Welcome to The Riverside Church
Interdenominational · Interracial · International · Open · Affirming · Welcoming

Worship is at the center of the life of The Riverside Church. As you prepare yourself for Worship, we invite you to reflect quietly on these words:

“To follow Jesus is to be the ‘as if’ presence in our time as Jesus was in his — to not only protest what must change but to be proactive in creating what should be.”

– Very Rev. Dr. Kelly Brown Douglas

The Liturgical Year

The Riverside Church follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together. We are currently in the Season after Pentecost, also known as Ordinary Time. It is signified by the green paraments and clergy stoles that represent new life and growth. Ordinary Time is observed from Pentecost until the beginning of Advent.

If This Is Your First Visit:

Complete a Welcome Card and place it in the offering plate as it passes.

Join us for November’s Grateful Gathering in South Hall after Worship. Grateful Gatherings are fun, family-friendly opportunities to learn about the progress of Riverside’s Grateful Campaign, where we commit to give and serve as much as we can as an expression of gratitude for all that God has given us. The Grateful Gatherings involve food, music, games, and fellowship. As you leave the Nave, take a right and follow the hallway past Christ Chapel. Signs and greeters will help provide direction. Please enjoy free lunch with us during the Grateful Gathering.

A free church tour is offered each Sunday after Worship. Meet in the 1st balcony, no reservation necessary. Tours also take place Wednesday-Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., as church schedule permits, leaving from the Welcome Center / Gift Shop. Reservations recommended. Visit trcnyc.org/visit.

Assistive hearing devices and large print bulletins are available upon request from an usher.
GATHERING
We gather as a community and prepare our hearts to worship God

CARILLON
May the Holy Spirit Be With Us Now
Geert D’hollander
Charles Semowich, guest carillonneur

ORGAN
Angel's Farewell
Edward Elgar, arr. Harrison Oxley
Christopher Creaghan, Associate Organist

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY
Rev. Amy Butler

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN 442
The Church's One Foundation
Aurelia

†CALL TO WORSHIP¹
One: The voice of God gathers us this day;
All: The love of God brings us together as one people.
One: So we come, with joy and sorrow in our hearts,
All: With acts mighty and faltering,
One: With kindness and with selfishness,
All: With doubt and with faith:
One: So may we bring the fullness of our lives to God.
All: Come let us worship!

†INVOCATION

†All who are able, please stand
LISTENING
We listen for the word of God through song, Scripture, and preaching

BAPTISM BY IMMERSION
Rev. Butler
Isaac Linville Evans-Frantz

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR BAPTISM
Rev. Michael Livingston
Ave Jubilee Thomas
Micah Arthur Thomas

PRAYER FOR THE CANDIDATES

ANTHEM
Satan, We’re Gonna Tear Your Kingdom Down
Shirley Caesar
Satan, we’re gonna tear your kingdom down. Oh Satan, we’re gonna tear your kingdom down. You’ve been building your kingdom, all over the land. Satan, we’re gonna tear your kingdom down. Oh the preachers are gonna tear your kingdom down. Oh the mothers are gonna pray your kingdom down. Oh the deacons are gonna pray your kingdom down. You’ve been building your kingdom all in the house of God. Satan, we’re gonna tear your kingdom down.

The Riverside Inspirational Choir
Nedra Olds-Neal, director
Shari Gill, mezzo-soprano
Matt King, piano

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Rev. Robison
Righteous God,
we live in a world where human life is exploited and abused.
Violence is taken lightly, and people are often viewed as objects.
Images of hunger and war and murder flash before us until we become nearly hardened.
If we have taken on these values of the world, forgive us.
Give us tender hearts, help us to reflect your righteousness,
and give us courage to challenge the wrongs we see;
through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Hear now the confessions of our hearts. (silent prayer). Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE
PSALTER LESSON
Psalm 146
(page 581 in the Old Testament)
One: The Word of God for the People of God.
All: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
(page 166 in the New Testament)
One: The Word of God for the People of God.
All: Thanks be to God.

HYMN 405
What Does the Lord Require
Sharpthorne

GOSPEL LESSON
Mark 1:14-21
(page 35 in the New Testament)
One: This is the Gospel of Christ.
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON
Very Rev. Dr. Kelly Brown Douglas
Being Church in Divided Times

SILENT MEDITATION
A time for reflection, prayer and contemplation.

RESPONDING
We respond to the hearing of God’s word through prayer, passing the peace, offering and monthly communion

PASTORAL PRAYER
One: The Lord be with you.
All: And with your spirit.
One: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them up unto the Lord.

