



Sunday Worship

First United Methodist Church of Riverside

4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506

<https://FirstChurchRiverside.org>

Order of Worship

**October 11, 2026 10 am Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost;
Stewardship Sunday; Farewell to Church Member;
Welcoming New Members Sunday**

**Please stand as you are comfortable.*

PRELUDE: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" by Douglas E. Wagner / Robert Phillips, Organist

***TRINITY BELLS**

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN: #189** "Fairest Lord Jesus," words from Münster Gesangbuch, translated by Joseph August Seiss / **All** / Led by Phil Bremenstuhl, Hymn Leader

Verse 1

**Fairest Lord Jesus,
ruler of all nature,
O thou of God and man the Son,
thee will I cherish,
thee will I honor,
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.**

Verse 2

**Fair are the meadows,
fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
who makes the woeful heart to sing.**

Verse 3

**Fair is the sunshine,
fairer still the moonlight,
and all the twinkling starry host:
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
than all the angels heaven can boast.**

Verse 4

**Beautiful Savior!
Lord of all the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine.**

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Philippians 4) / Led by Loretta Cudney, Liturgist
(Liturgist) Rejoice in God always!

(People) Rejoice in God's steadfast love.

(L) Rejoice in Christ's enduring grace.

(P) Rejoice in God's saving Word.

(L) Rejoice in the Spirit's gentle guidance.

(P) Rejoice in God's healing presence.

(L) Again, I say, rejoice!

(All) Amen!

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

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** (Philippians 4)

(Pastor) When we keep our hearts and minds focused on things that are excellent and admirable, God blesses us with a peace that passes all understanding. Let us share signs of this peace with one another. Peace be with you!

(All) Peace be with you!

"QUIET DISCIPLE" AWARD PRESENTATION / Presented by Lyn Knowles, President of United Women in Faith

FAREWELL TO CHURCH MEMBER: Donna Woodard

(Pastor) The church is a family. United by the common recognition of Jesus Christ as our Savior, we are all brothers and sisters. And, for a time, First United Methodist Church of Riverside is our home. Like every human family, our church family is formed and reformed over time: as members are born, as they die, as members are adopted into our family, and as they leave our congregation for a new home, in a different place.

For a time, Donna Woodard has lived with us. We have shared with each other good times and bad, we have shared each other's joys and sorrows, we have lightened each other's heavy loads. Together we have laughed and cried, together we have worshiped and praised God, together we have lived.

(Congregation) We feel sorrow in your leaving, yet we rejoice with you in anticipation of this new phase of your life. We will miss your love and support, yet we know you will add much to the lives of those who will be your new church family, as you have added much to our lives.

(Congregation and Pastor) We will pray for you and for the whole family of God.

(Pastor) Let us pray: O God, you are the strength and the protector of your people. We humbly place in your hands Donna Woodard of this congregation, who is about to leave us. Keep and preserve her, O Lord, in all health and safety, both of body and soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Go in the peace of Christ. Our prayers go with you. Amen.

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

-Sharing of Joys and Concerns

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE (UNISON) (Psalm 106, Philippians 4)

Holy God, we come into your house with praise on our lips and songs of joy in our hearts. We come to stand firm in our conviction: that good is stronger than evil, that love is stronger than hate, that truth will ultimately win the day. We come to be grounded in Christ. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE: "Amen" (Dresden) / The Aldersgate Chorale, directed by Yvonne Flagg

CHILDREN'S MOMENT / Christina Graves



Welcoming New Members Celebration: Through Reaffirmations of Faith

(New Members Welcoming Sunday, October 11, 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 **David Cardenas, Heather Cardenas, Benjamin Lomax, Yvette Lomax, and Byron Traylor** to reaffirm their faith.

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.

REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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

(Pastor) *(Candidate)*, 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

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 John 2:15-17 (NRSVue) / Liturgist

Do Not Love the World

¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world, ¹⁶ for all that is in the world—the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride in riches—comes not from the Father but from the world. ¹⁷ And the world and its desire are passing away, but those who do the will of God abide forever.

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

(All) Thanks be to God! Amen!

ANTHEM: "Order My Steps" by Glenn Burleigh, arranged by Jack Schrader / The Aldersgate Chorale, directed by Yvonne Flagg

***GOSPEL READING: Matthew 6:19-24** (NRSVue) / Liturgist

Concerning Treasures

¹⁹ **"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

The Eye

²² **"The eye is the lamp of the body. So if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, ²³ but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If, then, the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!**

Serving Two Masters

²⁴ **"No one can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."**

(Liturgist) This is the Gospel of Christ!

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

SERMON: "THE GREEN-EYED MONSTER" (Stewardship Sermon 1 of 2) / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: #140 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"** by Thomas O. Chisolm / **All Verse 1**

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.**

Refrain:

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

Verse 2

**Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)**

Verse 3

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (Psalm 106) / Led by Liturgist

(Liturgist) God's steadfast love endures forever. As recipients of God's love and grace, let us show our gratitude for God's many blessings by giving of our tithes and offering.

(All) Amen!

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

OFFERTORY: "Fairest Lord Jesus" by J. William Greene

***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 106, Philippians 4) / Led by Liturgist

God of steadfast love, your blessings overwhelm us. For the abundant gifts in our lives, we thank you. For the peace that passes all understanding, we praise you. For keeping our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, we honor you. Receive the gifts we bring you this day, and help us stay focused on things that are excellent and admirable, holy and just, righteous and pure. Amen.

LAITY BLESSINGS / Kris Lovekin, Lay Leader

***SENDING HYMN: #363** "And Can It Be That I Should Gain (Amazing Love)" by Charles Wesley / 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.**

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: "Toccata on 'And Can It Be'" by John Innes

In Our Hearts and Prayers:

Myla Holmes, Isaiah Whisner, Cynthia Diaz, Jaque Vaca, Christina Maddox's nephew Charlie, Linda Rydzik, John McDonald, Julian Cardenas, Vivian Lowe, Julie Williams, Reko Williams, Neko Williams, David Cardenas, Patrick Russell, Ruth Martinez, Don Larsen, Susan Reardon, Rollin Edmunds, Gary Spencer, Dean Michalka, James Herron, Eric Russler, Tom Kennedy, Christina Graves, Bob Bahnsen, Virginia Bahnsen, Regan Pope, Eduardo Reyes, Tina Dungan, Lupe Vela, Ronnie Tovar, Roger Murray, Lolita Manacop, 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 Grace Reyes, our families, neighbors, country, and world

This Week

Sunday, October 11

- Bible Study w/Brent (Chandler Lounge) – 8:30 am
- Worship: Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost; Stewardship Sunday; Farewell to Church Member; Welcoming New Members Sunday; Pastor Kim's sermon: **"THE GREEN-EYED MONSTER"** (Stewardship Sermon (1 of 2)) / The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor (Sanctuary) – 10 am
- Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) – 10:15 am
- Youth Worship (upstairs, Youth Room) – 10:15 am
- UMM Lunch Program (Fellowship Hall) – 11:15 am
- Small Group Bible Study w/Lucinda – 5 pm

Tuesday, October 13

- Allegro Ringers rehearsal (Sanctuary) – 7 pm
- SPRC Meeting (Zoom) – 7 pm

Wednesday, October 14

- UWF "Walk About" (off campus) – 7 am
- "Parents Morning Out," Wednesdays. Contact: Christina Graves, (951) 212-5725, childrensdirector@firstchurchriverside.org (Nursery) – 9 am – 12 pm
- The Response rehearsal (Sanctuary) – 6:30 pm
- Bible Study w/Sophie (Chandler Lounge) – 7 pm

Thursday, October 15

- Bible Study w/Richard (Chandler Lounge) – 9:30 am
- Aldersgate Chorale (Music Room) – 7 pm

Friday, October 16

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

Saturday, October 17

- UWF California Citrus Museum; meet there (off campus) – 10 am

Sunday, October 18

- Bible Study w/Brent (Chandler Lounge) – 8:30 am
- Allegro Ringers rehearsal (Sanctuary) – 8:45 am
- Worship: Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost; Laity Sunday Worship; Family Sunday with The Response and Allegro Ringers; Lay Speaker, Sophie Weiss (Sanctuary) – 10 am
- Children's Sunday School (Club Ark and Nursery) – 10:15 am
- FALL FESTIVAL! (Fellowship Hall and Patio) – 11:15 am
- Youth U.P.L.I.F.T. Dinner (Youth Room) – 5 pm
- Small Group Bible Study w/Lucinda – 5 pm

2026-2027 Joint Charge Conference

Sunday, November 15, 2026, 3 pm

at Wesley United Methodist Church

5770 Arlington Ave, Riverside, CA 92504

**All committee and ministry reports are due
to the Church Office, by noon, on October 27.**

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