The Riverside Church follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together. We are currently in the season of Eastertide, a period of 50 days following the resurrection of Jesus Christ until Pentecost. The liturgical color of Eastertide is white, which symbolizes the hope of the resurrection, as well as the purity and newness that comes from victory over sin and death, as signified by the paraments and clergy stoles.

Bulletin Cover Image: Myrrh Bearing Women, 2000 ©Laura James 
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GATHERING
We gather as a community and prepare our hearts to worship God

CARILLON
Easter Hymn
Aarr. Betty Buchanan
& Charles Semowich
Charles Semowich, carillonneur

ORGAN
Christ Is Arisen
Anton Wilhelm Leupold

WELCOME
Rev. Michael Livingston

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

CALL TO WORSHIP
One: Christ is risen!
All: Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!
One: On this glorious day, we celebrate the Resurrection of Christ.
   A day of bright hope for new life.
All: With Christians everywhere, in homes around our nation, we sing
   and pray and celebrate Christ’s victory over death
One: God, You are our strength and our might. We thank you for your
   loving spirit. Let it resurrect in us a new hope, a new love and a new spirit,
   inspired by the risen Christ.
All: God’s steadfast love endures forever! Alleluia to the Living Christ!

SWINGING OF THE GREAT TOWER BELLS
OPENING HYMN

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
All creation join to say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens and earth reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Dying once, Christ all doth save, Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids Him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted head, Alleluia!
Made like Christ, who bids us rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia! AMEN.

INVOCATION

Rev. Bruce Lamb

LISTENING

We listen for the word of God through song, Scripture, and preaching

PSALTER LESSON

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-24
(pages 565 & 566 Old Testament)

One: The Word of God for the People of God.
All: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

The Strife is O’er

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The strife is o’er, the battle done:
The victory of life is won;
The song of triumph has begun;
Alleluia!

The powers of death have done their worst,
But Christ their legions hath dispersed;
Let shouts of holy joy outburst; Alleluia!
GOSPEL LESSON
Amanda Meisenheimer
John 20:1-18
(pages 114 & 115 in the New Testament)
One: This is the Gospel of Christ.
All: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN
Victory
The Strife is O’er
The three sad days are quickly sped,
Christ rises glorious from the dead;
All glory to our risen Head!
Alleluia!
Lord, by your wounds on Calvary
From death’s dread sting Your servants free,
That we may live eternally.
Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

SERMON
Rev. Livingston
What Matters Is...

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

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.

PASSING OF THE PEACE
Rev. Jim Keat
One: The peace of the Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.
INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE  
Rev. Kevin Van Hook

OFFERTORY ANTHEM  
Gloria in Excelsis Deo  
John Rutter
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to those of good will. We praise You, we bless You, we adore You, we glorify You, we give You thanks for Your great glory.

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION  
Rev. Kevin VanHook

THE HALLELUJAH CHORUS  
George Frideric Handel

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

BENEDICTION  
Rev. Livingston

VOLUNTARY  
Toccata from Symphony No. 5  
Charles-Marie Widor
ABOUT RIVERSIDE
The Riverside Church is an interdenominational, interracial, international, open, welcoming, and affirming church and congregation. The church is a member of the American Baptist Churches, U.S.A. and the United Church of Christ. Riverside cooperates with the Council of Churches in the City of New York and with the New York State, National, and World Council of Churches. Whoever you are: You are safe here. You are loved here. You are invited into full participation in our life together.

Rev. Michael Livingston, Interim Senior Minister
Rev. Dr. James Forbes, Senior Minister Emeritus

RIVERSIDE EMAIL LIST
Are you receiving our weekly emails? Check your junk folder, add us to your “safe sender list,” or visit trcnyc.org/Email to sign up. We want to make sure that you know all the latest news and events at The Riverside Church!

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY
For announcements of programs and events at The Riverside Church, please pick up the Life of the Community newsletter located in the back of the pew or outside the Welcome Center. Visit trcnyc.org/Events for more information and to download a copy.

WORSHIP ONLINE & ALL WEEK LONG
If you’re out of town or in need of more Riverside worship throughout the week, visit trcnyc.org/DigitalDiscipleship to watch the Sunday morning Livestream, videos of the sermon and the choirs, and more. Be sure to watch The Word Made Fresh, our weekly video Bible Study, and catch up on Be Still and Go, our devotional podcast.
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For full staff directory visit trcny.org/directory

trcny.org

THE RIVERSIDE CHurch
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK