



Sunday Worship

First United Methodist Church of Riverside

4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506

March 17, 2024 10 am

Order of Worship

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Family Sunday with The Response

*Please stand as you are comfortable.

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES / Lillian and Julia Zeeb, Acolytes

PRELUDE: "Amazing Grace" by Dale Wood / Robert Phillips, Organist

***TRINITY BELLS**

***CHORAL INTROIT:** "Seek the Lord" by Hal H. Hopson / The Aldersgate Chorale

***CALL TO WORSHIP** / Led by Daryl Salmon, Liturgist

(Liturgist) Lenten travelers, how long have you traveled this road with your gaze pointed down at the dust and gravel and asphalt as you walk or limp or roll down the path?

(People) Sometimes it is easier to look at the road than at the people who share the journey with us.

(L) Lift up your heads! Look, listen, reach out a hand. Who are your neighbors on this road?

(P) We lift our heads and look to our Savior who journeys with us and helps us notice our neighbors all around us.

(L) This is the Lenten journey—to learn to love God and love our neighbors just as Jesus showed us.

(P) Our journey teaches us to lose our lives to God as we find and follow Christ in our service to others.

(L) Come, let us worship God, who caravans with us on this road to the cross.

(ALL) Come, let us worship! Amen.

***OPENING HYMN:** "Blessed Be Your Name" by Beth Redman and Matt Redman / led by
The Response

Verse 1

**Blessed be your name
in the land that is plentiful,
where your streams of abundance flow,
blessed be your name.**

Verse 2

**Blessed be your name
when I'm found in the desert place,
though I walk through the wilderness,
blessed be your name.**

Pre-Chorus

**Every blessing you pour out I'll
turn back to praise.
When the darkness closes in, Lord,
still I will say,**

Chorus

**"Blessed be the name of the Lord,
blessed be your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord,
blessed be your glorious name."**

Verse 3

**Blessed be your name
when the sun's shining down on me,
when the world's "all as it should be,"
blessed be your name.**

Verse 4

**Blessed be your name
on the road marked with suffering,
though there's pain in the offering,
blessed be your name.**

Pre-Chorus

**Ev'ry blessing you pour out I'll
turn back to praise.
When the darkness closes in, Lord,
still I will say,**

Chorus

**"Blessed be the name of the Lord,
blessed be your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord,
blessed be your glorious name."**

Bridge

**You give and take away,
you give and take away.
My heart will choose to say,
"Lord, blessed be your name."**

Chorus

**"Blessed be the name of the Lord,
blessed be your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord,
blessed be your glorious name." (Repeat Chorus)**

WELCOME / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** (Jeremiah 31, Psalm 51)

With clean hearts and renewed spirits, let us rejoice in the law of love written on our hearts. Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

(All) Peace be with you!

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

-Sharing of Joys & Concerns

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE (Unison) (Jeremiah 31, Psalm 51)

**Engraver of the human heart,
we long for your law of love to burst forth
with every beat of our hearts.
Work within us this day,
that the majesty of your love
may shine through us
in everything we say and do.
Put a new and right spirit within us, O Lord,
that we may leave our failings behind
and embrace the glory of our salvation,
through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Jeremiah 31, Psalm 51)

The One who engraves our hearts is faithful,
remembering our sins no more.
You are loved and accepted,
for it is written within by our gracious God.

PRAYER RESPONSE: "Give Ear to Our Prayer, O God" by Hal H. Hopson

CHILDREN'S MOMENT / Lyn Knowles

ANTHEM: "Jesus, Refuge of the Weary" by Timothy Shaw / The Aldersgate Chorale

SCRIPTURE READING Jeremiah 31:31-34 (NRSVUE) / Liturgist

A New Covenant

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

(Liturgist) This is the word of God for the people of God!

(All) Thanks be to God! Amen!

INTERLUDE: "Thrive" by Mark Hall and Matthew West

***GOSPEL READING:** John 12:20-33 (NRSVUE) / Liturgist

Some Greeks Wish to See Jesus

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew, then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain, but if it dies it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

Jesus Speaks about His Death

²⁷"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say: 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out.

³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

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

MESSAGE: "It Is Well with My Soul" by Regan Pope

***HYMN OF DEDICATION:** "Washed Over Me" by Casey Brown, Garrett Hornbuckle, Jeff Stein, Jonathan Smith, Joshua Schou, Luke Wycuff

Intro

**Whoa oh oh oh oh oh
Whoa oh oh oh oh oh**

Instrumental

**Whoa oh oh oh oh oh
Whoa oh oh oh oh oh**

Verse 1

**The sun is rising on a new day.
My soul's alive 'cause my sins you cast away.
Down by the river, I was redeemed
when your love washed over me,
when your love washed over me.**

**Whoa oh oh oh oh oh
Whoa oh oh oh oh oh**

Verse 2

**My chains were broken, my debt was paid.
I traded dirty rags for riches in your name.
And in that moment my soul could sing,
when your love washed over me.**

Chorus

**Like water, you poured out
and grace covered me,
when your love, oh, your love,
when your love washed over me,
when your love washed over me.**

**Whoa oh oh oh oh oh
Whoa oh oh oh oh oh**

Verse 3

**My search is over. I've found my home.
My cup is overflowed, with you I thirst no more.
There on the river, I found the victory,
when your love washed over me.**

Chorus

**Like water, you poured out
and grace covered me,
when your love, oh, your love,
when your love washed over me,
when your love washed over me.**

Ooo ooo ooo ooo

Bridge

**When your love, when your love,
when your love washed over me,
when your love, oh, your love,
when your love washed over me.**

Chorus

**Like water, you poured out
and grace covered me,
when your love, oh, your love,
when your love washed over me,
when your love washed over me.**

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (Jeremiah 31, Psalm 51) / Liturgist

The One who writes the law of love on our hearts, the One who saves us from the worst parts of ourselves, is here to bless us once more. In giving, we receive; in loving, we find love. Let us show our care for those in need as we offer our tithes and offerings to God.

