



Sunday Worship

First United Methodist Church of Riverside

4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506

January 14, 2024 10 am

Order of Worship

**Second Sunday after the Epiphany;
Human Relations Day; Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

*Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE: "The Summons" by Matthew H. Corl / Robert Phillips, Organist

***TRINITY BELLS**

***CHORAL INTROIT:** "The Lord Is in His Holy Temple" by C. Albert Scholin

***CALL TO WORSHIP** / Led by Loretta Cudney, Liturgist

(Liturgist) It is said that visions are not widespread. God is not well known. But here we are gathered with listening hearts.

(People) Speak, Lord. Your servant is listening.

(L) The world swirls with suffering. Many are spiritually parched, yearning to hear God call them by name.

(P) Speak, Lord. Your servant is listening.

(L) Shhhhh... Pause... Listen... God still speaks. Through relationships and community building, joy bubbles up alongside pain.

(P) Speak, Lord. Your servant is listening.

(L) Where do we find God? How does God find us? The vision is rare but it is not absent. Will you respond to the prophetic call on this Human Relations Day?

(P) Speak, Lord. Your servant is listening and ready to respond.

***OPENING HYMN: #2164** "Sanctuary" by John Thompson and Randy Scruggs / Yvonne Flagg,
Hymn Leader

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy, tried and true.**

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you. (Repeat)

WELCOME / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

(Leader) For your blessings and mercy, we give thanks to you, as we pray the prayer Jesus taught us to pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER (All)

"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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

CHORAL RESPONSE: "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord" by C. Albert Scholin

PSALM: 139:1-6, 13-18 (UM854) / Liturgist

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up;

you discern my thoughts from far away.

**You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

Even before a word is on my tongue,

O LORD, you know it completely.

You hem me in, behind and before,

and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;

it is so high that I cannot attain it.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT / Christina Graves

ANTHEM: "Sound the Trumpet! Praise Him!" by Franz Joseph Haydn, arranged by Hal H. Hopson / The Aldersgate Chorale

***GOSPEL READING:** John 1:43-51 (NRSV) / Liturgist

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

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

SERMON: "The Path to a Beloved Community" / Dr. Joan Roberts

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: #2146** "His Eye Is on the Sparrow" by Civilla Martin and Charles H. Gabriel

Verse 1

Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come?
Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home,
when Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is he:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.
I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,
for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

Verse 2

"Let not your heart be troubled," his tender word I hear,
and resting on his goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;
though by the path he leadeth but one step I may see:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.
I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,
for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

Verse 3

**Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
when song gives place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to him, from care he sets me free:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.
I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,
for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING / Liturgist

Can anything good come out of a Nazareth? Come and see. Can this church be the body of Christ? Come and see. Can our gifts make a difference in the world? Come and see. Let us give generously this morning, that the whole world may come and see the blessings of God.

The ushers are invited to receive our offerings.

OFFERTORY: "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love" by Ronald A. Nelson

***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.**

***OFFERING PRAYER / All** (Led by Liturgist)

**God of vision and courage, you call us to be your hands and feet in the world.
In a world full of need, use our gifts and our offerings, our time and our talents,
to bless those in need of your blessings. Through these gifts, may others come to
see your grace and hear your call in their lives. Amen.**

LAITY BLESSINGS / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***SENDING HYMN: #2130** "The Summons" by John Bell / **All**

Verse 1

**Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?**

Verse 2

**Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?**

Verse 3

**Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?**

Verse 4

**Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?**

Verse 5

**Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.**

BENEDICTION / Dr. Joan Roberts

Beloved disciples, go from this place ready to listen for God's voice and to follow the Spirit's lead as we answer the call to build God's beloved community of justice, peace, and flourishing for all in our homes, our neighborhoods, and our world. **Amen!**

POSTLUDE: "Pisgah" by Dale Wood

We are called to pray for:

Kay Otto, Norma Nelson, Bill McInroe, Mack and Elizabeth Davis,
Jim Sizer, Mary Herrmann, Pat Williams, Michael Thompson,
Rebecca Slaughter, Lisa Thomas, Jim Ashworth, Kim Austin,
our families, our neighbors, our country, our world

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, January 14

- Youth Bell Rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) - 9:30 am
- Second Sunday after Epiphany Worship, Human Relations Sunday Worship - Message: "The Path to a Beloved Community" by Dr. Joan Roberts - 10 am
- Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
- United Methodist Men Lunch/Program/Speaker: Brian Tomlinson (Fellowship Hall) - 11:15 am

Monday, January 15

- FUMCOR Campus closed for Martin Luther King Jr. holiday
- Preschool closed

Tuesday, January 16

- Bell Rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) - 7 pm

Wednesday, January 17

- Parents' Morning Out (Nursery) - 9 am
- UWF Meeting (Chandler Lounge) - 10 am

Thursday, January 18

- UWF Bible Study (Zoom) - 6:45 pm
- Aldersgate Chorale Rehearsal (Music Room) - 7 pm
- UWF Lunch Bunch (California Pizza Kitchen) - 11 am

Friday, January 19

- Men's Prayer Breakfast (Mary's Kitchen) - 7 am

Saturday, January 20

- East District UWF Leadership Event (Zoom) - 10 am

Sunday, January 21

- Chapel Prayer (Chapel) - 9:15 am
- Youth Bell Rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) - 9:30 am
- Third Sunday after Epiphany Worship, Dr. Lucinda Edmunds, guest speaker - 10 am
- Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
- Mismatched Potluck (Fellowship Hall) - 11 am

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