



Sunday Worship

First United Methodist Church of Riverside

4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506

<https://FirstChurchRiverside.org>

Order of Worship

July 26, 2026 10 am Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

**Please stand as you are comfortable.*

PRELUDE: "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee" by Dale Wood / Robert Phillips, Organist

***TRINITY BELLS**

***OPENING HYMN: #2273** "Jesus, We Are Here" (Jesu, Tawa Pano) by Patrick Matsikenyiri /
Led by Kris Lovekin, Hymn Leader / **All**

Verse 1

**Jesus, we are here; Jesus, we are here;
Jesus, we are here; we are here for you.**

Verse 2

**Savior, we are here; Savior, we are here;
Savior, we are here; we are here for you.**

Verse 3

**Master, we are here; Master, we are here;
Master, we are here; we are here for you.**

Verse 4

**Spirit, we are here; Spirit, we are here;
Spirit, we are here; we are here for you.**

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Psalm 105, Romans 8) / Richard Rajaratnam, Liturgist
(Liturgist) Give thanks to God, for God is good.

(People) God's goodness and mercy are sure.

(L) Sing to the Spirit, for the Spirit is here.

(P) The Spirit knows the ache for connection deep within us.

(L) Praise Christ Jesus, who loves us

(P) with a love that is boundless and true.

(L) Give thanks to God, and sing God's praise,

(All) as we worship together this day. Amen!

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

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** (Romans 8)

(Pastor) As we are loved beyond our wildest imaginations by the God who formed us from dust, may we share this mysterious abundant love with one another, as we share signs of peace this day. Peace be with you!

(All) Peace be with you!

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

-Sharing of Joys and Concerns

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE (UNISON) (Romans 8, Matthew 13)

Loving God, thank you for calling us to worship today. Thank you for sending your Spirit to speak to and for our spirits, strengthening our weary souls and empowering us to live and serve. Send your Spirit into our worship today, that we may fully sense your presence and embrace your mysterious wisdom. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT / Christina Graves

INTERLUDE I: "Peace Like a River, Kum Ba Yah" by Jean Anne Shafferman / Kris Lovekin and Sandra Soares

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Kings 19:1-18 (NRSVue) / Liturgist

Elijah Flees from Jezebel

¹ Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. ² Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." ³ Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

⁴ But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die, "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." ⁵ Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." ⁶ He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water. He ate and drank and lay down again. ⁷ The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, or the journey will be too much for you." ⁸ He got up and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. ⁹ At that place he came to a cave and spent the night there. Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

¹⁰ He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

Elijah Meets God at Horeb

¹¹ He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake, ¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴ He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." ¹⁵ Then the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷ Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸ Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

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

(All) Thanks be to God! Amen!

INTERLUDE II: "Pie Jesu" by Andrew Lloyd Webber / Kris Lovekin and Sandra Soares

SERMON: "SUSTAINING FRUITFUL LEADERSHIP (Part I of III)" (Sermon series, "**Bearing Fruit**," #8 of 12) / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: #419** "I Am Thine, O Lord" by Fannie J. Crosby

Verse 1

I am thine, O Lord, I have heard thy voice,
and it told thy love to me;
but I long to rise in the arms of faith
and be closer drawn to thee.

Refrain:

Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
to the cross where thou hast died.
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
to thy precious, bleeding side.

Verse 2

Consecrate me now to thy service, Lord,
by the power of grace divine;
let my soul look up with a steadfast hope,
and my will be lost in thine.

Refrain:

Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
to the cross where thou hast died.

Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
to thy precious, bleeding side.

Verse 3

O the pure delight of a single hour
that before thy throne I spend,
when I kneel in prayer, and with thee, my God,
I commune as friend with friend! (Refrain)

Verse 4

There are depths of love that I cannot know
till I cross the narrow sea;
there are heights of joy that I may not reach
till I rest in peace with thee. (Refrain)

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (Psalm 105) / Liturgist

(Liturgist) Let us share our gifts to make God's deeds known among the peoples. May our gifts and offerings glorify God and tell of Christ's wonderful works.

(All) Amen!

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

OFFERTORY: "I Am Thine, O Lord" by Robert J. Powell

***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 105, Matthew 13) / Led by Liturgist

God, you bless us with gifts of love and moments of grace and mercy. For this earth and its bounty, we give you our thanks. For our lives and for the opportunity to share them with those we love, we offer you our praise. Bless the gifts we lay before you, that they may be signs of your loving kingdom to a world awaiting good news. Amen!