OFFERTORY: "I Call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ" by Johann Sebastian Bach

***OFFERING SONG:** "As We Seek Your Face" / "Jesus, Draw Me Close" by Dave Bilbraugh and Rick Founds / **All** / Led by Kris

**As we seek your face, may we know your heart;
feel your presence, acceptance, as we seek your face.**

Jesus, draw me close, closer, Lord, to you.

Let the world around me fade away.

Jesus, draw me close, closer, Lord, to you.

For I desire to worship and obey.

OFFERING PRAYER (Unison) (Jeremiah 31, Psalm 51, John 12) / Led by Liturgist
**With hearts washed clean and with spirits made new,
we celebrate the joy of your salvation, O God.
May the tithes and offerings we share this day
reflect the law of love you have written on our hearts.
May these gifts bear the fruit of your Spirit,
and may they bless those who need it most. Amen.**

LAITY BLESSINGS / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***SENDING HYMN: "New Creation" by Mac Powell, Hank Bentley and Jeff Pardo / All**

Verse 1

**I thought I knew what I was talking about
when I testified of your great love.
Well, I was a soul on fire—there was no doubt—
Bible-believing, saved, and washed in the blood.**

Pre-Chorus

**But it wasn't 'til I stumbled and made my mistakes
that I could know in my soul how amazing was grace.**

Chorus

**You brought me blessings out of a tragedy.
You turned my old song into a symphony.
And with your spirit living inside of me,
I'm a new creation. I'm a new creation.**

Verse 2

**And now I know what you were talking about
went from my head into my heart.
When I was broken, at the bottom I found
you're my healer and redeemer.
Jesus, that's who you are.**

Chorus

**You brought me blessings out of a tragedy.
You turned my old song into a symphony.
And with your spirit living inside of me,
I'm a new creation. I'm a new creation.
Oh, oh. Oh, oh.**

Pre-Chorus

**But it wasn't 'til I stumbled and made my mistakes
that I could know in my soul how amazing was grace.**

Chorus

You brought me blessings out of a tragedy.

You turned my old song into a symphony.

And with your spirit living inside of me,

I'm a new creation...

You brought me blessings out of a tragedy.

You turned my old song into a symphony.

And with your spirit living inside of me,

I'm a new creation. I'm a new creation.

Oh, oh. Oh, oh.

And with your spirit living inside of me,

I'm a new creation. I'm a new creation.

***SENDING FORTH**

Beloved, go from this place to seek and find the glory of Christ wherever you go. And may you be blessed to recognize Christ as you notice, meet, and serve your neighbors today and every day. Amen.

POSTLUDE: "Prelude and Fugue in A Minor" by Johann Ludwig Krebs

We are called to pray for:

Julie Williams, Virginia Bahnsen, Michael Thompson, James Nuchols, Norma Nelson,
Mack and Elizabeth Davis, Jim Sizer, Mary Herrmann, Pat Williams, Lisa Thomas,
Jim Ashworth, Kim Austin, Kat Franklin, Linda Rydzik, Richard Austin, Orlando Almonte,
family of Jose Baeza, family of Kay Otto, our families, our neighbors, our country, our world

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, March 17

- Chapel Prayer (Chapel) - 9:15 am
- Youth Bell Rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) - 9:30 am
- Fifth Sunday in Lent, The Response leads hymns; speaker: Regan Pope (Sanctuary) - 10 am
- Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
- Baked Potato Bar Lunch / Faith and Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) - 11 am
- See's Candy Fundraiser (Fellowship Hall) - 11 am
- FUMCOR Hosting "Crop Walk" - 1:30 pm

Monday, March 18

- Finance Meeting (Zoom) - 5:30 pm

Tuesday, March 19

- Preschool Easter Egg Hunt (Front Lawn) -10 am
- Bell Rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) - 7 pm
- Outreach Committee Meeting (Zoom) - 7 pm

Wednesday, March 20

- Preschool Easter Egg Hunt (Front Lawn) -10 am
- Parents' Morning Out (Nursery) - 9 am
- U.P.L.I.F.T. Youth (YC) - 5:30 pm
- Final 2024 Lenten Soup Supper / Carolyn Greywood / the Heifer Project (Fellowship Hall) - 6 pm
- See's Candy Fundraiser (Fireside Room) - 6 pm

Thursday, March 21

- Preschool Easter Parade (Front Lawn) - 11:30 am
- Aldersgate Chorale rehearsal (Music Room) - 7 pm

Friday, March 22

- Men's Prayer Breakfast (Mary's Kitchen) - 7 am
- Preschool Easter Parade (Front Lawn) - 11:30 am

Sunday, March 24

- Youth Bell Rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) - 9:30 am
- Palm Sunday, Sermon, "Precarity Parade " by Rev. Bev Devine (Sanctuary) - 10 am
- Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
- The Habit Fundraiser (Riverside Plaza) - 11 am - 9:30 pm

- Preschool will be closed the week of March 25 for Spring Break-

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