



The Riverside Church

in the City of New York

For such a time as *this*

OCTOBER 18, 2020
TWENTIETH 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:

“Marian Wright Edelman, founder and president emerita of the Children’s Defense Fund (CDF), has been an advocate for disadvantaged Americans for her entire professional life. Under her leadership, CDF has become the nation’s strongest voice for children and families. The Children’s Defense Fund’s Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start, and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.”

-ChildrensDefenseFund.org

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

Fantasy on Sunday School Hymns

John Gouwens

Charles Semowich, carillonneur

ORGAN

Rubrics (A Liturgical Suite for Organ)

Dan Locklair

II. Silence may be kept

IV. The Peace may be exchanged

Christopher Johnson, organist

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Micahel Livingston

CALL TO WORSHIP

Amanda Meisenheimer

One: Come, let us worship, let the children come first.

All: May the children find safety and protection in Christ's church.

One: Come, let us pray for the youngest among us, that they may be both seen and heard,

**All: Children are fully human, created in the image of God.
Children belong in our communities.**

One: Come, let us encourage the caretakers of this generation together.

All: May God bless parents, grandparents, teachers, social workers, and other care providers.

OPENING HYMN 473

For the Beauty of the Earth

Dix

For the beauty of the earth,
For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies.

Refrain:

**Lord of all, to Thee we raise,
This our hymn of grateful praise.**

For the wonder of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon, and stars of light. (*Refrain*)

For the joy of ear and eye,
For the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony
Linking sense to sound and sight. (*Refrain*)

For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild. (*Refrain*)

For Thy Church, that evermore
Lifteth holy hands above,
Offering up on every shore
Her pure sacrifice of love. (*Refrain*)

INVOCATION

LISTENING

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

SOLO

Simple Gifts

Trad. Shaker Melody, arr. Aaron Copland

Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free
'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.
When true simplicity is gained,
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed,
To turn, turn will be our delight,
Till by turning, turning we come 'round right.

Jasmine Ismail, soprano

EPISTLE LESSON

Alexander Simons

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

(page 166 in the New Testament)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

Dahlia Rivadeneyra

Luke 18:13-16

(page 81 in the New Testament)

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Kevin Vandiver

When Jesus Says Yes

PASTORAL PRAYER

Amanda Meisenheimer

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

Dahlia Rivadeneyra

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

Minister Charlene Wingate

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Dr. Emily Anderson

OFFERTORY SOLO

My God Is So High

Spiritual, arr. Hall Johnson

My God is so high, you can't get over Him, He's so low, you can't get under Him, He's so wide, you can't get around Him, you must come in by and through the Lamb. One day as I was a-walkin' along the heavenly road, my Savior spoke unto me and filled my heart with love. I'll take my gospel trumpet and I'll begin to blow, and if my Savior helps me, I'll blow wherever I go.

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 Wingate

Today we celebrate the ministry of our Riverside Kids Worship, which provides a sacred space for children to connect with God in song, movement, art, and storytelling.

CLOSING HYMN 267

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Royal Oak

Refrain:

**All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful:
The Lord God made them all.**

**Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings:
God made their glowing colors,
God made their tiny wings. (Refrain)**

**The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset, and the morning
That brightens up the sky, (Refrain)**

**The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
God made them every one. (Refrain)**

**God gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well. (Refrain)**

SENDING

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

BENEDICTION

Rev. Micahel Livingston

POSTLUDE

“Someone’s Singing, Lord” from Variations on “Kum Ba Yah”

John Behnke

Special thanks to our congregational leaders: Simons, Dablia Rivadeneyra, & Dr. Emily Anderson.



Kevin Vandiver received his Bachelor's Degree in 2011 from Winthrop University in Rock Hill, SC. He then attended Duke University Divinity School in Durham, NC and graduated with an M. Div. in 2014. He is currently a PhD student at Princeton Theological Seminary with a concentration in Homiletics.

Kevin is a called and ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, was the founding Pastor of the Christ Center at Transfiguration in Harlem, and now serves as the Assistant to the Bishop of The Metropolitan New York Synod, where he is responsible for supporting the life and care of 52 churches in the Metropolitan New York area.

Kevin is married to Dr. Marcia Janelle Vandiver, a prolific author, speaker, and professor.

Social Media: @TheTeacher

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/online**](http://trcnyc.org/online) 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



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