



Sunday Worship

First United Methodist Church of Riverside

4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506

March 3, 2024 10 am

Order of Worship

Third Sunday in Lent with Holy Communion

*Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE: "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" by Dietrich Buxtehude / Robert Phillips,
Organist

***TRINITY BELLS**

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

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** Led by Sophie Weiss, Liturgist

(Liturgist) Lenten travelers, why are you here?

(People) We gather to do the work of worship.

(L) Lenten travelers, what happens when we gather to worship?

(P) We listen and proclaim. We sing and pray. We repent and encourage.

(L) Lenten travelers, how do we do the work of worship?

(P) We bring all that we are to be present to God and one another.

(L) Lenten travelers, what work does God do in worship?

(P) God raises us up so that we can delight in life together with God and one another.

(L) Lenten travelers, come, let us worship God together!

(All) Come, let us worship God together! Amen.

***Opening Hymn: #428** "For the Healing of the Nations" by Fred Kaan
/ **All** / Yvonne Flagg, Hymn Leader

Verse 1

**For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords;
to a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word,
help us rise and pledge our word.**

Verse 2

**Lead us forward into freedom;
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase,
fear will die and hope increase.**

Verse 3

**All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned;
pride of status, race, or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span,
may we hallow life's brief span.**

Verse 4

**You, Creator God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind,
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find,
earth its destiny may find.**

WELCOME / Kris Lovekin

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

God makes peace within us. Let us claim it.
God makes peace between us. Let us share it.
Let us greet another as a sign of God's peace.
The peace of God is here... to stay.

(All) Thanks be to God.

You are invited to share the peace with your neighbors.

(All) Peace be with you!

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: #882** "The Apostles' Creed" / Led by Rev. Riggs
Ecumenical Version

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*universal

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

-Sharing of Joys and Concerns

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT / Christina Graves

SCRIPTURE READING: Exodus 20:1-17 (NRSVUE) / Liturgist

The Ten Commandments

20 Then God spoke all these words,

² "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³ you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴ "You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me ⁶ but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ "You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸ "Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰ But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹² "Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³ "You shall not murder.

¹⁴ "You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵ "You shall not steal.

¹⁶ "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷ "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, male or female slave, ox, donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

(L) The word of God for the people of God.

(P) Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM: "Jesu, Grant Me This, I Pray," by Sir H. Baker and C. H. Kitson / The Aldersgate Chorale

*GOSPEL READING: Matthew 22:36-40 / Liturgist

³⁶ "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" ³⁷ He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

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

SERMON: "SOME THINGS DON'T CHANGE" / Rev. Roy Riggs

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (Exodus 20) / Liturgist

(L) Generous God, we bring these gifts with grateful hearts, that you may use them to build your community of justice and righteousness.

(P) We offer you our very lives, knowing that you will lead us in the path of holy service. Amen.

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

OFFERTORY: "For the Healing of the Nations" by Austin C. Lovelace

***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.

HOLY COMMUNION WITH MUSIC RESPONSES

INVITATION

(Pastor) Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

(All) Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

PARDON

(Pastor) Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

(People) In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

(All) Glory to God! Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

(Pastor) The Lord be with you.

(All) And also with you.

(Pastor) Lift up your hearts.

(All) We lift them up to the Lord.

(Pastor) Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

(All) It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(Pastor) It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(All Sing)

Elise Eslinger
(after NICAEA)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might.

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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(Pastor) Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Elise Eslinger

(All Sing)



Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain!

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(Pastor) Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Elise Eslinger

(All Sing)



A - men, a - men a - men.

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THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Pastor) And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

(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, for ever. Amen.

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.

The blood of Christ, given for you. Amen.

(Please take your Bread and Cup now at your home)

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY: "Goldberg Variation No. 25" by Johann Sebastian Bach

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION / Liturgist

(All) Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LAITY BLESSINGS / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***SENDING HYMN: #548** "In Christ There Is No East or West"

Verse 1

**In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north;
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.**

Verse 2

**In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.**

Verse 3

**In Christ is neither Jew nor Greek,
and neither slave nor free;
both male and female heirs are made,
and all are kin to me.**

Verse 4

**In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north;
all Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "In Christ There Is No East or West" by Dale Wood

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,
Rebecca Slaughter, Jim Ashworth, Kim Austin, Kat Franklin,
family of Kay Otto, our families, our neighbors, our country, our world

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, March 3

- Chapel Prayer Group (Chapel) - 9:15-9:45 am
- Youth Bell Rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) - 9:30 am
- Third Sunday in Lent - Rev. Roy Riggs; sermon: "SOME THOUGHTS DON'T CHANGE" - 10 am
- Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
- See's Candy Sale (Patio) 11 am
- Church and Society Meeting (Chandler Lounge) - 11:15 am

Monday, March 4

- Trustees (Zoom) - 7 pm
- Worship Committee (Zoom) - 7 pm

Tuesday, March 5

- Bell Rehearsal (MPR) - 7 pm

Wednesday, March 6

- Parents' Morning Out (Nursery) - 9 am
- U.P.L.I.F.T. Youth (Youth Room) - 5:30 pm
- See's Candy Sale (Fellowship Hall) - 5:30 pm
- Lenten Soup Supper / Lyn Knowles / "Weaving" (Fellowship Hall) - 6 pm

Thursday, March 7

- Aldersgate Chorale Rehearsal (Music Room) - 7 pm

Friday, March 8

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

Saturday, March 9

- Breakfast With Bunny Outreach event - Fellowship Hall, Patio - 9am-11am

Sunday, March 10

- Youth Bell Rehearsal (Sanctuary) - 9:30 am
- Fourth Sunday in Lent / UMCOR Sunday / Pastor Mateo Mamea preaching - 10 am
- Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
- United Methodist Men Lunch/Program (Fellowship Hall) - 11 am
- See's Candy Sale (Fellowship Hall) - 11 am

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