†All who are able, please stand
THE LORD’S PRAYER
Pray in the language or version of your heart.

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.
Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CHORAL AMEN

PASSING OF THE PEACE
One: The peace of the Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM
Let Us Make a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord

Billy Taylor

Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord. Let us shout about our joys to the Lord with both finger and with thumb on piano, bass, and drum. Let us improvise a song to the Lord. Let us show our hearts belong to the Lord. If we believe the things we teach, we can practice what we preach, and we can stand up for the truth with the Lord. Let us sing a song of joy to the Lord. Let us raise our voice in praise to the Lord. Let God hear us tell the story of great power and great glory. Let us sing a song of joy to the Lord. Let us praise the Lord together with our song. Let us recognize God’s presence with our song. And to show we’ve made a choice, let us freely raise our voice as we sing our song of joy to the Lord. Come let us love one another for the Lord. Let us help one another for the Lord. We can all be respected when no one is left neglected, so let us love one another for the Lord.

The Combined Choirs

AT THE PRESENTATION: THE DOXOLOGY
The congregation rises row by row as ushers pass to symbolize the offering of our whole selves to God.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;

All who are able, please stand
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

Rev. Butler

Today we celebrate the work of our Black Lives Matter chapter, which affirms the humanity of all and works tirelessly for a world where all Black lives are no longer systematically targeted.

SENDING

We are sent out into the world to love God and our neighbors

BENEDICTION

Dr. Douglas

RECESSIONAL HYMN 540

God Be With You Till We Meet Again

Randolph

POSTLUDE

Finale, from Symphonie No. VI

Charles-Marie Widor

Christopher Creaghan, Associate Organist

The Very Rev. Dr. Kelly Brown Douglas is the inaugural Dean of Episcopal Divinity School at Union Theological Seminary. Since 2017, she has served as the Canon Theologian at the Washington National Cathedral and continues in that role today.

A native of Dayton, Ohio, Dr. Douglas was ordained at St. Margaret’s Episcopal Church in 1985 — the first black woman to be ordained an Episcopal priest in the Southern Ohio Diocese, and amongst the first ten to be ordained nationwide. A leading voice in the development of a womanist theology, Dr. Douglas is widely published, including her latest book, Stand Your Ground: Black Bodies and the Justice of God.

Liturgical Resources for Today:
1Beth Merrill Neel
2Chalice Worship

Special thanks to our congregational leaders:
Somer Taylor and Rev. George Walker

Life of Our Community

For announcements of programs and events in the church, please pick up the Life of Our Community bulletin located in the back of the pew or outside the Welcome Center or visit our trcnyc.org/events.

All who are able, please stand
SOLVEtheMAZE

Help Ruth find Boaz. Together, they will do wonderful things for God and God's people.
In Mark 12, Jesus sees a poor widow (someone who’s husband died) come to the temple. She put two, small coins (like pennies) into the offering. Even though it didn’t seem like much money, Jesus said the widow gave “more” than everyone else because she gave all she had. Imagine you are with Jesus watching this happen.

Draw what this looked like.

### Word Search

Try to find the words from Psalm 127 in the word search below. Words may go diagonal, up OR down and forward OR backward.

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S J F E I I L H D H O U S E P
S R T C L S I F T C C U Q P O
Q I Z W A K V Z S U M N U X P
T P S L B S Z S E K O F C I F
V V U L O R D G R I R Y M B O
H U A G R N N X U U S L E E P
A B U I L D G N I A T B R L N
B R K G N R Z T P Y R H K O H
R O I R R A W P U E G D L V J
I T Y R D S O L A X F C D E M
L H L L M A M D D A F B R D Y
T R R X C H I L D R E N A N W T
Q Q A S T F V F L J G R W H I
X W E T U X J Y D X O Z E Y C
M L Y P P A H H M L F N R L U
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- LORD
- BUILD
- HOUSE
- LABOR
- VAIN
- CITY
- GUARD
- EARLY
- REST
- BREAD
- SLEEP
- BELOVED
- FRUIT
- REWARD
- WARRIOR
- HAPPY
- YOUTH
- CHILDREN
TALK WITH THE PREACHER
Read Pastor Amy’s blog online at talkwiththepreacher.org.
Printed copies are also available in the Welcome Center/Gift Shop.
Pastor Amy is available for conversations with members by appointment.
Please email srminister@trcnyc.org or call 212-870-6775 to arrange an appointment.

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For full staff directory visit trcnyc.org/directory

The Riverside Church is a member of the American Baptist Churches, U.S.A. and the United Church of Christ and cooperates with the Council of Churches in the City of New York, and with the New York State, National, and World Council of Churches.