



The Riverside Church

in the City of New York

For such a time as *this*



JUNE 6, 2021
SECOND 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:

“The resurrection... is a powerful pillar of Paul’s appeal for reconciliation with the Corinthians. The fact that the God who raised Christ from the dead is alive in both Paul and the Corinthians presents the real possibility that their strained relationship can be renewed. Paul invites them to envision the end of time, when human distinctions between various groups of people will be leveled in the glorious presence of God (2 Corinthians 4:14), as the foundation for a new beginning of mutual trust in Christ in the present.”

-Dr. Jennifer Pietz, Assistant Professor of New Testament,
Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN

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: The Holy Spirit Arrives (from The Passion of Christ: A Gay Vision) by artist Douglas Blanchard, with text by Kittredge Cherry

“A winged woman literally lights up a crowd in “The Holy Spirit Arrives” from “The Passion of Christ: A Gay Vision.” Blanchard takes Pentecost out into the streets and humanizes it by presenting the Holy Spirit as a woman. In church texts the Holy Spirit is sometimes described as the female person of the Trinity. She is known as Sophia, the embodiment of Wisdom. But at other times She is referred to as “He,” a rather queer blurring of gender duality. In Blanchard’s painting the Holy Spirit floats like an angel above the people at an intersection where darkened city streets meet at odd angles. Tongues of fire literally flame up from the heads of the people on the streets. The painting gives visual form to a moment of spiritual transcendence. “The Holy Spirit Arrives” is the only painting in Blanchard’s Passion series that does not show Jesus. And yet Jesus IS present within the people. They have been transformed by the Holy Spirit into the body of Christ. Everyone is enflamed — not just the twelve apostles. The painting also hints that Jesus is present in the form of the Holy Spirit. They both have the same face. This, Blanchard says, is deliberate. By making Jesus and the Holy Spirit look alike, he emphasizes that they are one being. The Holy Spirit comes to ALL people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. The Spirit ignites the desire to be true to oneself, even when that means being fully, flagrantly queer.”

GATHERING

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

CARILLON

Communion

Let Us Break Bread Together

William Lloyd Webber, arr. C. Winter

arr. Janet Dundore

Charles Semowich, carillonneur

ORGAN

Let Us Break Bread Together

arr. Raymond Haan

Christopher Creaghan, organist

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

One: With a grateful heart, let us give God praise!

All: For God's steadfast love strengthens our souls.

One: Though we walk in the midst of trouble God's hand preserves us.

All: Let us be renewed with every moment of despair.

One: Today, we stand, waiting in hope.

All: May we become everything God has made us to be as we listen for God's Word together.

INVOCATION

OPENING HYMN 439

In Christ There Is No East or West

St. Peter

**In Christ there is no east or west,
In Him no south or north;
But one great fellowship of love
Throughout the whole wide earth.**

**In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
Their high communion find;
His service is the golden cord,
Close-binding humankind.**

**Join hands, disciples of the faith,
Whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
Are surely kin to me.**

**In Christ now meet both east and west,
In Him meet south and north;
All Christly souls are one in Him
Throughout the whole wide earth.**

LISTENING

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Bruce Lamb

One: Lord have mercy.

All: Christ have mercy.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Rev. Harper

Deuteronomy 5:12-15

(page 162 in the New Testament)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON

Rev. Lamb

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

(page 181 in the New Testament)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Livingston

The Resurrection is Now

RESPONDING

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

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Jesse Wilkins

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

arr. Eric Thiman

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might; Thy justice like mountains high soaring above, Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love. To all, life Thou givest to both great and small; In all life Thou livest, the true life of all; we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, and wither and perish but nought changeth Thee. Creator of Glory, pure maker of Light, Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight; All laud we would render: O help us to see, 'tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee. Amen.

Jessica Marsten, soprano

Irene King, mezzo-soprano

David Jackson, tenor

Jeremy Leung, 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. Lamb

Today we celebrate the ministry of our Personnel & Salary Committee, which partners with our staff to create an organizational culture where every member of our staff team is valued for their contributions to our collective ministry and treated with dignity and respect.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Harper

Following our petition, please join in the following response:

One: O Merciful God,
All: hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pray in the language or version of your heart.

**Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come,
Your 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.
Save us from the time of trial, but deliver us from evil.
For Yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

CHORAL AMEN

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Lamb

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

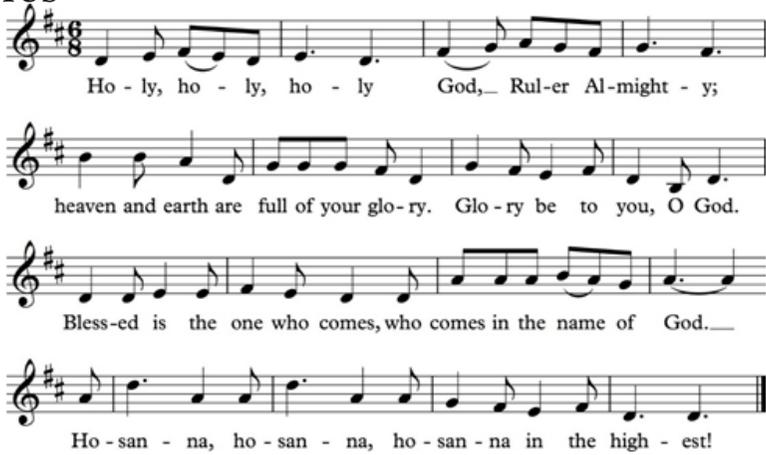
INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. 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!

CLOSING HYMN 421

The Church of Christ in Every Age

Wareham

The church of Christ in every age,
Beset by change but Spirit led,
Must claim and test its heritage
And keep on rising from the dead.

Across the world, across the street,
The victims of injustice cry
For shelter and for bread to eat,
And never live until they die.

Then let the servant church arise,
A caring church that longs to be
A partner in Christ's sacrifice,
And clothed in Christ's humanity.

**For Christ alone, whose blood was shed,
Can cure the fever in our blood,
And teach us how to share our bread
And feed the starving multitude.**

**We have no mission but to serve
In full obedience to our Lord:
To care for all, without reserve,
And spread his liberating word.**

SENDING

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

BENEDICTION

Rev. Livingston

POSTLUDE

Carillon Sortie

Henri Mulet

Special thanks to our congregational leader: Jesse Wilkins

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



trcnyc.org



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