

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



APRIL 25, 2021
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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:

“Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.”

-1 Corinthians 13:4-7

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 Eastertide, a period of 50 days following the resurrection of Jesus Christ until Pentecost. The liturgical color of Eastertide is white, which symbolizes the hope of the resurrection, as well as the purity and newness that comes from victory over sin and death, as signified by the paraments and clergy stoles.



GATHERING

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

CARILLON

Prelude and Fugue on
Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

Ronald Barnes

Charles Semowich, carillonneur

HANDBELLS

Wondrous Love
Chorale Prelude on "Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

arr. Jason W. Krug
arr. Jason W. Krug

The Riverside Ringers
Daniel Potter, director

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingshton

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Rev. Phil Tom

One: The Lord is our shepherd, our provider of all.

All: Beside still waters, God leads us to lay in green pastures.

One: God leads us in the right paths and restores our souls.

All: Through our darkest valleys we fear no evil for God is with us.

One: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives.

All: Come! Let us worship in the house of the Lord together!

INVOCATION

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)

LISTENING

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

One: Lord have mercy.

All: Christ have mercy.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Chloe Landers

1 John 3:16-24

(page 240 in the New Testament)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

HANDBELLS

Be Thou My Vision

Irish folk tune, arr. Jason W. Krug

SERMON

Rev. Debra Northern

What's Love Got To Do with It?

RESPONDING

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

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Tom

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up unto the Lord.

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. Harper

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Christian Rojas

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Virgil Thomson

My shepherd will supply my need, Jehovah is his name; In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream. He brings my wand'ring spirit back when I forsake his ways; He leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace. When I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay; A word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away. Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread, My cup with blessings overflows, thine oil anoints my head. The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days: O may thy house be mine abode, and all my work be praise! There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come; No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.

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. Harper

Today we celebrate the work of the Stephen Ministry, which equips and empowers lay members to provide Christ-centered care to people in need of encouragement and support.

CLOSING HYMN 387

Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Bradbury

Savior, like a shepherd lead us,

Much we need Thy tender care;

In Thy pleasant pastures feed us,

For our use Thy folds prepare:

Blessèd Jesus, blessed Jesus,

Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;
Blessèd Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

Thou hast promised to receive us,
Poor and sinful though we be;
Thou hast mercy to relieve us,
Grace to cleanse, and power to free:
Blessèd Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Early let us turn to Thee.
Blessèd Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Early let us turn to Thee.

Early let us seek Thy favor;
Early let us do Thy will;
Blessèd Lord and only Savior,
Eith Thy love our bosoms fill:
Blessèd Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still;
Blessèd Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still.

SENDING

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

BENEDICTION

Rev. Northern

POSTLUDE

Postlude in C Major

Henry Smart

Liturgical Resources for Today:

¹*Inspired by Psalm 23*

Special thanks to our congregational leaders: Chloe Landers & Christian Rojas

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 [## **LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY**](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!</p></div><div data-bbox=)

For announcements of programs and events at The Riverside Church, please visit 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 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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