



# The Riverside Church

in the City of New York

For such a time as *this*

OCTOBER 11, 2020  
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

# 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:

“Press forward at all times, climbing forward toward that higher ground of the harmonious society that shapes the laws of man to the laws of God.”

-Adam Clayton Powell Jr.

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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 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

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## GATHERING

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

### CARILLON

Healing Bells

*Pamela Reuter-Reenstra*

*Charles Semowich, carillonneur*

### ORGAN

Praeludium in e minor

*Nicolaus Bruhns*

*Christopher Johnson, organist*

### LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Jim Keat

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

One: O wondrous God, we exalt You for you have done wonderful things.

**All: Rejoice in all that God has done!**

One: Bring us inner peace as we gather to worship.

**All: Let thy gentle hand soothe all that ails.**

One: Let us rejoice in the joy that comes from God's love.

**All: God's love endures forever!**

### OPENING HYMN 285

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

*Austrian Hymn*

God, You spin the whirling planets,  
Fill the seas and spread the plain.  
Mold the mountains, fashion blossoms,  
Call forth sunshine, wind and rain.  
We created in your image,  
Would a true reflection be.  
Of your justice, grace and mercy  
And the truth that makes us free  
You have called us to be faithful  
In our life and ministry.  
We respond in grateful worship,  
Joined in one community.  
When we blur your gracious image,  
Focus us and make us whole.  
Healed and strengthened as your people,  
We move onward toward your goal.

**God, your will is still creating,  
Calling us to life made new.  
Now reveal to us fresh vistas  
Where there's work to dare and do.  
Keep us clear of all distortion,  
Fashion us with loving care,  
Thus new creatures in your image,  
We'll proclaim Christ everywhere.**

**INVOCATION**

Rev. Harper

*LISTENING*

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

**SOLO**

Rise, Shine, For Thy Light is A-Comin' *C. S. Brown*  
Oh, Rise, Shine, for thy Light is a-comin'. My Lord says, He's comin' by an' by.  
This is the year of Jubilee. My Lord has set His people free. He's comin' by an'  
by. Intend to shout an' never stop until I reach the mountain top. We'll build  
our tent on this campground and give old Satan another round. Oh wet or dry  
I intend to try to serve the Lord until I die. Oh, Rise, Shine, for thy Light is  
a-comin' My Lord says, He's comin' by an' by. Oh Rise, Rise, Rise!

*Linda Childs, alto  
Matt King, piano*

**EPISTLE LESSON**

Rev. Bruce Lamb

Philippians 4:1-13

*(pages 196 in the Old Testament)*

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

Rev. Debra Northern

A Proper Alignment

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

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

Rev. Keat

**One:** The peace of the Lord be with you.

**All:** **And also with you.**

### INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Rev. Lamb

### OFFERTORY SOLO

The Lord Is My Light

*Frances Allitsen*

The Lord is my light and my salvation. Whom, then shall I fear?

The Lord is the strength of my life. Of whom then shall I be afraid?

Though a host of foes were laid against me, yet shall not my heart be afraid;

And tho' there rose up war against me, yet will I put my trust in You.

For in the time of trouble, God shall hide me in the tabernacle.

Yea, in the secret places of Your dwelling shall You hide me,

And set me up upon a rock of stone.

*Russell Saint John, baritone*

### 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. Keat

*Today we celebrate the ministry of Pastor's Pub, where we come together in community, building relationships and exploring questions around theology, the Bible and the Christian faith.*

**CLOSING HYMN 418**

**God, Bless Your Church with Strength!**

*Ich halte treulich still*

**God bless your church with strength!  
Wherever we may be,  
Up build your servants as we work  
In common ministry.  
Urge us from fledgling faith  
To venture and to soar  
Through open skies to sing the praise  
Of Christ whom we adore.**

**God bless your church with life!  
May all our branches thrive,  
Unblemished, wholesome, bearing fruit,  
Abundantly alive.  
From you, one holy vine,  
In freedom may we grow;  
Sustain us in our mission, Lord,  
Your love and peace to show.**

**God bless your church with hope!  
Despite chaotic days,  
May we in darkness shine to light  
A pathway through life's maze.  
May justice be our aim,  
And kindness ours to share;  
In humbleness oh may we walk,  
Assured our God is there!**

*SENDING*

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

**BENEDICTION**

Rev. Northern

**POSTLUDE**

Shall We Not Sing To Our God?

*Sigfrid Karg-Elert*

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## **Featured on the cover left to right:**

**Judith Heumann** Disability rights activist, successfully sued the Board of Education on the basis of discrimination, and became the first wheelchair user to teach in New York City.

**Ida B. Wells-Barnett** Black investigative journalist, educator, an early leader in the civil rights movement, and one of the founders of the NAACP.

**Malala Yousafzai** Pakistani activist for female education and the youngest Nobel Prize laureate. Known for human rights advocacy, especially the education of women and children in Pakistan.

**Shirley Chisholm** First African-American woman elected to the U.S. Congress and first African-American candidate for a major party's nomination for President of the United States.

**Sylvia Rivera** Latina American gay liberation and transgender rights activist, and co-founder of the Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries (STAR) with Marsha P. Johnson.

**Marsha P. Johnson** Gay liberation activist, an outspoken advocate for gay rights, and one of the prominent figures in the Stonewall uprising of 1969.

**Kamala Harris** United States senator from California, and the first African American, the first Asian American, and the third female vice presidential running mate on a major party ticket.

**Ruth Bader Ginsburg** Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, advocate for gender equality and women's rights, and co-founder of the Women's Rights Project at the ACLU.

**Rachel Held Evans** Progressive Christian columnist and author, writing about faith, doubt and life in the Bible Belt.

**Dolores Huerta** Labor leader and civil rights activist and co-founder of the National Farmworkers Association, later known as United Farm Workers (UFW).

**Marian Wright Edelman** Activist for children's rights, and advocate for disadvantaged Americans. Founder and president emerita of the Children's Defense Fund.

## **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.

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### **Rev. Michael Livingston**

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### **Pastoral and Program Staff**

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### **CONTACT US:**

To contact the church with general questions, call 212-870-6700 or email [communications@trcnyc.org](mailto:communications@trcnyc.org).

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



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