



Sunday Worship

First United Methodist Church of Riverside
4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506

Order of Worship

September 1, 2024 10 am

**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost; Labor Day Sunday
Holy Communion Sunday**

*Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" by Douglas E. Wagner / Robert Phillips, Organist

*TRINITY BELLS

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (James 1, Mark 7) / Led by Steve Kerrick, Liturgist
(Liturgist) Creator, you bless us with the heavenly lights—

(C) the moon that waxes and wanes,

(L) the planets that whirl around the sun,

(C) the galaxies that wink from afar.

(L) In the darkness you call out, "Let there be light,"

(C) and the universe is filled with heavenly light.

(L) You are our creator, too,

(C) the One who formed us and who forms us still.

(L) May your word of truth ring out today with your call to new life!

(All) Amen!

***OPENING HYMN:** #140 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" by Thomas O. Chisholm / **All** / Led by Phil Bremenstuhl, Hymn Leader

Verse 1

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.**

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

**Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

Verse 2

**Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)**

Verse 3

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)**

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

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** (James 2)

(Pastor) Christ gives us the great commandment to love God and love our neighbor. In the name of Christ, I invite you to share peace and love with your neighbor. Peace be with you!

(All) Peace be with you!

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

- Sharing of Joys and Concerns

UNISON PRAYER (Labor Day Sunday)

O God, you have bound us together in this life. Give us grace to understand how our lives depend on the courage, the industry, the honesty, and the integrity of all who labor. May we be mindful of their needs, grateful for their faithfulness, and faithful in our responsibilities to them; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Adapted from The United Methodist Book of Worship, written by Reinhold Niebuhr, #443)

AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH: The Apostles' Creed / All

(Pastor) Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

(Pastor) Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

(All) 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.

(Pastor) Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

(All) 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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT / Lyn Knowles

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Corinthians 3:5-9 (NRSVue) / Liturgist

We Are God's Coworkers

⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and each will receive wages according to their own labor. ⁹For we are God's coworkers, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

(Liturgist) The Word of God for the People of God

(All) Thanks be to God

INTERLUDE: "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" by Doris Akers / Phil Bremenstuhl, accompanied by Robert Phillips

***GOSPEL READING: John 5:2-17 (NRSVue) / Liturgist**

Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

²Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew, Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. ³In these lay many ill, blind, lame, and paralyzed people. ⁵One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. ⁶When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" ⁷The ill man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am making my way someone else steps down ahead of me."

⁸ Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." ⁹ At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a Sabbath. ¹⁰ So the Jews said to the man who had been cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your mat." ¹¹ But he answered them, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Take up your mat and walk.'" ¹² They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take it up and walk'?"

¹³ Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had disappeared in the crowd that was there. ¹⁴ Later Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "See, you have been made well! Do not sin anymore, so that nothing worse happens to you." ¹⁵ The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well. ¹⁶ Therefore the Jews started persecuting Jesus, because he was doing such things on the Sabbath. ¹⁷ But Jesus answered them, "My Father is still working, and I also am working."

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

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

SERMON: "IF YOU WANT HAPPINESS FOR A LIFETIME..." (Part 8 of the sermon series, *"Live Your Happy Life Today!"*) / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

***HYMN OF DEDICATION:** #2260 "Let Us Be Bread" by Thomas Porter (sing twice) / **All**

**Let us be bread, blessed by the Lord,
broken and shared, life for the world.**

Let us be wine, love freely poured.

Let us be one in the Lord.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (James 1) / Liturgist

(Liturgist) God calls us to a devotion that is pure and faultless. What does such devotion look like? Caring for those in a world with big needs and little hope. Let us give as generously as God has given to us.

(All) Amen!

(Liturgist) I invite the ushers to receive our offering.

OFFERTORY: "Aria" by Brian Solomons

***DOXOLOGY:** #95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" by Thomas Ken / **All**
**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** (James 1, Mark 7) / Liturgist

**God of every good gift, bless the gifts of our resources, our prayers, and our lives.
Bless these gifts for the good of others and to the honor of your name. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION WITH MUSIC RESPONSES

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

(Pastor) The Lord be with you.

(Congregation) And also with you.

(Pastor) Lift up your hearts.

(C) We lift them up to God.

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

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

(P) It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. In the beginning your Spirit moved over the face of the waters. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. Your Spirit came upon prophets and teachers, anointing them to speak your Word.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(All Singing)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

(Pastor) 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.

(All Singing)

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

(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 and empowered by the gifts of the Spirit.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, showing forth the fruit of the Spirit 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.

(All Singing)

Amen. Amen. Amen.

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, forever. Amen.

GIVING & SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(Pastor) For those who are here in person, you are invited to come forward to take communion elements with three options: (1) You can take the communion in a traditional way. Take a piece of Bread and dip it into the Cup, then eat it. (2) Or you can simply take a "Fellowship Cup," which includes both elements, from the basket and eat it in your seat. It's your choice. (3) If desired, you may take a "Gluten Free Fellowship Cup" from the special basket.

For those who are at home, via online or telephone, please take your own Bread and Cup now.

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY: "Let Us Break Bread Together" by Gilbert M. Martin

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

(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 / Steve Kerrick

***SENDING HYMN: #572 "Pass It On" by Kurt Kaiser / All**

Verse 1

**It only takes a spark
to get a fire going,
and soon all those around
can warm up in its glowing.
That's how it is with God's love
once you've experienced it;
you spread his love to everyone;
you want to pass it on.**

Verse 2

**What a wondrous time is spring,
when all the trees are budding;
the birds begin to sing,
the flowers start their blooming.
That's how it is with God's love
once you've experienced it;
you want to sing, it's fresh like spring,
you want to pass it on.**

Verse 3

**I wish for you, my friend,
this happiness that I've found;
you can depend on him,
it matters not where you're bound.
I'll shout it from the mountaintop;
I want my world to know;
the Lord of love has come to me,
I want to pass it on.**

***RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION** (James 1, Mark 7)

(Pastor) The good gifts of God continue to pour out upon us, giving us inspiration and energy for every good act.

(Congregation) May our lives yield a full harvest of goodness and compassion!

(P) Go and be doers of God's word of truth!

(All) May our lives honor God! Amen!

POSTLUDE: "Rejoice in the Lord" by James Mansfield

We are called to pray for:

Margaret Berger, Peggy Haught, Jennifer Mahl, Norma Nelson, Mary Herrmann, Michael Thompson,
Jim Ashworth, Linda Rydzik, Lou Santino, Mary Boon, Melva Cooke, Judy McArthur, Carol Erdman,
John and Susan Page-Logger, Robert and Benita Roberts, LJ Arguelles, Brian Robison, Yvonne Peters

New Members Welcoming Sunday

September 22, 2024 10 am

If you would like to join our church, please contact:

Pastor Kim – (951) 683-7831 – pastorjtkim@firstchurchriverside.org

This Week

Sunday, September 1

-Chapel Prayer Group (Chapel) – 9:15 – 9:45 am

-Worship: Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost; Holy Communion Sunday; Pastor J. T. Kim offers: **“IF YOU WANT HAPPINESS FOR A LIFETIME...”** (Part 8 of the sermon series, **“Live Your Happy Life Today!”**) (Sanctuary) – 10 am

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

Monday, September 2 – Church Campus is closed for the Labor Day holiday

Tuesday, September 3

-Allegro Ringers Rehearsal (Mary’s Kitchen) – 7 pm

Wednesday, September 4

-Parents’ Morning Out (Nursery) – 9 am – 12 pm

-Wednesday Bible Study (Zoom) – 7 pm

-The Response rehearsal (Sanctuary) – 6:30 pm

Thursday, September 5

-“Columbarium Witness Service” for Elizabeth Davis (Riverside National Cemetery) – 11:45 am

-Aldersgate Chorale Rehearsal (Music Room) – 7 pm

-United Women in Faith, Bible Study; Speaker: Cheryl Riggs, PhD (Zoom) – 7 pm

Friday, September 6

-United Methodist Men’s Prayer Breakfast (Mary’s Kitchen) – 7 am

Sunday, September 8

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

-Worship: Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost; Pastor J. T. Kim offers: **“GRACE ALONE AND BEYOND”** (Part 9 of the sermon series, **“Live Your Happy Life Today!”**) (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

-United Methodist Men’s Lunch – Guest speaker, Jessica Hall, Chief of the Norco Station of the CSO. She is the daughter-in-law of Daryl and Lee Ann Salmon. (Fellowship Hall) – 11 am

-U.P.L.I.F.T. Youth Group (Youth Room) – 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

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