



Sunday Worship

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

Order of Worship

Third Sunday of Easter;
Family Sunday with The Response Praise Band
April 19, 2026 10 am

*Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE: "Morning Has Broken" by Richard Proulx / Robert Phillips, Organist

*TRINITY BELLS

***INTROIT:** "Easter Fanfare" by E. E. Ferguson / The Aldersgate Chorale, directed by Yvonne Flagg

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Psalm 116, 1 Peter 1, Luke 24) / Led by Bob Nelson, Liturgist

(Liturgist) Even if we feel abandoned and alone,

(People) Christ meets us here.

(L) Even when we become lost and disoriented,

(P) Christ rescues us in our need.

(L) Even when our hearts are touched by the frost,

(P) Christ warms our spirits.

(L) Even when all light has faded to black,

(P) Christ illumines our Way.

(L) Here in this house of worship—enter, rejoice, and come home.

(All) Amen!

***OPENING HYMN: #145** "Morning Has Broken" by Eleanor Farjeon / Led by The Response
/ All

Verse 1

Morning has broken like the first morning;

blackbird has spoken like the first bird.

Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!

Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Verse 2

**Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where his feet pass.**

Verse 3

**Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!**

WELCOME / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** (Luke 24)

(Leader) Welcome Christ as a fellow traveler on the journey of life. As you share signs of his peace with one another, see his eyes looking back at you. Peace be with you!

(All) Peace be with you!

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Sharing of joys and concerns

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE (UNISON) (Luke 24)

Lover of our souls, you meet us on the road of life and lift us from our pain and grief. Heal our hardness of heart, and open our minds to the subtleness of your ways and the grandeur of your kingdom. During times of suffering and doubt, help us grow strong and true, through your enduring word. Reveal your presence to us, as we show hospitality to strangers and break bread in your name. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE: "Amen" (Dresden)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT / Christina Graves and Lucinda Edmunds

INTERLUDE: "The Commission" by Logan Cain, Madison Cain, Taylor Cain, Carter Frodge, and Blake NeeSmith / The Response

***SCRIPTURE READING:** Acts 2:14a, 36-41 (NRSVue) / Liturgist

Acts 2:14a

Peter Addresses the Crowd

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

Acts 2:36-41

³⁶ "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

The First Converts

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸ Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." ⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

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

(All) Thanks be to God! Amen!

ANTHEM: "Many and Great, O God"—Native American tune from Dakota Hymnal, arranged by Dan Damon / The Aldersgate Chorale, directed by Yvonne Flagg

SERMON: "What Now?" / The Rev. Moonyoung Lee, East District Superintendent, Guest Preacher

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: #2158** "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" by Anonymous

Verse 1

**I am weak, but thou art strong;
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long
as I walk, let me walk close to thee.**

**Refrain: Just a closer walk with thee,
grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
daily walking close to thee:
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.**

Verse 2

**Through this world of toil and snares,
if I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.**

**Refrain:
Just a closer walk with thee,
grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
daily walking close to thee:
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.**

Verse 3

**When my feeble life is o'er,
time for me will be no more;
guide me gently, safely o'er
to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore.**

[Refrain]

Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (Psalm 116) / Liturgist

(Liturgist) What shall we return to the Lord for God's many gifts? What praises shall we sing to honor God's manifold blessings? In the presence of God's people, let us pay our vows to the Lord with heartfelt gratitude.

(All) Amen!

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

OFFERTORY: "Now the Green Blade Riseth" by Michael Bedford

***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** (Psalm 116, Luke 24) / **All** / Led by Liturgist

Loving God, you come to us in moments of grief when we have lost our ability to perceive your presence. Receive our thanks for meeting us on the road and for quickening our spirits. Receive our praise for opening your word to us and for enlightening our minds. May the gifts we bring before you now reflect the stirring of our hearts, as you heal the broken places in our lives. May the offering we bring forth stir the hearts of those in need of your mercy and your grace. Amen.

