



Sunday Worship

First United Methodist Church of Riverside

4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506

April 14, 2024 10 a.m.

Order of Worship

Third Sunday of Easter

*Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE: "Blessed Assurance" by Van Denman Thompson / Robert Phillips, Organist

***TRINITY BELLS**

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN:** #327 "Crown Him with Many Crowns" by Matthew Bridges, Godfrey Thring, and George J. Elvey / **All** / Led by Yvonne Flagg, Hymn Leader

Verse 1

**Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.**

Verse 2

**Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing,
who died, and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.**

Verse 3

**Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose power a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
and all be prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end,
and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.**

Verse 4

**Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
those wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail
throughout eternity.**

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Adapted from Acts 3, Psalm 4) / Led by Loretta Cudney, Liturgist
(Liturgist) Turn to Christ,
(People) who calls us here.
(L) Place your trust in God,
(P) who protects our lives.
(L) Lean into Spirit,
(All) as we worship in Spirit and truth. Amen!

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

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** (Adapted from Psalm 4, Psalm 23)
(Pastor) As God leads us beside the still waters of grace, Christ invites us to offer these
still waters of grace and peace to one another, that all may know the peace of God.
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 Acts 3, Luke 24)

**God of miracles and truth, bless us, as we gather for worship, with the power of
your Holy Spirit. Reveal your presence in our midst and open our hearts and minds
to receive your miraculous love. Strengthen our faith this day, that we may go forth
as witnesses of your miraculous love. Amen.**

PRAYER RESPONSE: "This Is Our Prayer" by Sally Ahner

CHILDREN'S MOMENT / Lucinda Edmunds

INTERLUDE: "O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing!" by Rebecca Groom te Velde / Robert Phillips, Organist

***GOSPEL READING: Luke 24:36b-48** (*The Message*) / Liturgist

You Are the Witnesses

^{36b-41} ... Jesus appeared to them and said, "Peace be with you." They thought they were seeing a ghost and were scared half to death. He continued with them, "Don't be upset, and don't let all these doubting questions take over. Look at my hands; look at my feet—it's really me. Touch me. Look me over from head to toe. A ghost doesn't have muscle and bone like this." As he said this, he showed them his hands and feet. They still couldn't believe what they were seeing. It was too much; it seemed too good to be true.

⁴¹⁻⁴³ He asked, "Do you have any food here?" They gave him a piece of leftover fish they had cooked. He took it and ate it right before their eyes.

⁴⁴ Then he said, "Everything I told you while I was with you comes to this: All the things written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets, and in the Psalms have to be fulfilled."

⁴⁵⁻⁴⁸ He went on to open their understanding of the Word of God, showing them how to read their Bibles this way. He said, "You can see now how it is written that the Messiah suffers, rises from the dead on the third day, and then a total life-change through the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed in his name to all nations—starting from here, from Jerusalem! You're the first to hear and see it. You're the witnesses."

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

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

ANTHEM: "Christians, Celebrate and Sing!" by Lloyd Larson / The Aldersgate Chorale

SERMON: "THE HIGHLIGHT OF JESUS' POST-EASTER MESSAGES" / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: #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)**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (Adapted from 1 John 3) / Liturgist

(Liturgist) As we have been loved, we are invited to love. As God has given generously to us, we are invited to give generously to God and to God's church. May our hearts brim with love and generosity for all as we enter this time of offering.

(All) Amen!

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

OFFERTORY: "Salvation Has Come to Us" by Donald Johns

***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 Acts 3, 1 John 3, Luke 24) / Liturgist
**Generous God of love and grace, bless these gifts with your abundant love and
your life-giving grace. Bless us as we bear witness to your love and grace in all
that we say, all that we give, and all that we do. Amen.**

LAITY BLESSINGS / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***SENDING HYMN:** #347 "Spirit Song" by John Wimber / **All**

Verse 1

**O let the Son of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love.
Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.
O let him have the things that hold you, and his Spirit like a dove
will descend upon your life and make you whole.**

Refrain

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

Verse 2

O come and sing this song with gladness as your hearts are filled with joy.

Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.

**O give him all your tears and sadness; give him all your years of pain,
and you'll enter into life in Jesus' name. (Refrain)**

***RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION** (Adapted from Acts 3, 1 John 3, Luke 24)

(Pastor) You are witnesses of God's love.

(Congregation) We are witnesses of God's love.

(P) You are witnesses of Christ's life.

(C) We are witnesses of Christ's life.

(P) You are witnesses of the power of the Holy Spirit.

(C) We are witnesses of life and love in the Spirit.

(P) Go forth as witnesses of the blessings of our God.

(All) Amen!

POSTLUDE: "Crown Him with Many Crowns" by Jeffrey Bleresch

We are called to pray for:

Jim Conlin, Virginia Bahnsen, Michael Thompson, Norma Nelson,
Pat Williams, Lisa Thomas, Jim Ashworth, Kim Austin, Linda Rydzik,
Richard Austin, the family of Gerald Miller, the family of Elizabeth Davis,
our families, our neighbors, our country, our world.

This Week

Sunday, April 14

-Youth Bell Rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) - 9:30 am

-Worship: Rev. J. T. Kim's sermon: "THE HIGHLIGHT OF JESUS' POST-EASTER MESSAGES" (Sanctuary) - 10 am

-Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am

-Older Youth (6th-12th grades) Sunday School (Youth Room) - Meet in Narthex at 10:15 am

-UMM Lunch: Matt Gorder will "preview" upcoming UMC General Conference (Fellowship Hall) - 11 am

Monday, April 15

-Finance Meeting (Zoom) - 5:30 pm

Tuesday, April 16

-Preschool Field Days, April 16-19 (Front Lawn) - 9 am

-Staff Meeting (Conference Room) - 10 am

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

Wednesday, April 17

- Parents' Morning Out (Nursery) – 9 am – 12 pm
- U.P.L.I.F.T. Youth Wednesday Nights (Youth Room) – 5:30 pm
- The Response rehearsal (Sanctuary) – 6:30 pm

Thursday, April 18

- UWF Yard Sale Prep (Asbury) – 9 am
- UWF Bible Study (Fear of the Other, No Fear in Love) (2 of 5) (Zoom) – 6:45 pm
- Aldersgate Chorale rehearsal (Music Room) – 7 pm

Friday, April 19

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

Saturday, April 20

- Serendipity Circle (Chandler Lounge) – 10 am
- Empty Nesters/Outreach (Fellowship Hall) – 5 pm

Sunday, April 21

- Youth Bell rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) – 9:30 am
- Family Sunday with The Response; Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor (Sanctuary) – 10 am
- Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) – 10:15 am

Tuesday, April 23 – All are welcome to attend:

- Celebration of Life for Gerald (Jerry) Miller (Sanctuary) – 10 am – Reception (Fellowship Hall) – 11 am
- Interment Service – Olivewood Cemetery – 1:30 pm

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