



Palm / Passion Sunday

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

Order of Worship

March 29, 2026 10 am

PRELUDE: "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" by Michael Burkhardt / Robert Phillips, organist

***TRINITY BELLS**

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN: #278** "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" by William H. Parker / Rev. Bev Devine, Hymn Leader / All

Verse 1

**Hosanna, loud hosanna,
the little children sang;
through pillared court and temple
the lovely anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them
close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises,
the simplest and the best.**

Verse 2

**From Olivet they followed
mid an exultant crowd,
the victor palm branch waving,
and chanting clear and loud.
The Lord of earth and heaven
rode on in lowly state,
nor scorned that little children
should on his bidding wait.**

Verse 3

**"Hosanna in the highest!"
that ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer,
the Lord of heaven our King.
O may we ever praise him
with heart and life and voice,
and in his blissful presence
eternally rejoice!**

***PALM PROCESSION**

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Matthew 21, Psalm 118) / Led by Greg Laird, Liturgist
(Liturgist) Give thanks to God, who is truly good.

(People) Hosanna in the highest!

(L) Praise Christ, whose love abounds with grace.

(P) Hosanna in the highest!

(L) Welcome the Spirit with songs of praise.

(All) Hosanna in the highest! Amen!

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

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** (Matthew 21)

(Pastor) Blessed are you, for you come in God's name. Let's share signs of blessing and love as we pass the peace of Christ on this holy day. Peace be with you!

(All) Peace be with you!

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

- Sharing of Joys and Concerns

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE (UNISON) (Passion/Palm Sunday; #281) / **All** / Led by Pastor
Almighty God,

**you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ,
to suffer death on the cross.**

**Grant that we may share in his obedience to your will
and in the glorious victory of his resurrection;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
One God, now and ever. Amen.**

PRAYER RESPONSE: "Amen" (Dresden)

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO CHILDREN

(Children: Rylan Bottrell, Corinne Graves, Jocelyn Williams, Aubrie Jane Orozco, Grayson Anthony Orozco)

(Pastor) Receive the Word of God. Learn its stories and study its words. Its stories belong to us all, and these words speak to us all. They tell us who we are. They tell us that we belong to one another, for we are the people of God.

(Children respond) We receive these Bibles with our hands, our hearts, and our minds. Thank you. We will read and study the Bible together.

(The children and leaders face the congregation.)

(Congregation to Children) We rejoice in this step in your journey with God. We pray God will guide you, your family, and us as you use this Holy Bible in your home, in your church school classes, and in our worship. We will learn together and grow in our love for God's Word.

(Children to congregation) The Word of God is a lamp to our feet, and a light to our path. Thanks be to God. Amen!

***GOSPEL READING: John 15:1-17 (NRSVue) / Liturgist**

I Am the True Vine

¹"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. ⁹As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷ I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

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

ANTHEM: "The Palms" by Jean-Baptiste Faure / The Aldersgate Chorale, directed by Yvonne Flagg

SERMON: "WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM? (Part II of II)" (Sermon series, "*The Message of Jesus*," 7 of 9 / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: #2108** "O How He Loves You and Me" by Kurt Kaiser / **All**

Verse 1

O how he loves you and me!

O how he loves you and me!

He gave his life. What more could he give?

O how he loves you; O how he loves me;

O how he loves you and me!

Verse 2

Jesus to Calv'ry did go,

his love for sinners to show.

What he did there brought hope from despair.

O how he loves you; O how he loves me;

O how he loves you and me!

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (Philippians 2) / Liturgist

(Liturgist) May Christ's values of generosity, grace, and love guide our giving of time, talent, and treasure. May these values become the focus of our thoughts during this time of offering.

(All) Amen!

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

OFFERTORY: "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" by Georg Friedrich Kaufmann

***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 118) / Led by Liturgist
**We give you thanks, Christ Jesus, for your goodness and your grace. Bless the gifts
and lives we offer to you, that they may bring goodness and grace to your world. In
gratitude and joy, we pray. Amen.**

LAITY BLESSINGS / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***SENDING HYMN: #364** "Because He Lives" by Gloria and William J. Gaither
Verse 1

**God sent his Son, they called him Jesus;
he came to love, heal, and forgive;
he lived and died to buy my pardon,
an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.**

Refrain

**Because he lives, I can face tomorrow;
because he lives, all fear is gone;
because I know he holds the future,
and life is worth the living just because he lives.**

Verse 2

**How sweet to hold a newborn baby,
and feel the pride and joy he gives;
but greater still the calm assurance,
this child can face uncertain days because he lives. (Refrain)**

Verse 3

**And then one day I'll cross the river;
I'll fight life's final war with pain;
and then as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know he reigns. (Refrain)**

***RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION** (Psalm 118, Matthew 21, Matthew 26-27)

(Pastor) With songs in our heart,

(Congregation) we move toward the cross.

