



Sunday Worship

First United Methodist Church of Riverside
4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506
<https://FirstChurchRiverside.org>

Order of Worship

July 5, 2026 10 am

**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost; Holy Communion Sunday;
Independence Day Sunday (The 250th Anniversary of the U.S.A.)**

*Please stand as you are comfortable.

PRELUDE: "When We Are Living" by Edwin T. Childs / Robert Phillips, Organist

***TRINITY BELLS**

***OPENING HYMN: #98** "To God Be the Glory" by Fanny J. Crosby / Led by Phil Bremenstuh, Hymn Leader

Verse 1

**To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

Refrain:

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!**

**O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!**

Verse 2

**O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. (Refrain)**

Verse 3

**Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.**

Refrain:

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!**

**O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!**

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Independence Day) / Sarah Overton Fraser, Liturgist
(Liturgist) With glad and grateful hearts,

(People) With thanksgiving

(L) Flowing from sea to shining sea,

(P) We gather this day

(L) To sing a song of praise

(P) To God

(L) For our country,

(P) For our world,

(All) For peace. Amen!

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

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** (Matthew 11:28)

(Pastor) Christ says to us, "Come to me, all you that are weary and weighed down, and I will give you rest." Christ gives us rest and peace. Let us share it with one another.

Peace be with you!

(All) Peace be with you!

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

-Sharing of Joys and Concerns

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed (UM Hymn #882) / **All**

(Pastor) Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father?

(All) I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

(Pastor) Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

(All) I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

(Pastor) Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

(All) I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen!

*universal

CHILDREN'S MOMENT / Christina Graves

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 Kings 4:1-7 (NRSVue) / Liturgist

Elisha and the Widow's Oil

¹ Now the wife of a member of the company of prophets cried to Elisha, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared the Lord, but a creditor has come to take my two children as slaves." ² Elisha said to her, "What shall I do for you? Tell me, what do you have in the house?" She answered, "Your servant has nothing in the house except a jar of oil." ³ He said, "Go outside, borrow vessels from all your neighbors, empty vessels—and not just a few. ⁴ Then go in, shut the door behind you and your children, and start pouring into all these vessels; when each is full, set it aside." ⁵ So she left him and shut the door behind her and her children; they kept bringing vessels to her, and she kept pouring. ⁶ When the vessels were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another vessel." But he said to her, "There are no more." Then the oil stopped flowing. ⁷ She came and told the man of God, and he said, "Go sell the oil and pay your debts, and you and your children can live on the rest."

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

(All) Thanks be to God! Amen!

INTERLUDE: "How Great Thou Art" by Stuart K. Hine / Phil Bremenstuhl

***GOSPEL READING: Matthew 14:13-21 (NRSVue) / Liturgist**

Feeding the Five Thousand

¹³ Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷ They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸ And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass.

Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

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

SERMON: "ASTONISH" / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: #356** "When We Are Living," anonymous lyric with additional stanzas by Roberto Escamilla (Verses 1 through 4)

Verse 1

**When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus,
and when we're dying, it is in the Lord.**

**Both in our living and in our dying,
we belong to God, we belong to God.**

Verse 2

Through all our living, we our fruits must give.

Good works of service are for offering.

**When we are giving, or when receiving,
we belong to God, we belong to God.**

Verse 3

**'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain,
when sensing beauty or in love's embrace,**

**whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing,
we belong to God, we belong to God.**

Verse 4

**Across this wide world, we shall always find
those who are crying with no peace of mind,**

**but when we help them, or when we feed them,
we belong to God, we belong to God.**

We belong to God, we belong to God.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (Genesis 24, Matthew 11) / Liturgist

(Liturgist) Christ invites us to live and serve with him—letting his burden lighten our own. He multiplies the gifts we share—making thousands of myriads of love and of blessing.

(All) Amen!

