



# Sunday Worship

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

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## Order of Worship

**First Sunday in Lent**

**March 9, 2025 10 am**

\*Please stand as you are comfortable.

**PRELUDE:** "Go Down, Moses" by David Hurd / Robert Phillips, Organist

### **\*TRINITY BELLS**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN:** #116 "The God of Abraham Praise" from The Yigal of Daniel ben Judah / Led by Kris Lovekin, Hymn Leader

#### **Verse 1**

**The God of Abraham praise,  
who reigns enthroned above;  
Ancient of Everlasting Days,  
and God of love;  
Jehovah, great I AM!  
by earth and heaven confessed;  
I bow and bless the sacred name  
forever blest.**

#### **Verse 2**

**The great I AM has sworn;  
I on this oath depend.  
I shall, on eagle wings upborne,  
to heaven ascend.  
I shall behold God's face;  
I shall God's power adore,  
and sing the wonders of God's grace  
forevermore.**

### **Verse 3**

**The heavenly land I see,  
with peace and plenty blest;  
a land of sacred liberty,  
and endless rest.**

**There milk and honey flow,  
and oil and wine abound,  
and trees of life forever grow  
with mercy crowned.**

### **Verse 4**

**The God who reigns on high  
the great archangels sing,  
and "Holy, holy, holy!" cry,  
"Almighty King!  
Who was, and is, the same,  
and evermore shall be:  
Jehovah, Lord, the great I AM,  
we worship thee!"**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (Psalm 25, 1 Peter 3) / Led by Loretta Cudney, Liturgist  
(Liturgist) Welcome home, beloved children of God!

**(Congregation) Gathered in God's arms, we come to worship.**

(L) Sheltered in God's love, we come to grow in love.

**(C) Abiding in God, we seek solace and comfort.**

(L) Even as God sends us on wilderness journeys,

**(All) we trust that God is with us, guiding and protecting our days. Amen!**

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

**PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** (Luke 4)

(Pastor) Jesus fasted for forty days in the desert while being tempted by the devil. At the end of this time of trial, he found the peace and strength to begin his ministry. Let us share signs of this peace, that we too may find the strength to sustain our ministries. Peace be with you!

**(All) Peace be with you!**

**THE CHURCH AT PRAYER**

-Sharing of Joys & Concerns

**PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE (UNISON):** Hymn #268 (Lent)

**O God our deliverer, you led your people of old through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide now the people of your church, that, following our Savior, we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.**

**PRAYER RESPONSE:** "Amen" (Dresden)

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT** / Christina Graves

**OLD TESTAMENT READING: Exodus 2:1-25** (NRSVue) / Liturgist

*Birth and Youth of Moses*

**<sup>1</sup> Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. <sup>2</sup> The woman conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. <sup>3</sup> When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. <sup>4</sup> His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.**

**<sup>5</sup> The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. <sup>6</sup> When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. <sup>7</sup> Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" <sup>8</sup> Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. <sup>9</sup> Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. <sup>10</sup> When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."**

*Moses Flees to Midian*

**<sup>11</sup> One day after Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and saw their forced labor. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his own people. <sup>12</sup> He looked this way and that, and seeing no one he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. <sup>13</sup> When he went out the next day, he saw two Hebrews fighting, and he said to the one who was in the wrong, "Why do you strike your fellow Hebrew?" <sup>14</sup> He answered, "Who made you a ruler and judge over us? Do you mean to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" Then Moses was afraid and thought, "Surely the thing is known." <sup>15</sup> When Pharaoh heard of it, he sought to kill Moses. So Moses fled from Pharaoh. He settled in the land of Midian and sat down by a well. <sup>16</sup> The priest of Midian had seven daughters.**

They came to draw water and filled the troughs to water their father's flock.<sup>17</sup> But some shepherds came and drove them away. Moses got up and came to their defense and watered their flock.<sup>18</sup> When they returned to their father Reuel, he said, "How is it that you have come back so soon today?"<sup>19</sup> They said, "An Egyptian helped us against the shepherds; he even drew water for us and watered the flock."<sup>20</sup> He said to his daughters, "Where is he? Why did you leave the man? Invite him to share a meal."<sup>21</sup> Moses agreed to stay with the man, and he gave Moses his daughter Zipporah in marriage.<sup>22</sup> She bore a son, and he named him Gershom, for he said,

"I have been an alien residing in a foreign land."

<sup>23</sup> After a long time the king of Egypt died. The Israelites groaned under their slavery and cried out. Their cry for help rose up to God from their slavery.<sup>24</sup> God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.<sup>25</sup> God looked upon the Israelites, and God took notice of them.

(Liturgist) The Word of God for the people of God.

(All) Amen.

**ANTHEM:** "God So Loved the World" from "The Crucifixion" by John Stainer / The Aldersgate Chorale

**NEW TESTAMENT READING: Acts 7:17-29** (NRSVue) / Liturgist

***Stephen's Account of Moses' Life***

<sup>17</sup> "But as the time drew near for the fulfillment of the promise that God had made to Abraham, our people in Egypt increased and multiplied<sup>18</sup> until another king who had not known Joseph ruled over Egypt.<sup>19</sup> He dealt craftily with our people and forced our ancestors to abandon their infants so that they would die.<sup>20</sup> At this time Moses was born, and he was beautiful before God. For three months he was brought up in his father's house,<sup>21</sup> and when he was abandoned, Pharaoh's daughter adopted him and brought him up as her own son.<sup>22</sup> So Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in his words and deeds.

<sup>23</sup> "When he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his kinfolk, the Israelites.<sup>24</sup> When he saw one of them being wronged, he defended the oppressed man and avenged him by striking down the Egyptian.<sup>25</sup> He supposed that his kinsfolk would understand that God through him was rescuing them, but they did not understand.<sup>26</sup> The next day he came to some of them as they were quarreling and tried to reconcile them, saying, 'Men, you are brothers; why do you wrong each other?'<sup>27</sup> But the man who was wronging his neighbor pushed Moses aside, saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge over us?'

**28 Do you want to kill me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?' 29 When he heard this, Moses fled and became a resident alien in the land of Midian. There he became the father of two sons."**

(Liturgist) The Word of God for the people of God.

**(All) Amen.**

**SERMON: "MOSES: FROM MURDERER TO PROPHET" ("Rise Again!" - Lenten Sermon Series, #2 of 7) / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor**

**\*HYMN OF DEDICATION: #448 "Go Down, Moses,"** African-American spiritual (Verses 1, 2, 5, 10, & 11 only)

**Verse 1**

**When Israel was in Egypt's land,  
let my people go;  
oppressed so hard they could not stand,  
let my people go.**

**Refrain:**

**Go down, Moses,  
way down in Egypt's land;  
tell old Pharaoh  
to let my people go!**

**Verse 2**

**"Thus saith the Lord," bold Moses said,  
let my people go;  
"if not, I'll smite your firstborn dead,"  
let my people go. (Refrain)**

**Verse 5**

**Come, Moses, you will not get lost,  
let my people go;  
stretch out your rod and come across,  
let my people go. (Refrain)**

**Verse 10**

**This world's a wilderness of woe,  
let my people go;  
O let us on to Canaan go,  
let my people go. (Refrain)**

**Verse 11**

**O let us all from bondage flee,  
let my people go;  
and let us all in Christ be free,  
let my people go. (Refrain)**

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING** (Deuteronomy 26) / Liturgist

(Liturgist) As the ancient Hebrews were called to offer the first fruit of the harvest, so we are called to offer our gifts of gratitude to God. May God move in our hearts and minds, as we give generously, gratefully, and joyfully.

**(All) Amen!**

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

**OFFERTORY:** "Pastel on 'Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days'" by Charles Callahan

**\*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** (Deuteronomy 26) / Liturgist

**God of abundance, we offer these gifts, along with our praise and thanksgiving. You generously pour out your love and the gifts of this good earth to us, each and every day. Bless the gifts we return to you now, that they may bring abundant love and sustenance to many in need of your blessing. With grateful hearts, we pray. Amen.**

**LAITY BLESSINGS** / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

**\*SENDING HYMN:** #269 "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" by Claudia F. Hernaman (Verses 1, 4, & 5 only) / **All**

**Verse 1**

**Lord, who throughout these forty days  
for us didst fast and pray,  
teach us with thee to mourn our sins  
and close by thee to stay.**

**Verse 4**

**And through these days of penitence,  
and through thy passiontide,  
yea, evermore in life and death,  
Jesus, with us abide.**

**Verse 5**

**Abide with us, that so, this life  
of suffering overpast,  
an Easter of unending joy  
we may attain at last.**

**\*RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION** (Psalm 91, Romans 10, Luke 4)

(Pastor) As you leave this place, abide in the shadow of the Most High.

**(Congregation) God is our refuge and our strength.**

(P) As you wander through the wilderness, put your trust in the Holy One.

**(C) Christ is our shelter in times of temptation and fear.**

(P) As you face times of trial, call on the name of the Lord and be saved.

**(C) The Comforter leads us safely through.**

(P) Go with God's blessing!

**(All) Amen!**

**POSTLUDE:** "Toccata on 'Leoni'" by Gordon Young

### *In Our Hearts and Prayers:*

John and Susan Logger, Daryl Salmon, Ed Lamers, Bill and Helen Nuchols, Melissa Williams, Pat Beals, Norma Nelson, Mary Herrmann, Michael Thompson, Jim Ashworth, Mary Boon, Melva Cooke, Mack Davis, Yvonne Peters, Robert and Benita Roberts, Michelle Arguelles, Marge Wolter, De'Ann McWilliams, Ruben Renteria, the family of Robin Renteria, the family of Bill Woodard, Christina Graves, the family of Ryan Dungan, our families, our neighbors, our country, our world

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## *This Week*

### **Sunday, March 9**

- Worship – First Sunday of Lent, Pastor Kim’s new Lenten sermon series (“Rise Again!”) continues (Sanctuary) – 10 am
- Children’s Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) – 10:15 am
- Youth Worship (Youth Room) – 10:15 am
- Missions Garden (Patio) – 11 am
- UMM Luncheon Speaker: Mayflower Society (Fellowship Hall) – 11:15 am

### **Tuesday, March 11**

- Parents’ Morning Out (Nursery) – 9 am – noon
- Bell rehearsal (Mary’s Kitchen) – 7 pm
- SPRC Committee Mtg. (Zoom) – 7 pm

### **Wednesday, March 12**

- UWF Lunch Bunch (Zacatecas Mexican Cafe – 3767 Iowa Ave.) – 11 am
- UWF Executive Committee Mtg. (Zoom) – 1 pm
- Lenten Soup Supper Speakers: Dave and Shari Nelson /Study (Fellowship Hall) – 6 pm
- Response Rehearsal (Sanctuary) – 6:30 pm

### **Thursday, March 13**

- Aldersgate Chorale (Music Room) – 7 pm

### **Friday, March 14**

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

### **Sunday, March 16**

- Worship – Second Sunday of Lent, Pastor Kim’s new Lenten sermon series (“Rise Again!”) continues (Sanctuary) – 10 am
- Children’s Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) – 10:15 am
- Faith and Fellowship Potato Bar (Fellowship Hall) – 11:00 am
- U.P.L.I.F.T. Youth Sunday Dinner – (Youth Room) – 5 pm