(P) May God bless us

(C) with strength for the journey ahead.

(P) Go with God,

(All) knowing Christ is on the journey with us. Amen!

POSTLUDE: "Prelude and Fugue in A Minor" by Johann Ludwig Krebs

In Our Hearts and Prayers:

Regan Pope, Doug Robinson, Donna Woodard, Eduardo Reyes, Tina Dungan, Lupe Vela, Lyle Adams, Ronnie Tovar, Roger Murray, Lolita Manacop, Grace Reyes, Sharon Henry, Don Greywood, Wayne Speir, Rebecca Konegen, Jun Valino, Jon Dugan, Marie Madden, Gitanjali Spencer, Liz Jennings, George Callow, Bill Ashworth, Norma Nelson, Ed Lamers, Mack Davis, Pat Beals, Michael Thompson, Marge Wolter, John and Susan Logger, Melissa Williams, Bill and Helen Nuchols, Mary Herrmann, Jim Ashworth, Mary Boon, Melva Cooke, Michelle Arguelles, Robert and Benita Roberts, the family of Mary Bidwell Scott and De'Ann McWilliams, the family of Connie Taylor

Welcoming New Members on Easter Sunday, April 5th

**If you would like to join our church as a member through
Transfer, Reaffirmation of Faith, Baptism, or Confirmation,
please contact Pastor Kim.
pastorjtkim@firstchurchriverside.org**



2026 Easter Lily Dedications

In Memory of Denise Lassiter-Benedict by Jeff Benedict

In Memory of David Cudney by Loretta Cudney

**In Memory of Clifford and LaVaun Lundquist (my Mom and Dad)
by Patti Gardenias**

In Honor of Vaiasini Vaka (Mom) by Talilatu Tupou

In Honor of the Zeeb, the Bong, and the Reupert families by Cindy Marr

In Memory of Clint and Gerry Marr by Cindy Marr

In Memory of Laurel D. McDonald by the McDonald and Rice families

In Memory of Kathleen Phillips by Robert Phillips

In Honor of Rev. and Mrs. J. T. Kim by Rev. Roy and Cheryl Riggs

In Memory of H.D. and Elsie Basham by Marilyn and Doug Robinson

In Honor of my 107-year-old Aunt Helen by Linda Rydzik

In Honor of the birth of Julian on February 18, 2026, by Linda Rydzik

**In Memory of Dottie Anderle, Mary Madonna, and Ervin Salmon
by Daryl and Lee Ann Salmon**

**In Memory of Raymond and Elizabeth Frègeau
by Lynn Wright and John Frègeau**



The Week Ahead

Sunday, March 29

- Palm/Passion Sunday Worship; **"WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM? (Part II of II)"** (Sermon series, **"The Message of Jesus,"** 7 of 9) / 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
- The Habit Fundraiser (Present flyer in person or on your phone) – 11 am to 9 pm

Monday, March 30

- Small Group Bible Study Leaders' Development (Training) (Conference Room) – 8 am
- Viewing for Robert Schiffer (Arlington Mortuary) – 10:30-11:30 am
- Graveside Service for Robert Schiffer (Riverside National Cemetery) – 12:45 pm

Tuesday, March 31

- Allegro Ringers rehearsal (Sanctuary) – 7 pm

Wednesday, April 1

- UWF Walk About (off campus) – 8:30 am
- The Response Rehearsal – 6:15 pm

Thursday, April 2

- Maundy Thursday (Aldersgate Chorale) Joint Service at Wesley UMC – 7 pm
(5770 Arlington Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504)

Friday, April 3

- Men's Prayer Breakfast – 7 am
- Good Friday – church office closes at noon
- Good Friday Service, **"JESUS' FINAL THREE COMMANDMENTS"** (Sermon series, **"The Message of Jesus,"** 8 of 9) / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor (Sanctuary) – 7 pm

Sunday, April 5

- Chapel Prayer – 9:15-9:45 am
- Easter Sunday Worship; **"THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE"** (Lent/Easter sermon series, **"The Message of Jesus,"** 9 of 9) / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor (Sanctuary) – 10 am
- New Members Welcoming Sunday with Confirmation (NOTE: Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, April 12)
- Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) – 10:15 am
- Church and Society and Missions meeting (Chandler Lounge) – 11:15 am

----- FUMCOR Job Opening -----

The First United Methodist Church of Riverside is searching for an Office Manager and Treasurer who has experience in a nonprofit setting, a patient and diplomatic approach, and a knack for project management. This is a part-time job with office hours of 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with some evening Zoom meetings. The pay range starts at \$24 per hour. You do not have to be a United Methodist, but you should have a desire to support the successful operation of church ministries run by volunteers.

Do you know this person? Are you this person?

Send a resume and a cover letter to: pastorjtkim@firstchurchriverside.org

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