

# The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



APRIL 26, 2020  
THIRD 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 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

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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.

Bulletin Cover Image: *He Qi*

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## GATHERING

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

### CARILLON

Welcome Happy Morning

*Charles, Semowich, Carillonneur*

*arr. Betty Buchanan*

### ORGAN

Prelude in F Major, Opus 101, No.1

*Charles V. Stanford*

### LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

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

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 Risen<sup>2</sup>

*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

Minister Derrick Jordan

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

Chiara Fuller

Luke 24:28-35

*(page 90 in the New Testament)*

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

Rev. Livingston

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)  
*Tammy Mesic, soprano*

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

## 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

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<sup>3</sup>**

*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**

Toccatà in D Minor (BWV 538)

*J. S. Bach*



Liturgical Resources for Today:

<sup>1</sup>*Inspired by Psalm 116*

<sup>2</sup>*Lyric reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-717132*

<sup>3</sup>*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\*\*](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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### CONTACT US:

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



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