LAITY BLESSINGS / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***SENDING HYMN: #571 "Go, Make of All Disciples" by Leon M. Adkins / All**

Verse 1

**"Go, make of all disciples." We hear the call, O Lord,
that comes from thee, our Father, in thy eternal Word.
Inspire our ways of learning through earnest, fervent prayer,
and let our daily living reveal thee everywhere.**

Verse 2

**"Go, make of all disciples," baptizing in the name
of Father, Son, and Spirit, from age to age the same.
We call each new disciple to follow thee, O Lord,
redeeming soul and body by water and the Word.**

Verse 3

**"Go, make of all disciples." We at thy feet would stay
until each life's vocation accents thy holy way.
We cultivate the nature God plants in every heart,
revealing in our witness the master teacher's art.**

Verse 4

**"Go, make of all disciples." We welcome thy command.
"Lo, I am with you always." We take thy guiding hand.
The task looms large before us; we follow without fear;
in heaven and earth thy power shall bring God's kingdom here.**

***RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION** (Romans 8, Matthew 13)

(Pastor) Beloved ones, go now to love.

(Congregation) We will grow God's realm.

(P) Beloved of God, go to proclaim Christ's grace.

(All) We will be vessels of mercy and live in the Spirit. Amen!

POSTLUDE: "Go, Make of All Disciples" by Charles Callahan

In Our Hearts and Prayers:

Ruth Martinez, Gary Spencer, Courtney Wilson, Brandee (Mandy Johnson-Bottrell's cousin),
Susan Reardon, Rollin Edmunds, Lee Ann Salmon, Dean Michalka, James Herron, Eric Russler,
Terri Whieldon, Tom Kennedy, Christina Graves, Bob Bahnsen, Don Larsen, Neko Williams, David Cardenas,
Gary Bruggeman, 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

It is our church family's privilege to pray on your behalf.

Please contact secretary@firstchurchriverside.org, 951-683-7831, with your initial request for prayer,
updated request that your name remain on the list, or request that your name be removed from the list.

This Week

Sunday, July 26

- Bible Study w/Brent (Chandler Lounge) – 8:30 – 9:45 am
- Worship: Ninth Sunday after Pentecost. Pastor Kim's sermon: **"SUSTAINING FRUITFUL LEADERSHIP" (Part I of III)** (Sermon series, **"Bearing Fruit,"** 8 of 12) / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor (Sanctuary) – 10 am
- Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) – 10:15 am – 11 am
- "The Habit"** Fundraiser, 3555 Riverside Plaza Drive, Suite S-100. Must show printed flyer or show flyer on cell phone. Flyers in the Narthex. Church will earn 20% of sales. 11 am – 9 pm

Tuesday, July 28

- Summer "Parents Morning Out," May 20 to August 1, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Christina Graves, (951) 212-5725, childrensdirectore@firstchurchriverside.org (Nursery) – 9 am – 12 pm

Wednesday, July 29

- UWF "Walk About" (off campus) – 7:30 am
- Summer "Parents Morning Out," May 20 to August 1, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Christina Graves, (951) 212-5725, childrensdirectore@firstchurchriverside.org (Nursery) – 9 am – 12 pm
- The Response Band rehearsal (Sanctuary) – 6:30 pm

Thursday, July 30

- Summer "Parents Morning Out," May 20 to August 1, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Christina Graves, (951) 212-5725, childrensdirectore@firstchurchriverside.org (Nursery) – 9 am – 12 pm

Friday, July 31

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

Sunday, August 2

- Pastor Kim's sermon: **"SUSTAINING FRUITFUL LEADERSHIP" (Part II of III)** (Sermon series, **"Bearing Fruit,"** 9 of 12) / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor (Sanctuary) – 10 am
- Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) – 10:15 am

Coming up soon!

New Members Welcoming Sunday will be September 27th

If you have not discussed with Pastor Kim your desire to join the church yet, please do so. Pastor Kim, (951) 683-7831, pastorjtkim@firstchurchriverside.org or inform the church office: (951) 683-7831, secretary@firstchurchriverside.org

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