



Sunday Worship

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

Order of Worship

June 28, 2026 10 am

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost; Music Appreciation Sunday

*Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE: "God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens" by Dale Wood / Robert Phillips,
Organist

*TRINITY BELLS

***CALL TO WORSHIP** / Led by Tina Rajaratnam, Liturgist

(Liturgist) Lord, when we gather each week, we don't want to become so caught up in our own agendas that we miss you.

(People) We don't want to sing and pray and read your word just to check those things off of our to-do list.

(L) We want to meet with you, Jesus.

(P) We want to hear from you, to experience you, to walk away from this place changed because we have been in your presence.

(L) So take this gathering and make it yours.

(P) We are so thankful that you are here with us.

(All) This is all for you, Lord! Receive our worship! Amen!

***OPENING HYMN: #68** "When in Our Music God Is Glorified" by Fred Pratt Green / **All** /
Led by Steve Kerrick, Hymn Leader

Verse 1

**When in our music God is glorified,
and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried Alleluia!**

Verse 2

**How often, making music, we have found
a new dimension in the world of sound,
as worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!**

Verse 3

**So has the church in liturgy and song,
in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
borne witness to the truth in every tongue, Alleluia!**

Verse 4

**And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night
when utmost evil strove against the light?
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Alleluia!**

Verse 5

**Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always Alleluia!**

WELCOME / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

MUSIC MINISTRY CELEBRATIONS / Music Leaders

- Gayla Lonsbery (The Allegro Ringers)
- Yvonne Flagg (The Aldersgate Chorale)
- Jeff Ashworth (The Response Praise Band)

UNISON PRAYER FOR OUR MUSICIANS / Led by Liturgist

Lord God, gracious and merciful, we pray for our musicians' strength, and the strength of their families and loved ones. We ask that you continue to cause them to create and share the gift of music through instrument and voice. May they find joy in their work and may it fill them with peace, comfort, and purpose. Fill our musicians with your light and love as they generously share with the world. Lord, let all creation sing your praise. Bless our musicians as only you can. In your name we pray. Amen.

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER / Rev. Bev Devine

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT / Lucinda Edmunds

ANTHEM: "Christians, Celebrate and Sing" by Lloyd Larson / The Aldersgate Chorale with bell ringers: Greg Laird, Gayla Lonsbery, Lisa Ponder

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 8, a Psalm of David (CEB) / Liturgist

Divine Majesty and Human Dignity

¹O Lord, our Sovereign,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

²Out of the mouths of babes and infants

you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,

to silence the enemy and the avenger.

³When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,

the moon and the stars that you have established;

⁴what are humans that you are mindful of them,

mortals that you care for them?

⁵Yet you have made them a little lower than God

and crowned them with glory and honor.

⁶You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;

you have put all things under their feet,

⁷all sheep and oxen,

and also the beasts of the field,

⁸the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,

whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

⁹O Lord, our Sovereign,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

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

(All) Thanks be to God! Amen!

EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS: Ephesians 5:15–20a (CEB) / Liturgist

Be filled with the Spirit

¹⁵So be careful to live your life wisely, not foolishly. ¹⁶ Take advantage of every

opportunity because these are evil times. ¹⁷ Because of this, don't be ignorant, but

understand the Lord's will. ¹⁸ Don't get drunk on wine, which produces depravity.

Instead, be filled with the Spirit in the following ways: ¹⁹ speak to each other with

psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs; sing and make music to the Lord in your

hearts; ²⁰ always give thanks to God the Father for everything in the name of our

Lord Jesus Christ.

(Liturgist) Here ends the Epistle reading.

(All) Amen!

INTERLUDE: "You Are So Good To Me" by Don Chaffer, Ben Pasley and Robin Pasley / The

Response with the Bell Tree: Gayla Lonsbery and Carmen Lonsbery

SERMON: "Wonder and Worms" / Rev Dr Kate Hunter

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: #122** "God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale" by Jaroslav J.

Vajda / All

Verse 1

God of the sparrow

God of the whale

God of the swirling stars

How does the creature say Awe

How does the creature say Praise

Verse 2

God of the earthquake

God of the storm

God of the trumpet blast

How does the creature cry Woe

How does the creature cry Save

Verse 3

God of the rainbow

God of the cross

God of the empty grave

How does the creature say Grace

How does the creature say Thanks

Verse 4

God of the hungry

God of the sick

God of the prodigal

How does the creature say Care

How does the creature say Life

Verse 5

God of the neighbor

God of the foe

God of the pruning hook

How does the creature say Love

How does the creature say Peace

Verse 6

God of the ages

God near at hand

God of the loving heart

How do your children say Joy

How do your children say Home

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING / Liturgist

(Liturgist) Today, we come into God's presence for a variety of reasons. In this moment, we give thanks for God's provision and generosity...and now, we offer a portion of our bounty to provide for and to serve others in Jesus' name.