LAITY BLESSINGS / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***SENDING HYMN: "I Have Decided" by Michael Card / The Response**

Chorus

**I have decided
I'm gonna live like a believer,
turn my back on the deceiver.
I'm gonna live what I believe.
I have decided
being good is just a fable.
I just can't 'cause I'm not able.
I'm gonna leave it to the Lord.**

Verse 1

**There's a wealth of things that I profess
I said that I believed,
but deep inside I never changed.
I guess I'd been deceived,
'cause a voice inside kept telling me
that I'd change by and by,
but the Spirit made it clear to me
that kind of life's a lie. [Chorus]**

Verse 2

**So forget the game of being good
and your self-righteous pain,
'cause the only good inside your heart
is the good that Jesus brings,
and when the world begins to see you change,
don't expect them to applaud.
Just keep your eyes on Him and tell yourself,
"I've become the work of God."**

Chorus 2X

**I have decided
I'm gonna live like a believer,
turn my back on the deceiver.
I'm gonna live what I believe.
I have decided
being good is just a fable.
I just can't 'cause I'm not able.
I'm gonna leave it to the Lord.**

Chorus 2X (in new key)

I have decided

**I'm gonna live like a believer,
turn my back on the deceiver.**

I'm gonna live what I believe.

I have decided

being good is just a fable.

I just can't 'cause I'm not able.

I'm gonna leave it to the Lord.

I'm gonna leave it to the Lord.

I'm gonna leave it to the Lord.

***BENEDICTION /** The Rev. Moonyoung Lee, D.S.

POSTLUDE: "I Know that My Redeemer Lives" by Dale Wood

In Our Hearts and Prayers

Lee Ann Salmon, Regan Pope, 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, 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 Robert Schiffer

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, April 19

- Pastor Kim on Vacation
- Small Group Bible Study w/Brent Levine (Chandler Lounge) - 8:30 am to 9:45 am
- Worship - East District Superintendent Rev. Moonyoung Lee, guest preacher (Sanctuary) - 10 am
- Family Worship with The Response Band - 10 am
- Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
- Youth Worship (Youth Room) - 10:15 am
- Faith and Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) - 11:15 am
- U.P.L.I.F.T. Youth Sunday Dinner (Youth Room) - 5 pm
- Small Group Bible Study w/Lucinda Edmunds (Zoom or Chandler Lounge) - 5 pm to 6:15 pm

Monday, April 20

- Small Group Bible Study 10:30 to 11:30 am
- Finance Committee Meeting (Zoom) - 5:30 pm

Tuesday, April 21

- Small Group Bible Study w/James Herron (Magnolia Gardens, 8537 Magnolia Ave., 2nd floor, Library) 10 am to 11 am
- Staff Meeting (Conference Room) - 10 am
- Allegro Ringers rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) - 7 pm

Wednesday, April 22

- UWF "Walk About" (off campus) - 8:30 am
- Small Group Bible Study w/Sophie Weiss (Chandler Lounge) 7 pm to 8 pm

Thursday, April 23

- Small Group Bible Study w/Richard Rajaratnam (Chandler Lounge) - 10:30 am to 11:30 am
- UWF Bible Study "Finding God's Voice in Your Passion" (Zoom) - 6:45 pm
- Aldersgate Chorale rehearsal (Music Room) - 7 pm

Friday, April 24

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

Saturday, April 25

UWF/Wood Streets YARD SALE!!! -- 7 am - 3 pm

Sunday, April 26

- Small Group Bible Study w/Brent Levine (Chandler Lounge) - 8:30 am to 9:45 am
- Fourth Sunday of Easter; **"CALLED TO BE FRUITFUL"** (New Sermon Series, **"Bearing Fruit,"** based on the book, **Bearing Fruit: Ministry with Real Results**, by Lovett H. Weems, Jr. and Tom Berlin, **#1 of 12**) (Sanctuary) - 10 am
- Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
- Youth Worship (Youth Room) - 10:15 am

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