

# The Riverside Church

Riverside Drive and 122nd Street



Sunday, October 4th, 2020

# 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:

“Don’t say you’re too old, too tired, too busy, too any of those things to keep moving, stretching, growing. For I say to you, the same God which calls forth shoots from dead stumps, a people from dry bones, sons and daughters from the stones at our feet, babies from barren wombs and life from the tomb—this same God daily can call forth in each of us a new creation.”

- Rev. William Sloane Coffin Jr.,  
former senior minister of Riverside 1977-1987 from his sermon “Home-Coming,  
Home-Leaving” delivered September 25, 1983

---

## 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

Hail Thee, Festival Day  
Fanfare Cwm Rhondda

*arr. Phyllis Webb  
Robert Hebble*

*Charles, Semowich, Carillonneur*

### HYMN SING

341 – Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine  
Blessed assurance: Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

*Assurance*

#### *Refrain:*

This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels, descending, bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. (*Refrain*)

Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
filled with His goodness, lost in His love. (*Refrain*)

276 – Great Is Thy Faithfulness  
Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, Creator,  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;  
As Thou hast been Thou forever will be.

*Faithfulness*

#### *Refrain:*

Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. (*Refrain*)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (*Refrain*)

138 – Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

*Nicæa*

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;  
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eye of sinfulness Thy glory may not see,  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee  
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

## LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

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

One: This is the day that the Lord hath made, Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**All: Hallelujah. Praise the Lord!**

One: We will give thanks with our whole heart and tell of God's  
wonderful deeds. Sing praise to God's holy name.

**All: Hallelujah. Praise the Lord!**

One: By thy favor thou hast made my mountain to stand strong. For thou hast  
delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from  
falling. Therefore will I call upon the name of our God as long as I live.

**All: Hallelujah. Praise the Lord!**

### OPENING HYMN 361

#### How Firm a Foundation

*Foundation*

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!  
What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
To you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

**“Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid;  
I’ll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.”**

**“When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,  
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.”**

**“When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design  
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.”**

**“The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I’ll never, no never, no never forsake.”**

## **INVOCATION**

Rev. Debra Northern

### *LISTENING*

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

## **ANTHEM**

### **Walk Together, Children**

*Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan*

Walk together children, don't you get weary. Walk together children, don't you get weary. Oh, talk together children, don't you get weary. There's a great camp meeting in the Promised Land. Sing together children, don't you get weary. Sing together children, don't you get weary. Oh, shout together children, don't you get weary. There's a great camp meeting in the Promised Land. Gonna mourn and never tire. Mourn and never tire. Mourn and never tire. There's a great camp meeting in the Promised Land.

*Liz Lang, soprano*

*Meghann Vaughn, mezzo-soprano*

*Erik Rasmussen, tenor*

*Christopher Judd, baritone*

## **HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Jean Chung

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 (page 66 in the Old Testament)

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **SERMON**

Rev. Michael Livingston

Elinor

## RESPONDING

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

### INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Emogene B. Stamper

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place Johannes Brahms  
How lovely is Thy dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! For my soul, it longeth, yea  
fainteth for the courts of the Lord; my soul and body crieth out, yea, for the  
living God. Blest are they that dwell within Thy house; they praise Thy name  
evermore!

### 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. Kevin VanHook

*Today we joyfully celebrate 90 years of tireless dedication from all members of our lay  
ministries, committees, and commissions, here at The Riverside Church.*

### PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Debra Northern

*Following our petition, please join in the following response*

One: God of all people  
**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.**

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Kevin VanHook

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

### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. Michael Livingston

## GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And with your spirit.**

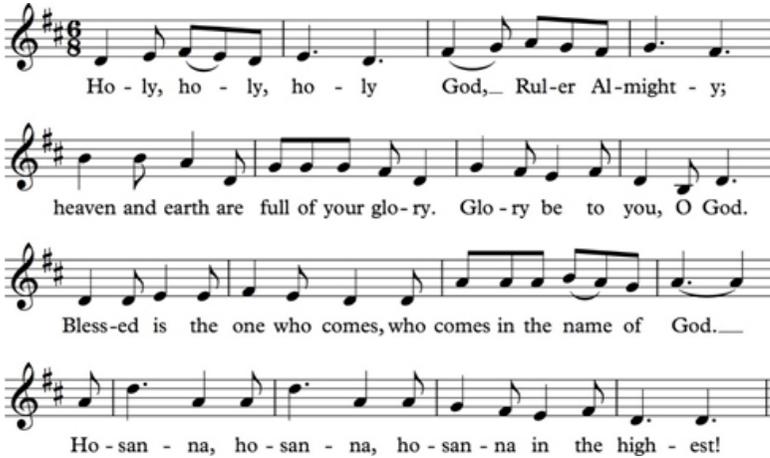
One: Lift up your hearts.

**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.**

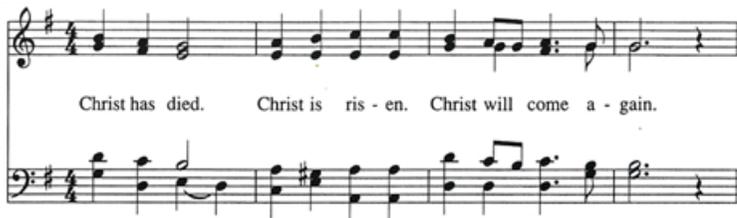
## SANCTUS



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.

## 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!**

## PRAYER OF COVENANT<sup>2</sup> (unison)

**Lord, having shared this meal with You, and with each other, and with hearts made warm and wills made strong again, help us now to move with courage and compassion into a world that needs in its despair to know that You are merciful and just.**

*(continued)*

Supported by Your presence, and by all who share the vision with us, in the past as in the present on this anniversary day, we affirm this covenant with You and one another: to nurture and love one another as a community of faith; to be bold and caring in the pursuit of justice; to bring joy and hope to neighbors weighed down by sorrows and fearlessly to preach the Gospel to a world that yearns for peace and healing. O God, in a crooked and perverse generation, may we shine like stars in a dark world and proffer the word of life. Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN 420**

**God of Grace and God of Glory**

*Cwm Rhondda*

God of grace and God of glory,  
on your people pour your power;  
crown your ancient church's story,  
bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the facing of this hour,  
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
scorn the Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the living of these days,  
for the living of these days.

Cure your children's warring madness;  
bend our pride to your control;  
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore;  
let the gift of your salvation  
be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving you whom we adore,  
serving you whom we adore.

## SENDING

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

### BENEDICTION

Rev. Michael Livingston

### POSTLUDE

Finale from Organ Symphony No. 1

*Alexandre Guilmant*

---

*Special thanks to our congregational leaders: Jean Chung & Emogene B. Stamper*

#### Liturgical Resources for Today:

<sup>1</sup>*Adapted from the Riverside Church 50th anniversary service of worship on, October 5, 1980*

<sup>2</sup>*Adapted from the Prayer of Covenant by Ruth Britton, for Riverside's 50th anniversary service of worship on October 5, 1980.*

---

### 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

**Meighan Corbett**  
Director of Stewardship & Development  
mcorbett@trcnyc.org

**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](mailto:communications@trcnyc.org).

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

---



[trcnyc.org](http://trcnyc.org)



**THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH**  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK