



Sunday Worship

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

Order of Worship

**Second Sunday after the Epiphany; Human Relations Day;
Family Service with The Response
January 18, 2026 10 am**

*Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE: "Contemplation" by Richard I. Purvis / Robert Phillips, Organist

***TRINITY BELS**

***INTROIT:** "The Word Was Made Flesh" by Hal H. Hopson / The Aldersgate Chorale, directed by Yvonne Flagg

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Isaiah 49, Psalm 40, John 1) / Josephine Essien, Liturgist (Liturgist) Can you hear God's call?

(People) Christ's voice is heard far and near.

(L) Can you discern God's Word?

(P) Christ calls one and all.

(L) God speaks of light and life.

(P) Christ loves the mighty and the small.

(L) The Spirit breathes joy and compassion.

(All) We are called into fellowship together. 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

Chorus

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

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (Psalm 40, John 1)

(Pastor) With songs of joy in our mouths and songs of praise for our God, let us greet one another and share the peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Peace be with you!

(All) Peace be with you!

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

-Sharing of joys and concerns

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE (UNISON) (Isaiah 49, 1 Corinthians 1)

Holy One, may our spirits be polished arrows in the quiver of your searching love. May our words ring true with shouts of praise. Use us, Gracious God, as instruments of your mercy and compassion. Fashion us into vessels of your abiding Spirit, that a world torn by brokenness and pain might touch your healing love through our fellowship with you and with one another. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE: "Amen" (Danish)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT / Christina Graves

INTERLUDE: "The Lion and the Lamb" by Brenton Brown, Brian Johnson, and Leeland Mooring / The Response and The Bell Tree

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 17:22-28 (CEB) / Liturgist

In God We Live, Move, and Exist

²²Paul stood up in the middle of the council on Mars Hill and said, "People of Athens, I see that you are very religious in every way. ²³As I was walking through town and carefully observing your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: 'To an unknown God.' What you worship as unknown, I now proclaim to you. ²⁴God, who made the world and everything in it, is Lord of heaven and earth. He doesn't live in temples made with human hands. ²⁵Nor is God served by human hands, as though he needed something, since he is the one who gives life, breath, and everything else. ²⁶From one person God created every human nation to live on the whole earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷God made the nations so they would seek him, perhaps even reach out to him and find him. In fact, God isn't far away from any of us. ²⁸In God we live, move, and exist. As some of your own poets said, 'We are his offspring.'"

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

(All) Amen.

ANTHEM: "All Praise to Thee" by Thomas Tallis / The Aldersgate Chorale

***GOSPEL READING: John 4:21-26** (NRSVue) / Liturgist

Worship God in Spirit and Truth

²¹Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

²³But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

²⁵The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” ²⁶Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

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

SERMON: “THREE SIMPLE QUESTIONS: #1, WHO IS GOD?” (New sermon series, “**Three Simple Questions**,” 1 of 3) / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

***HYMN OF DEDICATION:** “All the People Said Amen” by Matt Maher, Trevor Morgan, and Paul Moak

Verse 1

**You are not alone if you are lonely.
When you feel afraid, you're not the only.
We are all the same, in need of mercy,
to be forgiven and be free.
It's all you got to lean on,
but thank God it's all you need.**

Chorus

**And all the people said amen. (whoa)
And all the people said amen.
Give thanks to the Lord, for His love never ends.
And all the people said amen.**

Verse 2

**If you're rich or poor, well, it don't matter.
Weak or strong, you know love is what we're after.
We're all broken, but we're all in this together.
God knows we stumble and fall,
and He so loved the world
He sent His son to save us all.**

(Chorus)

Bridge

**Blessed are the poor in spirit who are torn apart.
Blessed are the persecuted and the pure in heart.
Blessed are the people hungry for another start,
for theirs is the kingdom, the kingdom of God.**

Chorus

And all the people said amen. (whoa)
And all the people said amen.
Give thanks to the Lord, for His love never ends.
And all the people said amen.
(repeat chorus)
Tag: And all the people said amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (Isaiah 49, Psalm 40) / Liturgist

(Liturgist) What does God require of us, and with what shall we come before the Lord? It is not with sacrifice and burnt offerings, but with hearts filled with praise and lives bent on justice. With joy and thanksgiving for the tender mercies of our God, may today's offering be a sign of our commitment to bring God's justice and compassion to our world.

(All) Amen!

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

OFFERTORY: "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name" by Donald Busarow

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

**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.**

***UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** (Isaiah 49, John 1) / **All** / Led by Liturgist

God of Grace and God of Glory, you bless us with water and the Spirit, that we might know the fullness of life. As we strive to be a light to the nations, may others be brought to the dawn of your glory. Bless the gifts we bring before you now, that they might reach the very ends of the earth and help those struggling to find the light. Amen.

LAITY BLESSINGS / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***SENDING HYMN:** "My Lighthouse" by Chris Llewellyn and Gareth Gilkeson / **All**

Verse 1

**In my wrestling and in my doubts,
in my failures, you won't walk out.
Your great love will lead me through.
You are the peace in my troubled sea. (oh-oh)
You are the peace in my troubled sea.**

Verse 2

**In the silence, you won't let go.
In the questions, your truth will hold.
Your great love will lead me through.
You are the peace in my troubled sea. (oh-oh)
You are the peace in my troubled sea.**

Chorus

**My lighthouse, my lighthouse,
shining in the darkness, I will follow you. (oh-oh)
My lighthouse, my lighthouse,
I will trust the promise,
you will carry me safe to shore, safe to shore,
safe to shore, safe to shore.**

Verse 3

**I won't fear what tomorrow brings.
With each morning I'll rise and sing.
My God's love will lead me through.
You are the peace in my troubled sea. (oh-oh)
You are the peace in my troubled sea.**

Chorus

Bridge

**Fire before us, you're the brightest.
You will lead us through the storms.
Fire before us, you're the brightest.
You will lead us through the storms.
Fire before us, you're the brightest.
You will lead us through the storms.
Fire before us, you're the brightest.
You will lead us through the storms.**

Chorus

***RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION** (Isaiah 49, Psalm 40, 1 Corinthians 1)

(Pastor) Sing a new song as you leave this place.

(Congregation) We go in the love of the One who strengthens us.

(P) Heed the call that stirs within you.

(C) We go in service of our call to follow Christ.

(P) Walk forth as saints of God.

(C) We go in fellowship with the Holy Spirit.

(P) Bring hope to the ends of the earth.

(All) We go to be a light to the nations. Amen!

POSTLUDE: "Toccata on 'Go Forth for God'" by David Maxwell

We are called to pray for:

Don and Carolyn Greywood, the Speir-Konegen family, Roy and Cheryl Riggs, Timothy Speck, Dewey Edmunds, Rizzy Manacop, Jun Valino, Patrick Russell, Jon Dugan, Marie Madden, Gitanjali Spencer, Liz Jennings, George Callow, Bill Ashworth, Norma Nelson, Ed Lamers, Mack Davis, Pat Beals, John and Susan Logger, Michael Thompson, Melissa Williams, Bill and Helen Nuchols, Mary Herrmann, Jim Ashworth, Mary Boon, Melva Cooke, Marge Wolter, Michelle Arguelles, Robert and Benita Roberts, Scott and De'Ann McWilliams, the family of Connie Taylor

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, January 18

- **"THREE SIMPLE QUESTIONS: #1, WHO IS GOD?"** (Sermon series, "Three Simple Questions," 1 of 3) /

The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor - 10 am

-Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am - 11 am

-Faith and Fellowship Potluck - Sharing Charcuterie Boards (Fellowship Hall) - 11 am

-Missions Garden (Patio) - 11 am

-English Country Dance (Fellowship Hall) - 3 pm

-U.P.L.I.F.T. Youth Sunday Dinner (Youth Room) - 5 pm

Monday, January 19

-Martin Luther King Holiday - Campus closed / Preschool closed

Tuesday, January 20

-Allegro Ringers rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) - 7 pm

Wednesday, January 21

-UWF "Walk About" (off campus) - 8:30 am

-UWF Unit Meeting/Pledge and remembrance (Chandler Lounge) - 10 am

Thursday, January 22

- UWF Bible Study / "Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools" (Zoom) - 6:45 pm
- Aldersgate Chorale rehearsal (Music Room) - 7 pm

Friday, January 23

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

Saturday, January 24

- Empty Nesters (Fellowship Hall) - 5 pm

Sunday, January 25

- American Red Cross Blood Drive (Fellowship Hall) - 8 am to 2 pm
- **"THREE SIMPLE QUESTIONS: #2, Who Am I?"** (Sermon series, "Three Simple Questions," 2 of 3) / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor (Sanctuary) - 10 am
- Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
- Youth Worship (Youth Room) - 10:15 am
- Music Committee Meeting (Mary's Kitchen) - 11:15 am
- The Habit Fundraiser, 3555 Riverside Plaza Dr. (show flyer or cell phone to server) - 11 am to 9:30 pm

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