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:

“We have to go all in and join congregations that have spread their arms around the world in the belief that faith has no substance without service to humanity. Our work has to grow in feeding, sheltering, clothing, visiting, standing with those who are without and those closed within systems of oppression. We have to alter the geography of our world—Islands of poverty in oceans of wealth. We have to do away with cells whose bars are made of, not justice, but political agendas. Be baptized, commit. Make your membership mean something.”

Rev. Michael Livingston

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.

Bulletin Cover Image: He Qi
GATHERING
We gather as a community and prepare our hearts to worship God

CARILLON
Welcome Happy Morning, arr. Betty Buchanan
Charles, Semowich, Carillonneur

ORGAN
Prelude in F Major, Opus 101, No.1, Charles V. Stanford

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY
Rev. Michael Livingston

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

One: O God in gratitude we love and adore you!
All: For you hear our prayers and you see our tears, even when we feel alone.

One: O God you bring new life to our world constrained by distress and fear.
All: Full of mercy you keep us near. We lift up our hearts in gratitude!

One: From your promises we can breathe new life, walk without fear and live with fresh hope for tomorrow.
All: We are blessed by the gift of your Holy Spirit, come on in! We shall praise you for as long as we live!

OPENING HYMN 109
Christ Is Risen², Hymn to Joy

Christ is risen, Christ is living, Dry your tears, be unafraid!
Death and darkness could not hold Him, Nor the tomb where He was laid.
Do not look among the dead for One who lives forevermore; Tell the world that Christ is risen, Make it known He goes before.

If the Lord had never risen, We’d have nothing to believe.
But His promise can be trusted: “You will live, because I live.”
As we share the death of Adam, So in Christ we live again.
Death has lost its sting and terror. Christ the Lord has come to reign.

Death has lost its old dominion, Let the world rejoice and shout!
Christ, the firstborn of the living, Gives us life and leads us out.
Let us thank our God who causes Hope to spring up from the ground. Christ is risen, Christ is giving Life eternal, life profound.

INVOCATION
Rev. Bruce Lamb

LISTENING
We listen for the word of God through song, Scripture, and preaching
NEW TESTAMENT LESSON
Acts 2:14a, 36-41
(pages 119 & 120 in the New Testament)
One: The Word of God for the People of God.
All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON
(page 90 in the New Testament)
One: This is the Gospel of Christ.
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON
First Things

PASTORAL PRAYER
Rev. Lamb
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.

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

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE
Minister Jordan
OFFERTORY SOLO
Et Exultavit (from Magnificat BWV 243)  
And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. (sung in Latin)  
Johann Sebastian Bach  
Tammy Mesic, soprano

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;  

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION  
Minister Jordan
Today we celebrate the work of our Safe Haven Ministry, our winter bed program,  
which assists unsheltered men and women in securing stabilized housing, while creating  
an understanding of what it means to be a Beloved Community.

CLOSING HYMN 108  
Christ Is Alive  
Truro
Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.  
Christ is alive! No longer bound  
To distant years in Palestine,  
But saving, healing, here and now,  
And touching every place and time.  
Not throned afar, remotely high,  
Untouched, unmoved by human pains,  
But daily, in the midst of life,  
Our Savior in the Godhead reigns.  
In every insult, rift and war,  
Where color, scorn or wealth divide,  
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,  
And lives, where even hope has died.  
Christ is alive, and comes to bring  
Good news to this and every age,  
Till earth and sky and ocean ring  
With joy, with justice, love and praise.
SENDING
We are sent out into the world to love God and our neighbors

BENEDICTION
Rev. Livingston

POSTLUDE
Toccata in D Minor (BWV 538)  J. S. Bach

Liturgical Resources for Today:
1 Inspired by Psalm 116
2 Lyric reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-717132
3 Lyric reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-717132

Special thanks to our congregational leader: Chiara Fuller
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.
CONNECT WITH US.

Rev. Michael Livingston
Interim Senior Minister
mlivingston@trcnyc.org

Pastoral and Program Staff

Christopher Creaghan
Associate Organist
ccreaghan@trcnyc.org

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper
Minister of Older Adults
lharper@trcnyc.org

Rich Glassey
Executive Director of Operations
rglassey@trcnyc.org

Christopher Johnson
Director of Music and Organist
cjohnson@trcnyc.org

Rev. Jim Keat
Digital Minister
jkeat@trcnyc.org

Rev. Bruce Lamb
Minister of Faith Formation
blamb@trcnyc.org

Amanda Meisenheimer
Minister of Children & Families
mmeisenheimer@trcnyc.org

Rev. Debra Northern
Minister of Parish Care
dnorthern@trcnyc.org

Carrie Quarquesso
Coordinator for Worship & Arts
cquarquesso@trcnyc.org

Rev. Kevin VanHook
Minister of Justice, Advocacy, & Change
kvanhook@trcnyc.org

CONTACT US:
To contact the church with general questions, call 212-870-6700 or email communications@trcnyc.org.
For full staff directory visit trcnyc.org/directory

trcnyc.org

THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK