



# Christmas Day Sunday Worship

**December 25, 2022, 10 a.m.**

*(In-Person, Online, & PhoneLiveStreaming)*

**First United Methodist Church of Riverside**

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

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 as you are comfortable.

### LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

PRELUDE: "Patapan" by James Biery / Robert Phillips, Organist

### \*TRINITY BELLS

\***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Adapted from John 1, Psalm 98) / Jennifer Mahl, Liturgist  
(Liturgist) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

**(People) Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Let the seas roar and the mountains quake.**

(L) Everything came into being through the Word. What came into being was life, and the life was the light for all people.

**(P) Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things.**

(L) The Word became flesh and blood, and lived among us to bring all people to the light.

**(P) Let heaven and earth break forth into joyous song, singing praises to our God.**

(L) The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

**(All) Christ, our light, shines forth in glory. Christ, our life, brings grace and truth. Let us worship. Alleluia!**

## WELCOME

### **PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** (Adapted from Isaiah 52)

(Pastor) How beautiful are the feet of those who come announcing peace. How radiant are the eyes of those who shine with the light of God's love. With blessings of peace and love to share, let us turn to one another and offer signs of God's blessings this Christmas day. Peace be with you!

**(All) Peace be with you!**

### **\*LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE** / Liturgist

Here is good news of boundless joy for all people:

God has rescued us from the domain of darkness,  
and brought us into the realm of Christ,

in whom our release is secured, and our sins are forgiven.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never captured it.

Let us pray that we may know the warmth and brightness of Jesus Christ,  
and show Christ's love to the world.

**(All) May Christ's light shine in our lives. Hallelujah! Amen!**

**\*OPENING HYMN: #234 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"** (Vss. 1, 2, 5, & 6) by John F. Wade  
/ All

#### Verse 1

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,**

**O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.**

**Come and behold him, born the King of angels;**

#### Refrain

**O come, let us adore him,**

**O come, let us adore him,**

**O come, let us adore him,**

**Christ the Lord.**

#### Verse 2

**True God of true God,**

**Light from Light Eternal,**

**lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;**

**Son of the Father, begotten not created;**

**(Refrain)**

### Verse 5

Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,  
we would embrace thee with love and awe.

Who would not love thee,  
loving us so dearly?

(Refrain)

### Verse 6

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given.

Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing:

(Refrain)

### THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Sharing of Joys

Sharing of Concerns

### PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE (UNISON)

Incarnate One, we bow before you on this day to celebrate the coming of your presence among us. You are the fulfillment of God's ancient promises, a living testimony to God's faithfulness. We thank you for your life-transforming love: you are a gift of sustenance to souls who hunger and thirst; you are balm to the wounded and strength to the lame; you are the very light of God, shining for all the nations to see. With all creation, we rejoice at your coming, as we worship before your manger. Amen.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT / Lucinda Edmunds, Children's Director / "A Night to Remember" Video. (Then, children will stay in service with their family.)

**\*GOSPEL READING: John 1:1-14 (NRSV) / Liturgist**

**\*Please stand, as you are comfortable, for the reading of the Gospel.**

*The Word Became Flesh*

**<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.**

**<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.**

**<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.**

**<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.**

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

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

**VOCAL INTERLUDE: "What Strangers Are These?" arranged by Richard Purvis / Ensemble: Kris Lovekin, Jennifer Mahl, India Lovekin, Kate Lovekin**

**SERMON: "Unwrapped Christmas" / The Rev. J. T. Kim**

**\*HYMN OF DEDICATION: #246 "Joy to the World" (Vss. 1, 2, 4) by Isaac Watts / All**

Verse 1

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

## Verse 2

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

## Verse 4

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING** (Adapted from Matthew 2) / Liturgist  
(Liturgist) When the wise men saw the child with Mary his mother, they knelt down and paid him homage, offering gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Let us follow their example, as we bring our offerings to the Christ child.

**(All) Amen!**

(Liturgist) I invite the ushers to receive our offerings.

**OFFERTORY:** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" by Johann Michael Bach

**\*DOXOLOGY: #95** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" by Thomas Ken / **All 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**

O God, in this sacred season, we offer you these treasures from our stores, along with the gift of our hearts. We place these gifts on your altar to help build the kingdom you opened to us on this day of Christ's birth. We lift our hearts to you, even as we place our lives into your care, as we follow your Son, who is the way, the truth, and the life. Amen.

**LAITY BLESSINGS** / Kris Lovekin, Co-Lay Leader

**\*SENDING HYMN: #238** "Angels We Have Heard on High," arr. by Edwin S. Barnes, harm. By Austin C. Lovelace / **All**

**Verse 1**

Angels we have heard on high  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply  
echoing their joyous strains.

**Refrain**

Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

**Verse 2**

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
which inspire your heavenly song?

**Refrain**

Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

**Verse 4**

See him in a manger laid,  
whom the choirs of angels praise;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
while our hearts in love we raise.

**(Refrain)**

**\*RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION** (Adapted from Psalm 98)

(Pastor) Go out now with joy and peace, hearing the mountains and hills break forth in song.

**(All) We will sing with the trees of the forest and shout for joy with the flowers in the fields.**

(Pastor) Go forth with thanksgiving to the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit!

**(All) Amen!**

**POSTLUDE:** "Two Chorale Preludes for Christmas" by Johann Sebastian Bach

**CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST TO THE WORLD**



**We give thanks for the Worship/Media Team members  
who have faithfully served today:**

Organist: Robert Phillips

Liturgist: Jennifer Mahl

Hymn Leader: Yvonne Flagg

Children's Moment: Lucinda Edmunds

Interlude Ensemble: Kris Lovekin, Jennifer Mahl,  
India Lovekin and Kate Lovekin

Laity Blessings: Kris Lovekin, Co-Lay Leader

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

Online Greeter: Mary Herrmann

Altar Décor: the Décor Team

Head Usher: Matt Gorder



Jim and Genette Sizer, Myra Williams family,  
Donald Greywood, Mike Conlin, Linda Rydzik,  
Jonathon Williams family, Mack and Elizabeth Davis,  
Peggy Stepe, David and Loretta Cudney,  
Family of William "Bill" Wolter, Brad Austin, Isaac Ruiz,  
Thurmond, Nicolas Mateo family, Pastor J.T. Kim, and family, Robert Zeeb

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

**THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**Sunday, December 25**

-Sunday Worship (Sanctuary) – 10 a.m.  
*Children remain in worship with their family.*

**Monday, December 26**

-Pastor Kim on Vacation (12/26/2022 – 1/3/2023)  
-Church Campus Closed  
-Preschool Closed

**Tuesday, December 27**

-Church Campus Closed  
-Preschool Closed

**Wednesday, December 28**

-Preschool Closed

**Thursday, December 29**

-Office open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
-Preschool Closed

**Friday, December 30**

-Church Office closes at noon  
-Bill Wolter's Celebration of Life (Sanctuary) - 10 a.m.  
-Reception (Fellowship Hall) 11 a.m.  
-Graveside Service - 2 p.m. (Pierce Brothers Crestlawn Memorial Park and Mortuary,  
11500 Arlington Ave, Riverside, CA 92505) *All are welcome to attend these services and the reception.*

**Sunday, January 1**

-Sunday Worship - Rev. Bev Devine preaches "Gifts?" (Sanctuary) – 10 a.m.

**Music Copyright License Information:**

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Opening Hymn: #234 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" by John F. Wade. Public Domain.

Interlude: 10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 25 "What Strangers Are These?" – old Scottish carol, arranged by Richard Purvis. ©1954 Summy-Birchard Company, Christian Copyright Solutions Work ID #230009399.

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Postlude: "Two Chorale Preludes for Christmas" by Johann Sebastian Bach. Public Domain.



In Memory of Rev. Dr. Lambert W. Alfred  
by Mike Alfred

In Honor of my sister and my 104-year-old aunt  
by Linda Rydzik

In Memory of my parents and grandparents  
by Linda Rydzik

In Memory of Ronald and Barbara Pope  
by Regan Pope

In Memory of Cliff Berger  
by Margaret Berger

In Honor of Cindy Marr and Barbara & Bob Zeeb  
by John and Katrina Zeeb

In Memory of Clint and Gerry Marr  
by John and Katrina Zeeb

In Memory of Dr. Edwin A. Roberts, son of Benita and Bob Roberts  
by Benita and Bob Roberts

In Memory of Dr. Edwin A. Roberts, brother of Joan E. Roberts  
by Dr. Joan E. Roberts

In Memory of June Overton and Amy Edmunds  
by Lucinda and Rollin Edmunds

In Memory of Kathleen Phillips  
by Robert Phillips

In Memory of loved ones  
by Jim and Genette Sizer

In Memory of Eula Robison  
by Pam Conlin

In Honor of our parents, Sylvia and Jim Alfred,  
with love, Anne Alfred

In thanksgiving for the wonderful, faithful people of FUMCOR  
Ron and Cheryl Riggs

In Memory of our parents Dick and Rose Riggs  
and Bonnie Shomaker; and Charles and Ella Barrow.

In Honor of our children, Michael, Jana and Lisa,  
for their dedication to us.  
by Dave and Loretta Cudney

In Honor of Kris and Steve Lovekin, Val and Mike Othon  
by Pat Williams

In Honor of Richard Williams and Laurie Williams  
by Pat Williams

In Memory of Judy Lamers, and Bruce and Manette Tomlinson  
by the Tomlinson family

In Honor of the marriage of Jeff and Alissa Ashworth  
by Bill and Lynn Ashworth

In Memory of David Ashworth  
by Bill and Lynn Ashworth

In Honor of The Response Band,  
by Cindy Marr

In Honor of my kids and their families: the Zeebs, the Bongs, and the Reuperts  
by Cindy Marr

In Memory of my parents, Clint and Jerry Marr  
by Cindy Marr

In Memory of June G. Ward-Overton  
Charles B. Overton, Maude L. Ward, Albert and Helen Fraser  
by David Fraser and Sarah Overton-Fraser