APRIL 5, 2020
PALM SUNDAY
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:

“Settle yourself in solitude and you will come upon God in yourself.”

- Teresa of Avila

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 Lent, a period of forty days leading to Easter marked by repentance and reflection on everything in our lives that separates us from God. The liturgical color of Lent is purple as signified by the paraments, wall hanging, and clergy stoles (excepting communion Sundays when clergy wear white stoles).

Bulletin Cover Image: Hosanna, 2000 ©Laura James
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IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST VISIT:

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

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.

ORGAN
March Religieuse on “Lift Up Your Heads” Alexandre Guilmant

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY
Rev. Michael Livingston

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

One: O faithful God of all in life and death, lead us to your everlasting love.
All: Let us come together to say: “God’s faithful love lasts forever!”

One: Save us from the fear of despair, even when it seems that darkness is near.
All: Let us succeed in embracing your Holy light and the hope that comes with your divine love.

One: You are our God, the pillar of our strength.
All: Let us rejoice in your love and protection! Let us lift you up high!

All: God’s faithful love lasts forever! We give thanks to our faithful God!

OPENING HYMN 88
All Glory, Laud, and Honor Valet Will Ich Dir Geben

Refrain:
All glory, laud and honor
To Thee, Redeemer, King!
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.

Thou art the King of Israel,
Thou David’s royal Son,
Who in the Lord’s name comest,
The King and blessed One. (Refrain)

The people of the Hebrews
With palms before Thee went;
Our praise and prayers and anthems
Before Thee we present. (Refrain)

To Thee, before Thy passion,
They sang their hymns of praise;
To Thee, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise. (Refrain)

Thou didst accept their praises;
Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King! (Refrain)

INVOCATION
LISTENING

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

ANTHEM

Hosanna!  

Hosanna, hosanna let the nations sing! Hosanna, hosanna to the coming King! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Behold our King, hosanna in the highest! Hosanna, hosanna let the nations sing! Hosanna, hosanna to the coming King! Lift up your heads, O ye gates! Be lifted up you everlasting doors and the King of Glory shall come in! Hosanna, hosanna let the nations sing! Hosanna, hosanna to the coming King! Hosanna to the King! (Based on Psalm 24:7)

The Riverside Rising Voices Choir
Matthew Hommez, director  
Yuliya Basis, accompanist

A MOMENT FOR LENT  

Amanda Meisenheimer

PRAYER OF CONFESSION  

Rev. Bruce Lamb

The minister offers words of confession, to which the congregation responds as follows:

One: Lord have mercy.  
All: Christ have mercy.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE  

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.  
All: And also with you.

PSALTER LESSON  

Chloe Landers

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 from the Common English Bible translation  
(page 565 Old Testament)

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

GOSPEL LESSON  

Isabella Soto

Matthew 21:1-11 from the Common English Bible translation  
(page 23 in the New Testament)

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.  
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON  

Rev. Debra Northern

Hosanna!

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE  

Rev. Livingston
OFFERTORY SOLO
My Song Is Love Unknown
Malcolm Archer
My song is love unknown, my savior’s love to me, love to the loveless shown
that they might lovely be. O who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail
flesh, and die? He came from his blest throne, salvation to bestow; but men made
strange, and none the longed for Christ would know. But oh, my friend, my friend
indeed, who at my need his life did spend. Sometimes they strew his way, and his
sweet praises sing; resounding all the day Hosannas to their King. Then “Crucify!”
is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry. Here might I stay and
sing, no story so divine; never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend. Amen.

Liz Lang, 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
Rev. Lamb
Today we celebrate the work of our Greeters Ministry, which offers hospitality and
welcomes everyone each Sunday as we enter into Christian fellowship at The Riverside
Church.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
Rev. Livingston & Rev. Debra Northern
Following each petition, please join in the following response:
One:      God, our healer and help in times of trouble,
All:      hear our prayer.

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.
GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
One: The Lord be with you.
All: And with your spirit.
One: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them up unto the Lord.
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God, _ Rul - er Al - might - y;
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Glo - ry be to you, O God.
Bless - ed is the one who comes, who comes in the name of God.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

CALL TO SUPPER
One: The body of Christ, broken for you.
All: Thanks be to God for the bread of life!
One: The blood of Christ, poured out for you.
All: Thanks be to God for the cup of blessing!

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION
PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

Rev. Livingston

God of hope you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May this food strengthen us in love, and help us to serve you in each other. We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen.

OPENING HYMN 89

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Hosanna, loud hosanna,
The little children sang;
Through pillared court and temple
The joyful anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them
Close folded to His breast,
The children sang their praises,
The simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed
Mid an exultant crowd,
The victor palm branch waving,
And chanting clear and loud;
The Lord of earth and heaven
Ride on in lowly state,
Nor scorned that little children
Should on His bidding wait.

“Hosanna in the highest!”
The little children sang;
For Christ is our Redeemer,
The Lord of heaven our King.
O may we ever praise Him
With heart and life and voice,
And in His blissful presence
Eternally rejoice.

SENDING

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

BENEDICTION

Rev. Northern

POSTLUDE

Chorale Prelude on “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” (BWV 735)  
J. S. Bach

Liturgical Resources for Today:

Inspired by Psalm 118

Special thanks to our congregational leaders: Chloe Landers & Isabella Soto

Palm Sunday is a day about entrances! Psalm 118 describes entering God’s “gates” to praise and give thanks. Connect the dots to form a gate. Inside, write or draw some reasons you praise God.
Try to find the words from Mathew 21:1-11 in the word search below. Words may go diagonal, up OR down and forward OR backward.

JERUSALEM  HUMBLE  DAVID
JESUS      CLOAK     BLESSED
DISCIPLES  CROWD    HEAVEN
VILLAGE    BRANCH   FOLLOW
DONKEY     SHOUT    PROPHET
KING       HOSANNA  NAZARETH
Matthew 21 describes Jesus riding a donkey into Jerusalem as the crowds cheered with palm branches. If you were going to wave and cheer for Jesus, what would you do and what would you use? Draw yourself welcoming and praising Jesus.
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.

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For full staff directory visit trcnyc.org/directory