



Sunday Worship

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

Order of Worship

Ascension Sunday;
Family Sunday with The Response Praise Band
May 17, 2026 10 am

*Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE: "Prayer from Christ Ascending Towards His Father" by Olivier Messiaen / Robert Phillips, Organist

***TRINITY BELLS**

***INTROIT:** "This Is the Day" by Hal H. Hopson / The Aldersgate Chorale, directed by Yvonne Flagg

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Psalm 47, Luke 24) / Led by Alan Kerrick, Liturgist
(Liturgist) Look to the heavens, people of God.

(People) See the power of the Most High God.

(L) Christ ascends to heaven in glory.

(P) Shout to God with cries of joy.

(L) Clap your hands, children of Love incarnate.

(All) Sing praises to God, our king. Amen!

***OPENING HYMN:** "This Is Amazing Grace" by Josh Farro, Phil Wickham, Jeremy Riddle
/ **ALL** / Led by The Response

Verse 1

**Who breaks the power of sin and darkness,
whose love is mighty and so much stronger?
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.**

Verse 2

**Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder?
Who leaves us breathless in awe and wonder?
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.**

Chorus

**This is amazing grace,
this is unfailing love,
that you would take my place,
that you would bear my cross.
You laid down your life
that I would be set free.**

Jesus, I sing for all that you've done for me.

Verse 3

**Who brings our chaos back into order?
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter?
The King of Glory, the King of Glory.**

Verse 4

**Who rules the nations with truth and justice,
shines like the sun in all of its brilliance?
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.**

Chorus

**This is amazing grace,
this is unfailing love,
that you would take my place,
that you would bear my cross.
You laid down your life
that I would be set free.**

Jesus, I sing for all that you've done for me.

Bridge

**Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave!
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave!
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave!
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain! Worthy, worthy!**

Chorus

**This is amazing grace,
this is unfailing love,
that you would take my place,
that you would bear my cross.
You laid down your life
that I would be set free.**

Jesus, I sing for all that you've done for me.

(Repeat Chorus)

Tag: Jesus, I sing for all that you've done for me.

WELCOME / Pastor J. T. Kim

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** (Acts 1, Luke 24)

(Leader) Brought together in the power of Christ's ascendant glory, turn and exchange signs of Christ's peace with one another this day. Peace be with you!

(All) Peace be with you!

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT / Steve Kerrick, SPRC chair

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Sharing of joys and concerns

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT / Christina Graves

INTERLUDE: "River of Life" by Mac Powell, Ethan Hulse, and Jonathan Smith / The Response

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Corinthians 3:4-9 (NRSVue) / Liturgist

We Are God's Coworkers

⁴For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not all too human? ⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and each will receive wages according to their own labor. ⁹For we are God's coworkers, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

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

(All) Thanks be to God! Amen!

ANTHEM: "Christians, Celebrate and Sing!" by Lloyd Larson / The Aldersgate Chorale, directed by Yvonne Flagg

***GOSPEL READINGS:** / Liturgist

Luke 13:6-9 (NRSVue)

The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree

‘Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the man working the vineyard, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ ⁸ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good, but if not, you can cut it down.”’

Matthew 28:19-20 (NRSVue)

The Great Commission

¹⁹ “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

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

SERMON: “INVITED TO LABOR FOR GOD’S HARVEST (Part II of II)” (Sermon series, “Bearing Fruit,” #3 of 12) / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: “Washed Over Me”** by Casey Brown, Garrett Hornbuckle, Jeff Stein, Jonathan Smith, Joshua Schou, Luke Wycuff / **ALL**

Intro

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

Instrumental

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

Verse 1

The sun is rising on a new day.

My soul's alive 'cause my sins you cast away.

Down by the river, I was redeemed

when your love washed over me,

when your love washed over me.

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

Whoa oh oh oh oh oh

Verse 2

**My chains were broken, my debt was paid.
I traded dirty rags for riches in your name.
And in that moment my soul could sing,
when your love washed over me.**

Chorus

**Like water, you poured out
and grace covered me,
when your love, oh, your love,
when your love washed over me.**

**Whoa oh oh oh oh oh
Whoa oh oh oh oh oh**

Verse 3

**My search is over. I've found my home.
My cup is overflowed, with you I thirst no more.
There on the river, I found the victory,
when your love washed over me.**

Chorus

**Like water, you poured out
and grace covered me,
when your love, oh, your love,
when your love washed over me,**

Ooo ooo ooo ooo

Bridge

**When your love, when your love,
when your love washed over me,
when your love, oh, your love,
when your love washed over me.**

Chorus

**Like water, you poured out
and grace covered me,
when your love, oh, your love,
when your love washed over me,
when your love washed over me.**

**Whoa oh oh oh oh oh
Whoa oh oh oh oh oh
Whoa oh oh oh oh oh
Whoa oh oh oh oh oh**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

(Liturgist) As God has showered abundant love and grace on us, may we share gifts of love and grace with God's world.

(All) Amen!

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

OFFERTORY: "Come Away to the Skies" by Charles Callahan

***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 / All /** Led by Liturgist

With joy, we bring our gifts. With joy, we offer our lives. May the offering of our gifts and our very selves bring joy throughout the world. Amen.

LAITY BLESSINGS / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***SENDING HYMN:** "My Life Is In You" by Daniel Gardner / **All**

Chorus

**My life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord;
my hope is in you, Lord; in you, it's in you.**

**My life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord;
my hope is in you, Lord; in you, it's in you.**

Verse

**I will praise you with all of my life,
I will praise you with all of my strength;
with all of my life, with all of my strength.**

All of my hope is in you.

Chorus

**My life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord;
my hope is in you, Lord; in you, it's in you.**

**My life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord;
my hope is in you, Lord; in you, it's in you, in you.**

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: "Crown Him with Many Crowns" by Joel Raney

In Our Hearts and Prayers

Bill Ashworth, David Cardenas, Gary Bruggeman, Lee Ann Salmon, Regan Pope, 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 AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, May 17

- Bible Study w/Brent Levine (Chandler Lounge) - 8:30-9:45 am
- Family Sunday with The Response, Ascension Sunday Worship - Sermon: **"INVITED TO LABOR FOR GOD'S HARVEST (Part II of II)"** (Sermon series, **"Bearing Fruit,"** #3 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 Edmunds (Zoom) - 5 pm
- U.P.L.I.F.T. Youth Group (Youth Room) - 5 pm

Monday, May 18

- Finance Committee Meeting (Zoom) - 5:30 pm

Tuesday, May 19

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

Wednesday, May 20

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

Thursday, May 21

- Bible Study w/Richard Rajaratnam (Chandler Lounge) - 10:30-11:30 am
- Aldersgate Chorale rehearsal (Music Room) - 7 pm

Friday, May 22

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

Sunday, May 24

- NO Bible Study (today or May 31)** w/Brent Levine (Chandler Lounge) - 8:30-9:45 am
- Pentecost; 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
- Youth Worship (Youth Room) - 10:15 am
- Bible Study w/Lucinda Edmunds (Zoom) - 5 pm

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