



Sunday Worship

First United Methodist Church of Riverside

4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506

November 12, 2023 10 a.m.

Order of Worship

**Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost;
New Members Welcoming Sunday**

*Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE: "Blessed Assurance" by J. Bert Carlson / Robert Phillips, Organist

***TRINITY BELLS**

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN: #308** "Thine Be the Glory" by Edmond L. Budry / **All** / Led by Rev. Bev Devine, Hymn Leader

Verse 1

**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.**

Refrain:

**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.**

Verse 2

**Lo! Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for our Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting. (Refrain)**

Verse 3

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

Refrain:

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Adapted from Joshua 24, Psalm 78) / Led by Loretta Cudney, Liturgist
(Liturgist) God is from everlasting to everlasting.

(People) The Holy One inhabits all eternity and everything that is, or was, or ever will be.

(L) God is the source, guide, and goal of our lives.

(P) We acknowledge God as the center of our lives and of our world, not ourselves.

(L) We come today to worship God.

(P) We come with thanks and praise.

(L) Let us humble ourselves before God's holy presence.

(All) May God teach us the ways of life as we pray. Amen!

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

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (Adapted from 1 Thess 5)

(Pastor) Called to live as children of light, let us build one another up as we share signs of peace, and words of love. Peace be with you!

(All) Peace be with you!

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE (UNISON) (Adapted from 1 Thess 5)

God of fall and winter, God of spring and summer, you know the seasons of our lives. Let the season of darkness and doubt pass away, that we may be reborn in your light. Lead us into a season of light and warmth: a season of joy; a season of sober judgment; a season where your children clothe themselves in the breastplate of faith and hope, and the helmet of hope and salvation. Help us put aside the ways of darkness and live as children of light. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE: "Amen" Dresden

INTERLUDE: "Called to the Light" by Jason W. Krug / The Allegro Ringers

CHILDREN'S MOMENT / Christina Graves

***GOSPEL READING: John 1:1-18** (NRSV) / Liturgist

The Word Became Flesh

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

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

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

¹⁴And 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. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

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

ANTHEM: "My Jesus, I Love Thee", by Wm. R. Featherston and Adoniram Gordon, arr. by Paul Sjolund / The Aldersgate Chorale

SERMON: "JESUS: THE HEART OF GOD" (Part II) (Sermon Series #15, "The Heart of Christianity," based on the book, *The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith*, written by Marcus J. Borg) / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: #354** "I Surrender All" by J. W. Van Deventer and W. S. Weeden
(Vss. 1, 3, and 4) / **All**

Verse 1

**All to Jesus I surrender;
all to him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust him,
in his presence daily live.**

Refrain:

**I surrender all, I surrender all,
all to thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.**

Verse 3

**All to Jesus I surrender;
make me, Savior, wholly thine;
let me feel the Holy Spirit,
truly know that thou art mine. (Refrain)**

Verse 4

**All to Jesus I surrender;
Lord, I give myself to thee;
fill me with thy love and power;
let thy blessing fall on me. (Refrain)**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (Adapted from 1 Thess 5, Matt 25) / Liturgist

(Liturgist) God, who is the Giver of life and gifts, bestows us with talents that are far more precious than jewels. Let us open our eyes to the possibilities God holds for our world. With gratitude and joy, let us offer our gifts and lives to God.

(All) Amen!

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

OFFERTORY: "O Christ, Thou Art My Life" by Johann Pachelbel and Johann Gottfried Walther

***DOXOLOGY: #95** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" by Thomas Ken
**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 1 Thess 5, Matt 25) / Liturgist

God of compassion and grace, transform the gifts we offer this day into light and love for the world. Transform our talents into blessings for a world in need. We pray this in the name of Christ Jesus. Amen.



Welcoming New Members: Through Reaffirmations of Faith, and Transfer

INTRODUCTION

(Pastor) Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we are initiated into Christ's holy Church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

Through the reaffirmation of our faith, we renew the covenant declared at our baptism, acknowledge what God is doing for us, and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy Church.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

(Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader) I present **Steve Kerrick, Holly Hough, David Leonard, David Vela, and Sosthenes "J.R." Vela** to reaffirm their faith. I also present **Don Andreas**, who is transferring his membership from Bell Memorial United Methodist Church, Rowland Heights, California, and **Angela Lim**, who is transferring her membership from Kilohana UMC, Honolulu, Hawaii.

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

(Pastor) On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

(Candidates) I do.

(Lay Leader) Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

(Candidates) I do.

(Pastor) Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

(Candidates) I do.

(Pastor) According to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy Church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

(Candidates) I will.

(Lay Leader addresses the congregation) Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

(Congregation) We do.

(Pastor to the congregation) Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons now before you in your care?

(Congregation) With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(Pastor) *(Name)*, remember your baptism and be thankful. **Amen.**

(Pastor) *(Name)*, the Holy Spirit work within you, that having been born through water and the Spirit, you may live as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

RECEPTION INTO THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(Lay Leader) As members of Christ's universal Church, will you be loyal to Christ through The United Methodist Church, and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

(Candidates) I will.

RECEPTION INTO THE CONGREGATION OF FIRST UMC OF RIVERSIDE

(Pastor addresses all candidates) As members of this congregation, First United Methodist Church of Riverside, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?

(Candidates) I will.

COMMENDATION AND WELCOME

(Pastor addresses the congregation) Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

(Congregation) We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the First United Methodist Church of Riverside, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

BLESSINGS FOR THOSE RECEIVED AND WELCOMED

(Pastor) The God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit, that you may live in grace and peace.

(All) Amen!

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF MEMBERSHIP

LAITY BLESSINGS / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***SENDING HYMN: #369** "Blessed Assurance" by Fanny J. Crosby and Phoebe P. Knapp /
All

Verse 1

**Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

Refrain:

**This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.**

Verse 2

**Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.**

(Refrain)

Verse 3

**Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.**

(Refrain)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: "Thine Be the Glory" by A. D. Miller

Welcome!

We would love to welcome you into our church family!

To learn how to become a member, contact the church office. (951) 683-7831

In Our Hearts and Prayers

Bill McInroe, Mack and Elizabeth Davis, Lynn Ashworth's family, Bruggeman family,
our families, our neighbors, our country, and our world.

This Week

Sunday, November 12

- Bell rehearsal (Sanctuary) – **8:45 a.m.**
- Youth Bells rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) – **9:30 a.m.**
- Worship – New Members Welcoming; Allegro Bells; sermon: **“JESUS: THE HEART OF GOD” (Part II)**; Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor (Sanctuary) – **10 a.m.**
- Church School (Club Ark and Nursery) – **10:15 a.m.**
- UWiF Bake Sale (Fellowship Hall) – **11:15 a.m.**
- United Methodist Men Lunch with speaker, Earl Bogan, Interfaith Council (Fellowship Hall) – **11:30 a.m.**

Tuesday, November 14

- Bell rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) – **7 p.m.**
- SPRC (Zoom) – **7 p.m.**
- Citrus Circle (Zoom) – **7 p.m.**

Wednesday, November 15

- Parents' Morning Out Children's Ministry (Nursery) – **9 a.m. – 12 p.m.** (No PMO on Nov. 22 due to Thanksgiving holiday)
- UWiF Meeting and Potluck (Koinonia) – **10 a.m.**
- U.P.L.I.F.T. Youth Wed. Nights (Youth Room) – **5:30 p.m.**
- The Response rehearsal (Sanctuary) – **6:30 p.m.**
- Bible Study “The Bible Year” (Zoom) – **7 p.m.**

Thursday, November 16

- UWiF Bible Study (LOTW 3/4) (Zoom) – **6:45 p.m.**
- Aldersgate Chorale rehearsal (Music Room) – **7 p.m.**

Friday, November 17

- Men's Prayer Breakfast (Mary's Kitchen) – **7 a.m.**
- Lynn Ashworth Celebration of Life (Sanctuary) – **11 a.m.**

Saturday, November 18

- UWiF Serendipity Circle (Chandler Lounge) – **10 a.m.**

Sunday, November 19

- Chapel Prayer – **9:15 a.m.**
- Youth Bells rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) – **9:30 a.m.**
- Thanksgiving Sunday; Family Sunday with The Response; Youth Confirmation Celebration; Sermon: **“JESUS: THE HEART OF GOD” (Part III)** Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor (Sanctuary) – **10 a.m.**
- Church School (Club Ark and Nursery) – **10:15 a.m. – 11 a.m.**

ALL CHURCH CONFERENCE (2023-2024)

Monday, November 27, 2023, 7 p.m.

(Zoom link to be provided by East District)

Presided by East District Superintendent, Rev. Moonyoung Lee

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