lloyd Larson / The Aldersgate Chorale (Directed by Yvonne Flagg; Accompanied by Robert Phillips)

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 1:1-11 (NRSV) / John McDonald, Liturgist

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

¹ In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ² until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴ While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

The Ascension of Jesus

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

(Liturgist) This Is the Word of God for the People of God! (All) Thanks Be to God! Amen!

SERMON: "GET MOVING, ASCENSION COMMUNITY!" / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: #364 "Because He Lives" by Gloria and William Gaither / All (Led by Yvonne Flagg)**

Verse 1

**God sent his Son, they called him Jesus; he came to love, heal, and forgive;
he lived and died to buy my pardon, an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.**

Refrain

**Because he lives, I can face tomorrow; because he lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know he holds the future, and life is worth the living just because he lives.**

Verse 2

**How sweet to hold a newborn baby, and feel the pride and joy he gives;
But greater still the calm assurance, this child can face uncertain days because he lives.**

Refrain

Verse 3

**And then one day I'll cross the river; I'll fight life's final war with pain;
And then as death gives way to victory, I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know he reigns.**

Refrain

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (Adapted from Luke 24) / John McDonald, Liturgist
(Liturgist) Gifted with the grace of God, and clothed with power from on high, let us now offer ourselves to the building of God's kingdom.

(All) Amen!

(Liturgist) We invite the ushers forward to take the offering.
Thank you for all you do to support your church.



OFFERTORY: "Because He Lives" by John F. Wilson / Robert Phillips, Organist

***DOXOLOGY:** #95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" / Words by Thomas Ken;
Music attributed to Louis Bourgeois / All (Led by Yvonne Flagg)

**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 Luke 24) / John McDonald, Liturgist
**Bless these gifts, O Lord of all, that we might worship you with great joy, and serve your
people with great love. In Christ's name, Amen.**

LAITY BLESSINGS / Loretta Cudney, Co-Lay Leader

***SENDING HYMN:** / #437 "This Is My Song" by Lloyd Stone, Georgia Harkness and Jean
Sibelius / All (Led by Yvonne Flagg)

Verse 1

**This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine;
This is my home, the country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine:
but other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.**

Verse 2

**My country's skies are bluer than the ocean, and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine;
but other lands have sunlight too, and clover, and skies are everywhere as blue as mine:
O hear my song, thou God of all the nations, a song of peace for their land and for mine.**

Verse 3

**This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms; Thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him, and hearts united learn to live as one.
O hear my prayer, thou God of all the nations; myself I give thee; let thy will be done.**

***RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION** (Adapted from Luke 24)

(Pastor) Lift up your eyes to the heavens.

(People) Christ ascended to show us the way.

(Pastor) Trust the Spirit's power.

(People) Christ ascended to clothe us with power.

(Pastor) Go as witnesses of the risen Lord.

(All) Christ ascended to bring us eternal life. Amen!

POSTLUDE: "Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise" by Wilbur Held / Robert Phillips, Organist

CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST TO THE WORLD / Acolytes

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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:**

Acolytes:

Organist: Robert Phillips

Liturgist: John McDonald

Hymn Leader: Yvonne Flagg

Anthem: The Aldersgate Chorale

Director: Yvonne Flagg

Children's Time: Mateo Mamea

Online Greeter: Mary Herrmann

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

Altar Décor: Rev. Beverly Devine and the Décor Team

Head Usher: Matt Gorder



Rose Roberts (Jazz & Chandra Roberts' Family), Chandra Roberts, Lynn Ashworth, Cheryl Riggs, Eugene Brown, Jason Pritchard, Nathaniel Pritchard, Greg Campbell, Tony Miller, Lisa & David Wallace, Winston, Madison (and her father), Jeff Rindskopf, Randy, Jordan, Jim Ashworth, Buddy Irving, Brian Weidinger, Rosalie Bustamante, Debbie Hofmann, John Logger, Bill McInRoe, Dianne Purkey, Mary Bidwell, Mary Boon, Virginia Brawner, Melva Cooke, DeDe Earhart, Velma Wellborn, Bill Wolter, Bill Kerrick, Cody Williams, Barbara Spencer, Lopez Family, Stephanie Rush.

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*These names will remain for 3 months. To add names or remove names please contact our church office. In the meantime, may you receive God's blessings of peace. Thank you!*

### **THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Please contact the church office for more details.

#### **Sunday, May 29**

Children's Chime Choir (Fellowship Hall) - 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship (Sanctuary) - 10 a.m.  
Children's Sunday School (Fellowship Hall) - 10:15 a.m.  
UMM Silent Auction Ends

#### **Monday, May 30**

Church Office Closed for the Memorial Day Holiday

#### **Tuesday, May 31**

Co-Lay Leaders' Meeting with Pastor (Conference Room) - 10 a.m.  
Bell Rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) - 7 p.m.

#### **Wednesday, June 1**

Youth (Youth Center) - 6:30 pm  
The Response Rehearsal (Sanctuary) - 6:30 p.m.  
Bible Study "The Bible Year" (Zoom) - 7 p.m.

#### **Thursday, June 2**

Aldersgate Chorale Rehearsal (Music Room) - 7 p.m.

#### **Sunday, June 5**

Children's Chime Choir (Fellowship Hall) - 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship - Pentecost (Sanctuary) - 10 a.m.  
Children's Sunday School (Fellowship Hall) - 10:15 a.m.  
Church & Society - 11:15 a.m.

### **Music Copyright License Information:**

**Prelude:** "Prayer from Christ Ascending Towards His Father" from *L'Ascension* by Olivier Messiaen ©1934 Alphonse Leduc et Cie., Christian Copyright Solutions Work ID #887717773, CCS License #13741

**Choral Introit:** "This is the Day" by Hal H. Hopson is OneLicense #74432

**Opening Hymn:** #312 "Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise" by Charles Wesley. Public Domain

**Prayer Response:** "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord," from *Introits and Responses* by C. Albert Scholin. OneLicense #210856

**Anthem:** This Sunday's anthem is "Let Everything with Breath Praise God!" by Lloyd Larson. OneLicense #1029411

**Hymn of Dedication:** #364 "Because He Lives" by Gloria and William Gaither. CCLI Song #16880

**Offertory:** "Because He Lives" by John F. Wilson ©1976 Hope Publishing Company, OneLicense #A735776

**Sending Hymn:** #437 "This is My Song" by Lloyd Stone, Georgia Harkness, and Jean Sibelius © 1964 Lorenz Publishing Co., One License #56640

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