(All) God has given us a calling and equipped us with an abundant share of God's own Spirit—gifts to use and to share. Amen!

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

OFFERTORY: "When in Our Music God Is Glorified" by Charles Callahan

***DOXOLOGY: #62** (Verse 7) "All Creatures of Our God and King" by Francis of Assisi / **All**

Let all things their Creator bless,

and worship him in humbleness,

O praise ye! Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,

and praise the Spirit, Three in One!

O praise ye! O praise ye!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** (2 Kings 2, Galatians 5) / **All** / Led by Liturgist

Gracious God, you have put your Spirit within us and laid your mantle upon us.

These are gifts we could never earn and can never repay. Yet we are filled with your love, joy, patience, peace, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. And so we offer them all to you, grateful to pass them on to your people and to your world. Amen.

LAITY BLESSINGS / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***SENDING HYMN: #2172** "We Are Called" by David Haas / **All**

Verse 1

Come! live in the light!

Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!

We are called to be light for the kingdom,

to live in the freedom of the city of God!

Refrain:

We are called to act with justice,

we are called to love tenderly,

we are called to serve one another,

to walk humbly with God.

Verse 2

**Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless
so all hatred and blindness will be no more!**

Refrain:

**We are called to act with justice,
we are called to love tenderly,
we are called to serve one another,
to walk humbly with God.**

Verse 3

**Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other
as sisters and brothers united in love! (Refrain)**

***BENEDICTION** / Rev Dr Kate Hunter

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

In Our Hearts and Prayers:

Dean Michalka, James Herron, Rev. Roy and Cheryl Riggs, Eric Russler, Terri Whieldon, Tom Kennedy, Christina Graves, Bob Bahnsen, Don Larsen, Neko Williams, 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, Melissa Williams, Mary Herrmann, Jim Ashworth, Mary Boon, Melva Cooke, Michelle Arguelles, John and Susan Logger, Bill and Helen Nuchols, Robert and Benita Roberts, Scott and DeAnn McWilliams, the family of Bill Ashworth

This Week

Sunday, June 28

-Bible Study w/Brent (Chandler Lounge) - 8:30 am - 9:45 am
-Worship - Fifth Sunday after Pentecost; Music Appreciation Sunday; Sermon: "Wonder and Worms" by Rev Dr Kate Hunter (Sanctuary) - 10 am
-Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
-Youth Worship (Youth Room) - 10:15 am -11:00 am
-Bible Study w/Lucinda (Zoom) - 5 pm

Tuesday, June 30

-Summer "Parents Morning Out," June 30 - July 30, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Contact: Christina Graves, (951) 212-5725, childrensdirectore@firstchurchriverside.org (Nursery) - 9 am - 12 pm

Wednesday, July 1

- UWF "Walk About" (off campus) - 8:00 am
- Summer "Parents Morning Out," June 30 - July 30, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Contact: Christina Graves, (951) 212-5725, childrensdirector@firstchurchriverside.org (Nursery) - 9 am - 12 pm
- The Response Band rehearsal (Sanctuary) - 6:30 pm

Thursday, July 2

- Summer "Parents Morning Out," June 30 - July 30, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Contact: Christina Graves, (951) 212-5725, childrensdirector@firstchurchriverside.org (Nursery) - 9 am - 12 pm

Friday, July 3

- Campus offices are closed all day (holiday)

Saturday, July 4, Independence Day Celebration

- Parking lot gate opens at 5 pm. \$5 to park car.
- Come early for kids to enjoy the free waterslide on our front lawn - 5 pm to 7 pm!
- We will also be distributing free school supplies for a great start to the new year.
- Snacks available for purchase.
- Fireworks begin at 9 pm!

Sunday, July 5

- Men's Prayer Breakfast (Mary's Kitchen) - 7 am
- Chapel Prayer - 9:15 am
- Worship: Sixth Sunday after Pentecost; Independence Day Sunday (The 250th Anniversary of the U.S.A.); Holy Communion Sunday. Pastor Kim's sermon: **"ASTONISH!"** / The Rev. J. T. Kim (Sanctuary) - 10 am
- Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
- Church and Society Meeting (Chandler Lounge) - 11:15 am
- The Aldersgate Chorale Summer Break (July and August)

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