

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



JULY 5, 2020
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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:

“Can we make democracy real? Black lives mattering, children of the divine promise free to be in the providence of God, he/she/they/their? Can the news of freedom, though late, be true? Can we laugh like Sarah at the promises of God and give birth to our hope in every generation?”

-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 after Pentecost, also known as Ordinary Time. It is signified by the green paraments and clergy stoles that represent new life and growth. Ordinary Time is observed from Pentecost until the beginning of Advent.

Bulletin Cover Image: *Jamie Sinclair*

 @pressuregrafix

GATHERING

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

CARILLON

Variations on Kingsfold

Betty Buchanan

Charles, Semowich, Carillonneur

ORGAN

Where All Is Peace (Meditation on Two American Melodies) *arr. Kimo Smith*

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Great is our God, full of grace and mercy!

All: Our God is good and has compassion for all.

One: Rich in love, God is slow to anger.

All: Our God is good and has compassion for all.

One: As the provider of every blessing we are thankful for God's patient presence.

All: We are grateful that God is always near. With hearts full of compassion we worship God as one.

OPENING HYMN 356

Holy, Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Nettleton

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

INVOCATION

Rev. Debra Northern

LISTENING

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

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Hsien-Yu Wang

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

HEBREW BIBLE LESSON

Lee Sartain

Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-3

(pages 14 & 16 in the Old Testament)

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMONIC SELECTION

SERMON

Rev. Livingston

Too Late to Laugh?

RESPONDING

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

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Solidad Nwakibu

OFFERTORY SOLO

How Can I Keep From Singing?

Robert Lowry; arr. Brent Yorgason

My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation: I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation. No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging. Since God is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing? Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing. It finds an echo in my soul—how can I keep from singing? What though my joys and comfort die? The Lord, my Saviour liveth. What though the darkness round me close: songs in the night he giveth. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing. All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing?

Tammy Mesic, soprano

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

Hsien-Yu Wang

Today we celebrate the ministry of our Welcome Center/Gift Shop, which offers hospitality to all – visitors, members, and staff, and provides items for sale that support the various programs and promote the general mission of our church and faith community.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Amanda Meisenheimer

Following our petition, please join in the following response

One: O Generous and merciful God.

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.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. Northern

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 God 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.

The image shows a musical score for the Memorial Acclamation. It consists of two staves, a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the treble staff: "Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain." The music is a simple, hymn-like melody.

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!**

CLOSING HYMN

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

Kingsfold

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest;
Lay down, O weary one, lay down
Your head upon my breast."

I came to Jesus as I was,
Weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting place,
And he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
The living water; thirsty one,
Stoop down and drink, and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank
Of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
And now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's Light;
Look unto me, your morn shall rise,
And all your days be bright."
I looked to Jesus and I found
In him my Star, my Sun;
And in that light of life I'll walk,
"Til trav'ling days are done.

SENDING

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

BENEDICTION

Rev. Livingston

POSTLUDE

Improvisation on "We Shall Overcome"

arr. Carl Haywood

Special thanks to our congregational leader: Lee Sartain

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 visit [**trcnyc.org/Events**](http://trcnyc.org/Events) for more information and to download a copy.

WORSHIP ONLINE & ALL WEEK LONG

If you need 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.

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
cqarquesso@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