



# Sunday Worship

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

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## Order of Worship

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**March 30, 2025 10 am**

\*Please stand as you are comfortable.

**PRELUDE:** "Have Thine Own Way, Lord" by Robert J. Powell / Robert Phillips, Organist

### **\*TRINITY BELLS**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN: #359** "Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed" by Isaac Watts and Ralph E. Hudson (Verses 1, 3, & 5 only) / **All** / Led by Kris Lovekin, Hymn Leader

#### **Verse 1**

**Alas! and did my Savior bleed,  
and did my Sovereign die?  
Would he devote that sacred head  
for sinners such as I?**

**Refrain: At the cross, at the cross,  
where I first saw the light,  
and the burden of my heart rolled away;  
it was there by faith I received my sight,  
and now I am happy all the day.**

#### **Verse 3**

**Well might the sun in darkness hide,  
and shut its glories in,  
when God, the mighty maker, died  
for his own creature's sin. (Refrain)**

#### **Verse 5**

**But drops of tears can ne'er repay  
the debt of love I owe.  
Here, Lord, I give myself away;  
'tis all that I can do. (Refrain)**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (2 Corinthians 5, Luke 15) / Led by Sarah Overton Fraser, Liturgist  
(Liturgist) Come, all ye faithful . . .

**(Congregation) to worship, praise, and pray.**

(L) Come, all ye unfaithful . . .

**(C) for God's love welcomes us home.**

(L) Come into the presence of Christ . . .

**(All) for Christ's grace makes us new and whole. Amen!**

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

**\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** (2 Corinthians 5, Luke 15)

(Pastor) Reconciled to God through the grace of Christ, let's offer signs of reconciliation and love, as we share the peace of Christ. Peace be with you!

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

**THE CHURCH AT PRAYER**

-Sharing of Joys and Concerns

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

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

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT** / Lucinda Edmunds

**SCRIPTURE READING I: Jonah 1:1-2:10** (NRSVue) / Liturgist

***Jonah Tries to Run Away from God***

**<sup>1:1</sup> Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, <sup>2</sup>"Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it, for their wickedness has come up before me." <sup>3</sup>But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord. <sup>4</sup>But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, and such a mighty storm came upon the sea that the ship threatened to break up. <sup>5</sup>Then the sailors were afraid, and each cried to his god. They threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten it for them. Jonah, meanwhile, had gone down into the hold of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep.**

<sup>6</sup>The captain came and said to him, "What are you doing sound asleep? Get up; call on your god! Perhaps the god will spare us a thought so that we do not perish."  
<sup>7</sup>The sailors said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, so that we may know on whose account this calamity has come upon us." So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. <sup>8</sup>Then they said to him, "Tell us why this calamity has come upon us. What is your occupation? Where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?" <sup>9</sup>"I am a Hebrew," he replied. "I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." <sup>10</sup>Then the men were even more afraid and said to him, "What is this that you have done!" For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them so.  
<sup>11</sup>Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?" For the sea was growing more and more tempestuous. <sup>12</sup>He said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great storm has come upon you." <sup>13</sup>Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to bring the ship back to land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more stormy against them. <sup>14</sup>Then they cried out to the Lord, "Please, O Lord, we pray, do not let us perish on account of this man's life. Do not make us guilty of innocent blood, for you, O Lord, have done as it pleased you." <sup>15</sup>So they picked Jonah up and threw him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. <sup>16</sup>Then the men feared the Lord even more, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows.  
<sup>17</sup>But the Lord provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

### *A Psalm of Thanksgiving*

<sup>2:1</sup> Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the belly of the fish, <sup>2</sup> saying,  
"I called to the Lord out of my distress,  
and he answered me;  
out of the belly of Sheol I cried,  
and you heard my voice.  
<sup>3</sup> You cast me into the deep,  
into the heart of the seas,  
and the flood surrounded me;  
all your waves and your billows  
passed over me.  
<sup>4</sup> Then I said, 'I am driven away  
from your sight;  
how shall I look again  
upon your holy temple?'  
<sup>5</sup> The waters closed in over me;  
the deep surrounded me;  
weeds were wrapped around my head

**<sup>6</sup>at the roots of the mountains.**

**I went down to the land**

**whose bars closed upon me forever;  
yet you brought up my life from the Pit,  
O Lord my God.**

**<sup>7</sup>As my life was ebbing away,**

**I remembered the Lord,  
and my prayer came to you,  
into your holy temple.**

**<sup>8</sup>Those who worship vain idols  
forsake their true loyalty.**

**<sup>9</sup>But I with the voice of thanksgiving  
will sacrifice to you;  
what I have vowed I will pay.**

**Deliverance belongs to the Lord!"**

**<sup>10</sup>Then the Lord spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out onto the dry land.**

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

**(All) Thanks be to God!**

**ANTHEM:** "A Lenten Meditation" by Douglas E. Wagner / The Aldersgate Chorale

**SCRIPTURE READING II: Jonah 3:1-4:11** (NRSVue) / Liturgist

***Conversion of Nineveh***

**<sup>3:1</sup> The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup> "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." <sup>3</sup> So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. <sup>4</sup> Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" <sup>5</sup> And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.**

**<sup>6</sup>When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. <sup>7</sup> Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. <sup>8</sup> Humans and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. <sup>9</sup> Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish."**

**<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.**

## ***Jonah's Anger***

**4:1 But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. 2He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. 3And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." 4And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" 5Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.**

**6The Lord God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. 7But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. 8When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."**

## ***Jonah Is Reproved***

**9But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." 10Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. 11And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"**

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

**(All) Thanks be to God!**

## **SERMON: "JONAH: FROM DISOBEYING MESSENGER TO CONVINCING PROPHET"**

(Lenten Sermon Series, **"Rise Again!":** #4 of 7) / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

**\*HYMN OF DEDICATION: #382 "Have Thine Own Way, Lord"** by Adelaide A. Pollard and George C. Stebbins / **All**

### **Verse 1**

**Have thine own way, Lord!**

**Have thine own way!**

**Thou art the potter;**

**I am the clay.**

**Mold me and make me**

**after thy will,**

**while I am waiting,**

**yielded and still.**

## Verse 2

Have thine own way, Lord!  
Have thine own way!  
Search me and try me,  
Savior, today!  
Wash me just now, Lord,  
wash me just now,  
as in thy presence  
humbly I bow.

## Verse 3

Have thine own way, Lord!  
Have thine own way!  
Wounded and weary,  
help me, I pray!  
Power, all power,  
surely is thine!  
Touch me and heal me,  
Savior divine!

## Verse 4

Have thine own way, Lord!  
Have thine own way!  
Hold o'er my being  
absolute sway.  
Fill with thy Spirit  
till all shall see  
Christ only, always,  
living in me!

### **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING** (Joshua 5, 2 Corinthians 5) / Liturgist

(Liturgist) In gratitude for all that God has done for us and as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, let us share our gifts with God and God's world.

**(All) Amen!**

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

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

**\*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** (Psalm 32, 2 Corinthians 5, Luke 15) / Led by Liturgist  
**With glad hearts, we offer these gifts to you, O God. Transform them with the power of your Holy Spirit, that these gifts may bring forth new life. May our offering transform others' lives into the new creation you promise to all. Amen.**

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

**\*SENDING HYMN: #140** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" by Thomas O. Chisholm / **All**

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)**

**\*RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION**

(Pastor) Created anew in Christ,

**(Congregation) we go to proclaim new life to the world.**

(P) Transformed by God's love and grace,

**(All) we go to bring love and grace to all. Amen!**

**POSTLUDE:** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" by David Cherwien

*In Our Hearts and Prayers:*

Chandra and Jaswant Roberts, Norma Nelson, Elizabeth Wood-Baisie, Sharon and Jerrilynn Henry, John and Susan Logger, Ed Lamers, Michael Thompson, Bill and Helen Nuchols, Melissa Williams, Pat Beals, Mary Herrmann, Jim Ashworth, Mary Boon, Melva Cooke, Mack Davis, Yvonne Peters, Robert and Benita Roberts, Michelle Arguelles, Marge Wolter, De'Ann McWilliams, the family of Ruben Renteria, the family of Bill Woodard, Christina Graves' family, our families, our neighbors, our country, our world

*New Members Welcoming Sunday*

**Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025**

If you would like to join First UMC of Riverside as your "Home Church," or have questions about the process, please contact Pastor Kim (pastorjtkim@firstchurchriverside.org) or Church Office (951-683-7831) We'd love to welcome you joyfully on this coming Easter Sunday!

*Donna Woodard invites you to a  
Celebration of Life  
for her husband, Bill Woodard*

This will be in a casual and small-scale setting  
at her home's Club House.  
9391 California Ave.  
(Mobile Home Park), Riverside, CA 92503

Saturday, April 12, 2025, 2 p.m.  
(A light reception will follow)

In addition to her family, friends, and neighbors,  
Donna invites our First UMC Family.

Please RSVP so that family can prepare.  
**RSVP** is requested by Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>  
TEXT: Cell 951-941-0261  
Email: sunshinedonna078@gmail.com



## *This Week*

### **Sunday, March 30**

- Worship - Fourth Sunday of Lent, Pastor Kim's sermon series "Rise Again!" (JONAH) (Sanctuary) - 10 am
- Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
- The Habit Fundraiser, 3555 Riverside Plaza Drive; must show flyer or mention fundraiser to server or show on cell phone; Church will earn 20% of sales - 11 am - 9:30 pm

### **Tuesday, April 1**

- Parents' Morning Out (Nursery) - 9 am
- Bell rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) - 7 pm

### **Wednesday, April 2**

- Lenten Soup Supper Speaker: Selin Yildez Nielsen, "Human Migration Institution" (Fellowship Hall) - 6 pm
- Response rehearsal (Sanctuary) - 6:30 pm

### **Thursday, April 3**

- Aldersgate Chorale (Music Room) - 7 pm

### **Friday, April 4**

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

### **Saturday, April 5**

- UWF Unit Meeting, Kris Lovekin, speaker (Chandler Lounge) - 10 am

### **Sunday, April 6**

- Chapel Prayer (Chapel) - 9:15 am
- Worship - Fifth Sunday of Lent, Communion, Pastor Kim's sermon series "Rise Again!" (PETER) - 10 am
- Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
- Baby Shower for Kennedi Jayce Ann Williams, daughter of Jonathon and Melissa Williams (Fellowship Hall) - 11:15 am
- Church and Society Meeting (Chandler Lounge) - 11:15 am
- U.P.L.I.F.T. Youth Sunday Dinner+ (Youth Room) - 5 pm

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