



THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

JULY 25, 2021
NINTH 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:

“Every courageous prophet speaks the greatest truth where it is the least welcome.”

-Rev. Erik Kolbell

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.

Whats happening at Riverside?

Learn about the events and activities of the Life of Our Community by opening your camera and scanning the code below.



Give by your phone

Make an offering using your smartphone by opening your camera and scanning the code below.

Or text TRCNYCGIVE to
833.833.4035.



GATHERING

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

CARILLON

Amenonos de Corazon and Pescador de Hombres *arr. Carol Anne Taylor*
Charles Semowich, carillonneur

ORGAN

Come, Sweet Death, Come, Blessed Rest *J.S. Bach, arr. Virgil Fox*
Christopher Johnson, organist

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

One: Good and upright is our Loyal God.

All: Our instructor of love and grace.

One: The leader of the humble in what is right.

All: God guides us on our way.

One: Lead us in Your truth as we mature,

**All: And we shall rejoice in your love and goodness forever!
Come, let us worship.**

INVOCATION

OPENING HYMN 389

O Jesus, I Have Promised

Nyland

O Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou forever near me,
My Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If Thou wilt be my Guide.

O let me feel Thee near me!
The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
The tempting sounds I hear;
My foes are ever near me,
Around me and within;
But Jesus, draw Thou nearer,
And shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear Thee speaking
In accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self will.
O speak to reassure me,
To hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
Thou Guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, Thou hast promised
To all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory
There shall Thy servant be.
And Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
My Master and my Friend.

Irwin Reese, tenor

LISTENING

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Debra Northern

In a moment of silence, offer your own prayers of confession.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Michael Thomas

Deuteronomy 7:9-13

(page 164 in the Old Testament)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

Rev. Livingston

Matthew 19:16-24

(page 21 in the New Testament)

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Erik Kolbell

Heaven is a Dangerous Place

RESPONDING

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

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Livingston

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 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.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Livingston

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Rev. Northern

OFFERTORY SOLO

My Good Lord Done Been Here

Spiritual, arr. Jacqueline B. Hairston

My good Lord, He done been here; He done blessed my soul and gone. Now look here poor mourner, just get down on your knees; and ask the mighty God I serve, to have mercy if you please! I would not be a sinner, I'll tell you the reason why; 'cause if my Lord should call on me, just wouldn't be ready for to die!

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. Northern

Today we celebrate the ministry of the Theatre of the Oppressed, which uses interactive drama as an educational means of engaging and empowering participants to confront and address oppressive situations that challenge their everyday lives.

CLOSING HYMN 366

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love To Me

St. Catherine

Jesus, Thy boundless love to me
No thought can reach, no tongue declare;
O knit my thankful heart to Thee,
And reign without a rival there!
Thine wholly, Thine alone, I'd live,
Myself to Thee, entirely give.

O, grant that nothing in my soul
May dwell, but Thy pure love alone;
O may Thy love possess me whole,
My joy, my treasure, and my crown!
All coldness from my heart remove;
May every act, word, thought be love.

O love, how gracious is thy way!
All fear before thy presence flies;
Care, anguish, sorrow melt away,
Where'er Thy healing beams arise.
O Jesus, nothing may I see,
Nothing desire or seek, but Thee.

SENDING

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

BENEDICTION

Rev. Livingston

POSTLUDE

"Final" from Organ Symphony No. 1, Op. 42

Alexandre Guilmant

Special thanks to our congregational leader: Michael Thomas

Liturgical Resources for Today:

¹*Inspired by Psalm 25*



A Yale Divinity School graduate, **Erik Kolbell** was the first Minister of Social Justice at Riverside Church in New York City where he worked on fair housing, racial equality, nuclear disarmament, prison reform and other issues. His work took him to Nicaragua as an official U.S. observer for the first democratic elections, to Cuba with *Pastors for Peace* delivering medical supplies, and to South Africa on a fact-finding mission during the apartheid years. As a Congregational minister with a

concentration in Judaic studies, Kolbell has a broad understanding of religious issues and where they intersect with American culture. Prior to his ministry at Riverside Church, Kolbell worked for several years as a college chaplain. His psychotherapy practice incorporates his expertise in family and couples counseling.

He is the author of *The God of Second Chances and Were You There? Finding Ourselves at the Foot of the Cross*. His book, *What Jesus Meant: The Beatitudes and a Meaningful Life*, received a “Best Spiritual Books 2003” from *Spirituality and Health Magazine*. He also authored *Lifescritps for Family and Friends: What to Say in 101 of Life’s Most Troubling and Uncomfortable Situations*, a guidebook for difficult conversations

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.

PARKING - 7/25/2021

Parking is available in the garage below the building. Present this bulletin to the attendant before 6:00 p.m. for a reduced rate of \$5.00.

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

Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer
Minister of Children & Families
mmeisenheimer@trcnyc.org

Rev. Debra Northern
Minister of Parish Care
dnorthern@trcnyc.org

Carrie Quarqueso
Coordinator for Worship & Arts
cquarqueso@trcnyc.org

Min. Richard X III
Assistant Minister of Faith Formation
rx@trcnyc.org

CONTACT US:

To contact the church with general questions, call 212-870-6700 or email communications@trcnyc.org.

For full staff directory visit trcnyc.org/directory



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