



# Sunday Worship

**First United Methodist Church of Riverside**

**4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506**

## Order of Worship

**March 8, 2026 10 am**

**Third Sunday in Lent**

\*Stand as you are comfortable

**PRELUDE:** "Adoration" by Florence B. Price / Robert Phillips, organist

### **\*TRINITY BELLS**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN: #405 "Seek Ye First"** by Karen Lafferty / Led by Steve Kerrick, Hymn Leader

#### **Verse 1**

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!**

#### **Verse 2**

**Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek and ye shall find;  
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!**

(Repeat as needed)

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (Psalm 95) / Led by Loretta Cudney, Liturgist  
(Liturgist) Worship God with joy and thanksgiving.

**(People) Make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.**

(L) We are the sheep of God's pasture.

**(P) We are the lambs of God's flock.**

(L) Come! Let us worship the Lord.

**(All) Amen!**

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

**\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** (Romans 5)

(Pastor) God pours peace and love into our hearts through the power of the Holy Spirit. Let us receive these gifts, as we share the peace of Christ with one another. Peace be with you!

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

**2026 CROP HUNGER WALK (March 22) INVITATION** / Kevin Simpson

**THE CHURCH AT PRAYER**

- Sharing of Joys and Concerns

**PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE (UNISON)** (Exodus 17, Romans 5, John 4) / **All** (Led by Pastor)

**Living water, flow through our hearts today. Quench our thirst in our desert wanderings, and strengthen us for the road ahead. Bathe us in your fountain of eternal life, that our spirits may flow with faith and love, through the power of your eternal Spirit. Amen.**

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

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT** / Christina Graves

**INTERLUDE:** "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" by Emma Lou Diemer/ Robert Phillips

**SCRIPTURE READING: Colossians 3:1-4** (NRSVue) / Liturgist

*Set Your Minds on the Things That Are Above*

**<sup>1</sup> So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup> for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.**

(Liturgist) This is the Word of God for the people of God.

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

**ANTHEM:** "O Love That Will Not Let Me Go" by George Matheson and Molly Ijames / The Aldersgate Chorale, directed by Yvonne Flagg

**\*GOSPEL READING: Matthew 6:31-33, 7:21-27** (NRSVue) / Liturgist

*Seek First the Kingdom of God*

**<sup>6:31</sup> "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' <sup>32</sup> For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. <sup>33</sup> But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."**

*Doing the Will of God*

**7:21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. 22 On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' 23 Then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; go away from me, you who behave lawlessly.'"**

*The Parable of the House on Rock*

**24 "Everyone, then, who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. 25 The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall because it had been founded on rock. 26 And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!"**

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

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

**SERMON: "THE WORLD'S MOST IMPORTANT SERMON (Part II of II)"** (Sermon series, *"The Message of Jesus,"* 4 of 9) / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

**\*HYMN OF DEDICATION: #363** "And Can It Be That I Should Gain (Amazing Love)" by Charles Wesley (vss. 1, 3, and 5) / **All** / Hymn Leader

**Verse 1**

**And can it be that I should gain  
an interest in the Savior's blood!  
Died he for me? who caused his pain!  
For me? who him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be  
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?  
Amazing love! How can it be  
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?**

**Verse 3**

**He left his Father's throne above  
(so free, so infinite his grace!),  
emptied himself of all but love,  
and bled for Adam's helpless race.  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,  
for O my God, it found out me!  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,  
for O my God, it found out me!**

### Verse 5

No condemnation now I dread;  
Jesus, and all in him, is mine;  
alive in him, my living Head,  
and clothed in righteousness divine,  
bold I approach th'eternal throne,  
and claim the crown, through Christ my own.  
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,  
and claim the crown, through Christ my own.

### **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING** (Romans 5, John 4) / Liturgist

(Liturgist) Called to live in hope, invited to abide in joy, let us share the blessings we have so richly received from God.

**(All) Amen!**

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

**OFFERTORY:** "Sonata II" by Elisabetta de Gambarini

**\*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** (Exodus 17, John 4) / Liturgist

**Eternal Spirit, Source of healing and wholeness, receive our grateful hearts for your many blessings. Transform the gifts we bring this day into Christ's promise of living water for the world. Bathe those who are touched by today's offering in your goodness and grace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**LAITY BLESSINGS** / Kris Lovekin

**\*SENDING HYMN: #3105** "In Christ Alone" by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

### Verse 1

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
he is my light, my strength, my song.  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,  
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my all in all,  
here in the love of Christ I stand.

## Verse 2

In Christ alone, who took on flesh,  
fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness  
scorned by the ones he came to save.  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died  
the wrath of God was satisfied;  
for every sin on him was laid.  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

## Verse 3

There in the ground his body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain.  
Then bursting forth in glorious day,  
up from the grave he rose again!  
And as he stands in victory,  
sin's curse has lost its grip on me.  
For I am his and he is mine,  
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

## Verse 4

No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
this is the power of Christ in me.  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme or plan  
can ever pluck me from his hand.  
'Til he returns or calls me home,  
here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

**\*BENEDICTION** / Pastor Kim

**POSTLUDE:** "We Have Heard the Joyful Sound" by Mary McDonald

### *In Our Hearts and Prayers:*

Airyng Hall (Salmons' granddaughter), Samuel Sawlikar and family, Rollin Edmunds,  
Tina Dungan, Lupe Vela, Lyle Adams, Ronnie Tovar, Roger Murray, Carolyn Greywood,  
Lolita Manacop, Grace Reyes, Sharon Henry, 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 Connie Taylor, the family of Mary Bidwell

## *This Week*

### **Sunday, March 8**

- Worship - Third Sunday of Lent; **"THE WORLD'S MOST IMPORTANT SERMON (Part II of II)" (Sermon series, "The Message of Jesus," 4 of 9)** (Sanctuary) - 10 am
- Children's Sunday School - "Learn Your Bible" class (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
- Youth Worship (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays) (Youth Room) - 10:15 am
- UMM Lunch/Program: David Leonard will speak re: Cal Baptist University (Fellowship Hall) - 11:15 am

### **Monday, March 9**

- Small Group Bible Study Leaders' Development Session (Conf. Room) - 8 am

### **Tuesday, March 10**

- UWF Exec. Board Meeting (Zoom) - 1 pm
- Allegro Ringers rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) - 7 pm
- SPRC Meeting (Zoom) - 7 pm

### **Wednesday, March 11**

- UWF Walk About (off campus) - 8:30 am
- Lenten Soup Supper with speaker Bev DeFrance (Fellowship Hall) - 6 pm
- Response rehearsal (Sanctuary) - 6 pm

### **Thursday, March 12**

- UWF Lunch Bunch - 11 am
- Aldersgate Chorale (Music Room) - 7 pm

### **Friday, March 13**

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

### **Saturday, March 14**

- Outreach Event: "Boxcars at the Movies" - (Fellowship Hall) - 10 am

### **Sunday, March 15**

- Family Worship with The Response - Fourth Sunday of Lent; **"JESUS SPOKE TO THEM IN PARABLES" (Sermon series, "The Message of Jesus," 5 of 9)** (Sanctuary) - 10 am
- Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
- Faith and Fellowship Potato Bar (Fellowship Hall) - 11 am
- English Country Dance (Fellowship Hall) - 1 pm to 3 pm
- U.P.L.I.F.T. Youth Group/Dinner - 5 pm

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