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

OFFERTORY: "A Fuge or Voluntary" by William Selby

***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** (Genesis 24, Psalm 45) / Led by Liturgist
**Gracious God, you have made our lives more than we ever dreamed, offering
blessings beyond our greatest imaginings, multitudes of mercy, great gifts of
grace. From this bounty, we offer ourselves and our lives—our time, talents, and
treasures—with joy and gladness, for now and for always. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION WITH MUSIC RESPONSES

INVITATION

(Pastor) Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(All) Source of all life, we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

PARDON

(Pastor) Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

(People) In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

(All) Glory to God! Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

(Pastor) The Lord be with you.

(People) And also with you.

(Pastor) Lift up your hearts.

(People) We lift them up to God.

(Pastor) Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.

(People) It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(Pastor) It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. In the beginning your Spirit moved over the face of the waters.

You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. Your Spirit came upon prophets and teachers, anointing them to speak your Word.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(All singing)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

(Pastor) Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. At his baptism in the Jordan your Spirit descended upon him and declared him your beloved Son. With your Spirit upon him he turned away the temptations of sin. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection, you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, baptizing us with the Holy Spirit and with fire, as on the Day of Pentecost.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

On the day you raised him from the dead he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread, and in the power of your Holy Spirit your Church has continued in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup.

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

(All singing)

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

(Pastor) Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and cup. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood and empowered by the gifts of the Spirit.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, showing forth the fruit of the Spirit until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

(All singing)

Amen. Amen. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Pastor) And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

(All) 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.

GIVING & SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(Pastor) Please be assured that, as United Methodists, our congregation uses 100% grape juice for our communion element. Moreover, our church has an Open Table tradition - meaning that regardless of your faith background, everyone is invited to come forward and take communion elements. Everyone is invited and everyone is welcome!

Now, for those who are here in person, you have three options: (1) You can take the communion in a traditional way. Take a piece of Bread and dip it into the Cup, then eat it. (2) Or you can simply take a "Fellowship Cup," which includes both elements, from the basket and eat it in your seat. It's your choice. (3) If desired, you may take a "Gluten Free Fellowship Cup" from the special bowl.

For those who are at home, via online or telephone, please take your own Bread and Cup now.

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY: "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies" by Emma Lou Diemer

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

(All) Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LAITY BLESSINGS / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

SENDING HYMN: #717 "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" by Julia Ward Howe

Verse 1

**Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
he hath loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword;
his truth is marching on.**

Refrain:

**Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.**

Verse 2

**I have seen him in the watchfires of a hundred circling camps;
they have builded him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
I can read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps;
his day is marching on. [Refrain]**

Verse 3

**He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
he is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment seat;
O be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on. [Refrain]**

Verse 4

**In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me;
as he died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,
while God is marching on. [Refrain]**

Verse 5

**He is coming like the glory of the morning on the wave;
he is wisdom to the mighty, he is honor to the brave;
so the world shall be his footstool, and the soul of wrong his slave.
Our God is marching on. [Refrain]**

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: "The Stars and Stripes Forever" by John Philip Sousa

In Our Hearts and Prayers:

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,
the family of Bill Ashworth

This Week

Sunday, July 5

- 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"** (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)

Monday, July 6

- Trustees Meeting (Zoom) - 7 pm
- Worship Meeting (Zoom) - 7 pm

Tuesday, July 7

- 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 8

- 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, childrensdirectore@firstchurchriverside.org (Nursery) - 9 am - 12 pm
- Bible Study w/Sophie (Chandler Lounge) - 7 pm

Thursday, July 9

- Bible Study w/Richard (Chandler Lounge) - 10:30 am
- UWF Lunch Bunch (off campus) - 11 am
- 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

Friday, July 10

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

Saturday, July 11

- "Stars and Pipes Forever" Organ Concert (Sanctuary) - 7 pm

Sunday, July 12

- Worship: Seventh Sunday after Pentecost. Pastor Kim's sermon: **"SERVING GOD'S VISION"** (Sanctuary) - 10 am
- Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) - 10:15 am
- Youth Worship (upstairs, Youth Room) - 10:15 am
- Bible Study w/Lucinda (Zoom) - 5:00 pm
- The Aldersgate Chorale Summer Break (July and August)

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