

# The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



APRIL 19, 2020  
CREATION SUNDAY  
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

# WELCOME TO THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

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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:

“We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history, there is such a thing as being too late.”

- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

“Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break the Silence”

April 4, 1967 Riverside Church NYC

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## THE LITURGICAL YEAR

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.

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## GATHERING

*We gather as a community and prepare our hearts to worship God*

### CARILLON

Two Easter Hymns

*arr. Betty Buchanan*

*Charles, Semowich, Carillonneur*

### ORGAN

Lord Jesus Christ, be present now! (BWV 655)

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

### LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

### CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>

One: Sing out from your homes a new song!

**All: We rejoice in the safety of our God.**

One: Through the resurrected Jesus a new hope lives.

**All: We sing from our homes a new song!**

One: All praises to our God who stands by our right hand.

**All: With hope and joy we shall sing, Alleluia!**

### OPENING HYMN 399

**We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight**

*Dunlap's Creek*

We walk by faith and not by sight;

No gracious words we hear

From Christ Who spoke as none e'er spoke;

But we believe Him near.

We may not touch His hands and side,

Nor follow where He trod;

But in His promise we rejoice,

And cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;

And may our faith abound

To call on You when You are near

And seek where You are found:

That, when our life of faith is done,

In realms of clearer light

We may behold You as You are,

With full and endless sight.

### INVOCATION<sup>2</sup>

Hsien-yu Wang

Lord of the springtime, Father of flower, field and fruit, smile on us in these earnest days when the work is heavy and the toil wearisome; lift up our hearts, O God, to the things worthwhile—sunshine and night, the dripping rain, the song of the birds, books and music, and the voices of our friends. Lift up our hearts and grant us Thy peace. Amen.

## LISTENING

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

### PSALTER LESSON

Regina Tate

Psalms 16

*(pages 495 & 496 in the Old Testament)*

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL LESSON

Hsien-yu Wang

John 20:19-31

*(page 115 in the New Testament)*

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

Rev. Jim Antal

Tomorrow is Today – The Fierce Urgency of Now

### PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Livingston

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And with your spirit.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

## RESPONDING

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

### 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

Hsien-yu Wang

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Rev. Livingston & Kelsey Scott

### OFFERTORY SOLO

Then shall the righteous shine forth

*Felix Mendelssohn*

Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in their heavenly Maker's realm. Joy on their head shall be for everlasting, and all sorrow and mourning shall flee away for ever.  
(from *Elijah*)

*Stephen Steffens, tenor*

### RESPONDING

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

### THE DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, you heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

Rev. Kevin Van Hook

*Today we celebrate the ministry of Riverside's Beloved Earth Community, which knows that protecting the earth starts with us; one individual, one group, one congregation at a time. We can be the change that starts us on a path to sustainability.*

### CLOSING HYMN 118

**The Day of Resurrection!**

*Lancashire*

**The day of resurrection!  
Earth, tell it out abroad;  
The Passover of gladness,  
The Passover of God.  
From death to life eternal,  
From this world unto the sky,  
Our Christ hath brought us over  
With hymns of victory.**

**Our hearts be pure from evil,  
That we may see aright  
The Lord in rays eternal  
Of resurrection light;  
And listening to His accents,  
May hear, so calm and plain,  
His own "All hail!" and, hearing,  
May raise the victor strain.**

**Now let the heavens be joyful,  
Let earth the song begin,**

Let the round world keep triumph,  
And all that is therein;  
Let all things seen and unseen  
Their notes of gladness blend,  
For Christ the Lord is risen,  
Our joy that hath no end.

*SENDING*

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

**BENEDICTION**

Rev. Livingston

**POSTLUDE**

Grand Chœur in D Major, Opus 18

*Alexandre Guilmant*



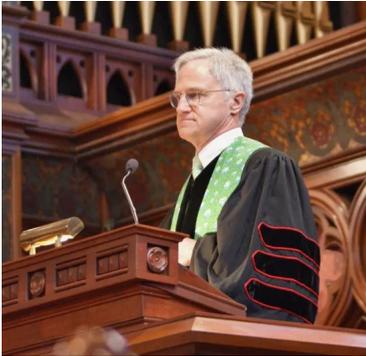
Liturgical Resources for Today:

<sup>1</sup>*Inspired by Psalm 16*

<sup>2</sup>*Adapted from W. E. B. Du Bois*

*Special thanks to our congregational leader: Regina Tate*

**Jim Antal** is a denominational leader, climate activist, author and public theologian. He serves as Special Advisor on Climate Justice to the General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ. Antal's book, *CLIMATE CHURCH, CLIMATE WORLD*, was featured in the Chicago Tribune on Earth Day 2018, and in Christian Century Magazine on Earth Day 2019. Antal received the 2019 Steward of Creation award from the National Religious Coalition for Creation Care.



## **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\*\*](http://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\*\*](http://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\*\*](http://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.

# CONNECT WITH US.

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## Pastoral and Program Staff

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## CONTACT US:

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*For full staff directory visit [trcnyc.org/directory](http://trcnyc.org/directory)*



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