



Sunday Worship

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

Order of Worship

May 24, 2026 10 am

**Pentecost Sunday; Heritage Sunday; Aldersgate Sunday; Memorial Day Sunday;
New Members Welcoming Sunday through Baptism and Transfer**

*Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE: "Prelude on 'Veni, Creator Spiritus'" by Libby Larsen / Robert Phillips, Organist

***TRINITY BELLS**

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN: #363** "And Can It Be that I Should Gain (Amazing Love)" by Charles Wesley / Led by Steve Kerrick, Hymn Leader / **All**

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 2

**'Tis mystery all: th'Immortal dies!
Who can explore his strange design?
In vain the firstborn seraph tries
to sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore;
let angel minds inquire no more.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore;
let angel minds inquire no more.**

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 4

Long my imprisoned spirit lay,
fast bound in sin and nature's night;
thine eye diffused a quickening ray;
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
my chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

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.

***CALL TO WORSHIP** / Sarah Overton Fraser, Liturgist
(Liturgist) Listen! Do you hear a sound like the howling of a fierce wind?

(People) Come, Holy Spirit!

(L) Look! Can you see flames of fire?

(P) Come, Holy Spirit!

(L) Wait! Can you feel the power?

(All) The Holy Spirit is here! Amen!

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

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** (1 Corinthians 12)

(Pastor) The Spirit lives in each of you. We bless each other as we use our God-given talents. Peace be with you!

(All) Peace be with you!

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

RESPONSIVE PRAYER (Memorial Day Prayer)

(Pastor) Almighty God, before whom stand the living and the dead, we your children, whose mortal life is but a hand's breadth, give thanks to you: For all those through whom you have blessed our pilgrimage, whose lives have empowered us, whose influence is a healing grace,

(All) We lift up thankful hearts!

(Pastor) For the dear friends and family members whose faces we see no more, but whose love is with us for ever...

(All) We lift up thankful hearts!

(Pastor) For the teachers and companions of our childhood and youth, and for the members of our household of faith who worship you now in heaven...

(All) We lift up thankful hearts!

(Pastor) For those who sacrificed themselves, our brothers and sisters who have given their lives for the sake of others...

(All) We lift up thankful hearts!

(Pastor) That we may hold them all in continual remembrance, and ever think of them as with you in that city whose gates are not shut by day and where there is no night...

(All) We lift up thankful hearts!

(Pastor) That we may now be dedicated to working for a world where labor is rewarded, fear dispelled, and the nations made one,

(All) O Lord, save your people and bless your heritage. Day by day we magnify you, and worship your name, for ever and ever. Amen.

(Adapted from The United Methodist Book of Worship, written by John Hunter, #440 "Memorial Day Prayer")

PRAYER RESPONSE: "Give Ear to Our Prayer, O God" by Hal H. Hopson / The Aldersgate Chorale, directed by Yvonne Flagg

CHILDREN'S MOMENT / Lucinda Edmunds

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

- **Baptism: Navdeep "Navi" Randhawa**
- **Transfer: Vivian Lowe**



Welcoming New Members: Through Baptism & Transfer

(Pentecost Sunday, May 24, 2026)

INTRODUCTION

(Pastor) Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we are initiated into Christ's holy Church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price. Through the reaffirmation of our faith, we renew the covenant declared at our baptism, acknowledge what God is doing for us, and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy Church.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

(Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader) I present **Navdeep "Navi" Randhawa** for Baptism.

I also present **Vivian Lowe**, who joins to this congregation by transferring her membership from Hemet United Methodist Church, California.

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

(Pastor addresses all candidates) On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

(Candidates) I do.

(Lay Leader to all candidates) Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

(Candidates) I do.

(Pastor to all candidates) Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

(Candidates) I do.

(Pastor addresses all candidates) According to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy Church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

(Candidates) I will.

(Lay Leader addresses the congregation) Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

(Congregation) We do.

(Pastor to the congregation) Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons now before you in your care?

(Congregation) With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

BAPTISM

(Pastor) *(Navi)*, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

(Pastor) *(Navi)*, the Holy Spirit work within you, that being born through water and the spirit, you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Transfer)

(Pastor) *(Vivian)*, remember your baptism and be thankful. **Amen.**

(Pastor) *(Vivian)*, the Holy Spirit work within you, that having been born through water and the Spirit, you may live as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

RECEPTION INTO THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(Lay Leader) As members of Christ's universal Church, will you be loyal to Christ through The United Methodist Church, and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

(Candidates) I will.

RECEPTION INTO THE CONGREGATION OF FIRST UMC OF RIVERSIDE

(Pastor addresses all candidates) As members of this congregation, First United Methodist Church of Riverside, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?

(Candidates) I will.

COMMENDATION AND WELCOME

(Pastor addresses the congregation) Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

(Congregation) We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the First United Methodist Church of Riverside, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

BLESSINGS FOR THOSE RECEIVED AND WELCOMED

(Pastor) The God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit, that you may live in grace and peace.
(All) Amen!

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF MEMBERSHIP/BAPTISM

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 2:1-4 (NRSVue) / Liturgist

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

¹ When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

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

(All) Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM: "Spirit, Now Live in Me" by Bryan Jeffrey Leech / The Aldersgate Chorale;
Jeff Benedict, flute

***GOSPEL READING: John 16:13-14** (NRSVue) / Liturgist

When the Spirit of Truth Comes

¹³ "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me because he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

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

SERMON: "HOW TO AVOID RUNNING ON EMPTY" / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: #2248 "Baptized in Water"** by Michael Seward / **All**
Verse 1

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King;
heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,
faithfully now God's praises we sing.**

Verse 2

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
dead in the tomb with Christ, our King;
one with his rising, freed and forgiven,
thankfully now God's praises we sing.**

Verse 3

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ, our King;
born of one Father, we are his children,
joyfully now God's praises we sing.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (1 Corinthians 12) / Liturgist

(Liturgist) God gives so many gifts to so many people. Grateful for God's abundant love, let us also bring our gifts to God.

