



The Riverside Church
in the City of New York

For such a time as *this*



MARCH 14, 2021
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

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:

“Nicodemus is not the only one confounded and confused by what it means to be born again. ‘How can we re-enter the womb...?’ Indeed “Born again” means born again, born anew, born from above. Jesus clarifies we must be born of water and spirit. Let us seek to, following in the way of Jesus, (re)define born again, dust off evangelical notions that make this text a litmus test for who is saved, and re-cast it as an urgent call for how we must see the world as God’s kin-dom, in order to survive and thrive.”

-Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

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).

GATHERING

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

CARILLON

Let Us Truly Love One Another

arr. Carol Anne Taylor

Charles Semowich, carillonneur

ORGAN

Préambule

In Manus Tuas

Louis Vierne

Jeanne Demessieux

Christopher Creaghan, organist

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Jim Keat

One: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

All: It extends beyond all earthly and heavenly things.

One: Your faithfulness fuels our desire to listen

All: Your righteousness brings light so we may see the unseen.

One: Through your judgments may we all be saved.

All: Let us praise your name as we worship together anew!

INVOCATION

OPENING HYMN 83

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

Deo Gracias

**O love, how deep, how broad, how high,
How passing thought and fantasy,
That God, the Son of God, should take
Our mortal form for mortals' sake!**

**For us baptized, for us He bore
His holy fast and hungered sore;
For us temptations sharp He knew,
For us the tempter overthrew.**

**For us to evil power betrayed,
Scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed,
He bore the shameful cross and death,
For us gave up His dying breath.**

**For us He rose from death again;
For us He went on high to reign;
For us He sent His Spirit here,
To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.**

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

Debra Frankel

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Wondrous Love

Paul Christiansen

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul. That caused the Lord of life to bear the heavy cross. That Christ should lay aside His crown for my soul.

Tammy Mesic, soprano Irene Ryan King, alto

Daniel Cucura, tenor Christopher Judd, bass

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. Livingston

Today we celebrate the work of our Prison Ministry, which conducts advocacy and outreach programs on behalf of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated people, their families, and their communities.

LITANY FOR HEALING

Isabella Soto

One: As we go forth on this Lenten journey, may "healing" be our watchword, a healing based on truth and justice, grounded in the love of Christ Jesus, the Crucified One.

All: O Christ, we rejoice that you are the Great Physician, by your wounds we are healed.

One: Heal our hurting Earth, nation, city, and church.

All: By your wounds we are healed.

One: Heal our weary spirits and broken hearts.

All: By your wounds we are healed.

One: Heal our ailing bodies and fractured minds.

All: By your wounds we are healed.

One: We give thanks for the hope of Resurrection,
for the promise of renewal and healing.

All: By your wounds we are healed.

OPENING HYMN 303

Jesus, Love of My Soul

Aberystwyth

Jesus, lover of my soul,
Let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high:
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,
Till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide;
O receive my soul at last!

Other refuge have I none;
Hangs my helpless soul on Thee;
Leave, ah! leave me not alone,
Still support and comfort me.
All my trust on Thee is stayed,
All my help from Thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head
With the shadow of Thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want,
More than all in Thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is Thy name,
I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am,
Thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with Thee is found,
Grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound;
Make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art,
Freely let me take of Thee;
Spring Thou up within my heart;
Rise to all eternity.

SENDING

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

BENEDICTION

Rev. Livingston

POSTLUDE

Toccata on Aberystwyth

David Bednall



The Rev. Jacqueline J. Lewis, Ph.D. is Senior Minister at Middle Collegiate Church, a 1,300-member multiethnic, welcoming, an inclusive congregation in New York City. She is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary and earned her Ph.D. in Religion and Society/ Psychology and Religion at Drew University. Ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA), Dr. Lewis hosted “Just Faith,” an on-demand television program on MSNBC.com and is a frequent media com-

mentator. Her books include *The Power of Stories: A Guide for Leaders in Multi-racial, Multi-cultural Congregations*, *Ten Strategies for Becoming a Multiracial Congregation*, and the children’s book, *You Are So Wonderful!* She is currently at work on a book on how to heal souls and our world.

Special thanks to our congregational leaders: Debra Frankel, Karissa Garner & Isabella Soto

Featured on the cover left to right:

Claudette Colvin Arrested at the age of 15 in Montgomery, Alabama, for refusing to give up her seat to a white woman on a crowded, segregated bus, nine months before the more widely known incident involving Rosa Parks.

Misty Copeland American ballet dancer for American Ballet Theatre, one of the three leading classical ballet companies in the United States. On June 30, 2015, Copeland became the first African American woman to be promoted to principal dancer in ABT's 75-year history.

Mae Jemison American engineer, physician, and former NASA astronaut. She became the first black woman to travel into space when she served as a mission specialist aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavour.

Amanda S. C. Gorman American poet and activist whose work focuses on issues of oppression, feminism, race, and marginalization, as well as the African diaspora. First person to be named National Youth Poet Laureate. On January 20, 2021, she delivered the poem "The Hill We Climb" at the inauguration of Joe Biden.

Fannie Lou Hamer Known for her use of spirituals and her resilience in leading the civil rights movement for black women in Mississippi. Despite enduring violent opposition, she helped thousands of African-Americans in Mississippi to become registered voters.

Nina Simone American singer, songwriter, musician, arranger, and civil rights activist. Simone performed and spoke at civil rights meetings, including the marches from Selma to Montgomery. Her song "Four Women" exposed the eurocentric appearance standards imposed on black women in America.

Andrea Jenkins American policy aide, politician, writer, performance artist, poet, and transgender activist. She is known for being the first black openly transgender woman elected to public office in the United States, serving since January 2018 on the Minneapolis City Council.

Harmonia Rosales Afro-Cuban American artist whose work explores Black female empowerment through art that challenges ideological hegemony in contemporary society, often reimagining Black heroines in classic Renaissance paintings as the main subject of the painting because "religion and power go hand in hand".

Serena Williams American professional tennis player and former world No. 1 in women's single tennis. She has used her platform to speak out about gender and racial equity and her personal struggles as a Black woman in tennis. The NAACP honored Williams with the President's Award at the annual NAACP Image Awards.

Wangari Maathai Kenyan social, environmental, and political activist and the first African woman to win the Nobel Prize. In 1977, Maathai founded the Green Belt Movement, an environmental non-governmental organization focused on the planting of trees, environmental conservation, and women's rights.

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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