(All) Amen!

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

OFFERTORY: "Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord" by Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau

***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 104, 1 Corinthians 12) / Led by Liturgist
**Holy one, you create all that is. Your breath sustains every living thing. In your
creation, we see your love of diversity. In our community, we celebrate the
multitude of Spirit-filled gifts. Grateful for your care, we bring these gifts. May they
spread your love to all people. Amen.**

LAITY BLESSINGS / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***SENDING HYMN: #696** "America the Beautiful" by Katharine Lee Bates / **All**

Verse 1

**O beautiful for spacious skies,
for amber waves of grain;
for purple mountain majesties
above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood
from sea to shining sea.**

Verse 2

**O beautiful for heroes proved
in liberating strife,
who more than self their country loved,
and mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine,
till all success be nobleness,
and every gain divine.**

Verse 3

**O beautiful for patriot dream
that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam,
undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,
confirm thy soul in self-control,
thy liberty in law.**

***BENEDICTION** (Aldersgate Sunday; Benediction from John Wesley's Tradition) / Pastor
"May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen."

POSTLUDE: "Fantasia in G (Abridged)" by Johann Sebastian Bach

In Our Hearts and Prayers:

Terri Whieldon, Tom Kennedy, Christina Graves, Bob Bahnsen, Don Larsen, Neko Williams, David Cardenas, Gary Bruggeman, Lee Ann Salmon, Regan Pope, Bill Ashworth, Eduardo Reyes, Tina Dungan, Lupe Vela, Ronnie Tovar, Roger Murray, Lolita Manacop, Grace Reyes, Sharon Henry, Jun Valino, Jon Dugan, Marie Madden, Gitanjali Spencer, George Callow, Norma Nelson, Ed Lamers, Mack Davis, Pat Beals, Michael Thompson, Marge Wolter, John and Susan Logger, Melissa Williams, Mary Herrmann, Bill and Helen Nuchols, Jim Ashworth, Mary Boon, Melva Cooke, Michelle Arguelles, Robert and Benita Roberts, the family of Robert Schiffer, Scott and DeAnn McWilliams

This Week

Sunday, May 24

-**NO Bible Study (today and May 31)** w/Brent Levine (Chandler Lounge) - 8:30-9:45 am
-Pentecost Sunday; Welcoming New Members Sunday Worship - Sermon: "**HOW TO AVOID RUNNING ON EMPTY**" / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor (Sanctuary) - 10 am
-Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
-**NO Youth Worship today** (Youth Room) - 10:15 am - 11 am

Monday, May 25

-Memorial Day Holiday - Campus is closed

Tuesday, May 26

-Bible Study w/James (off-campus) - 10 am
-Allegro Ringers rehearsal (Mary's Kitchen) - 7 pm

Wednesday, May 27

- UWF "Walk About" (off campus) - 8:30 am
- The Response Band rehearsal (Sanctuary) - 6:30 pm

Thursday, May 28

- Last day of Preschool . . . see you in August!
- NO Bible Study w/Richard** (Chandler Lounge) - 10:30 am
- Aldersgate Chorale rehearsal (Music Room) - 7 pm

Friday, May 29

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

Saturday, May 30 and June 6

- VBS Set-up time (Fellowship Hall) - 9 am - 5 pm

Sunday, May 31

- NO Bible Study today w/Brent** (Chandler Lounge) - 8:30-9:45 am
- Trinity Sunday Worship - Sermon: **"THE TWO MOST POWERFUL WORDS FOR FRUITFUL LEADERSHIP"** (Sermon series, **"Bearing Fruit,"** #4 of 12) / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor (Sanctuary) - 10 am
- Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am - 11 am
- Bible Study w/Lucinda (Zoom) - 5 pm
- NO U.P.L.I.F.T. Youth Group today** (Youth Room) - 5 pm

Music Copyright License Information

Prelude: "Prelude on 'Veni, Creator Spiritus'" by Libby Larsen. ©2002 Oxford University Press, Inc., OneLicense Song #91735, OneLicense #A735776.

Processional Hymn: #363 "And Can It Be that I Should Gain (Amazing Love)" by Charles Wesley. Public domain.

Prayer Response: "Give Ear to Our Prayer, O God" by Hal H. Hopson. ©1981 Lorenz Publishing Corp., OneLicense Song #1050638, OneLicense #A735776.

Anthem: "Spirit, Now Live in Me" by Bryan Jeffrey Leech, arr. by Keith Christopher. ©2013 Fred Bock Music Company, OneLicense Song #FBC-A004366, OneLicense #A735776.

Hymn of Dedication: #2248 "Baptized in Water" by Michael Saward. ©1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin. by Hope Publishing Co., OneLicense Song #695bca2c91010, OneLicense #A735776.

Offertory: "Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord" by Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau. Public domain.

Doxology: #95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" by Thomas Ken. Public domain.

Sending Hymn: #696 "America the Beautiful" by Katharine Lee Bates. Public domain.

Postlude: "Fantasia in G (Abridged)" by Johann Sebastian Bach. Public domain.