

# The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



And the table  
will be wide.  
And the welcome  
will be wide.  
And the arms  
will open wide  
to gather us in.  
And our hearts  
will open wide  
to receive.

And we will come  
as children who trust  
there is enough.  
And we will come  
unhindered and free.  
And our aching  
will be met  
with bread.  
And our sorrow  
will be met  
with wine.

And we will open our hands  
to the feast  
without shame.  
And we will turn  
toward each other  
without fear.  
And we will give up  
our appetite  
for despair.  
And we will taste  
and know  
of delight.

And we will become bread  
for a hungry world.  
And we will become drink  
for those who thirst.  
And the blessed  
will become the blessing.  
And everywhere  
will be the feast.

OCTOBER 3, 2021  
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

# WELCOME TO THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

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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:

“Build back better. Blah, blah, blah. Green economy. Blah blah blah. Net zero by 2050. Blah, blah, blah,” she [Greta Thunberg] said in a speech to the Youth4Climate summit in Milan, Italy, on Tuesday. “This is all we hear from our so-called leaders. Words that sound great but so far have not led to action. Our hopes and ambitions drown in their empty promises.”

-report by The Guardian

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## 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.

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### Whats happening at Riverside?

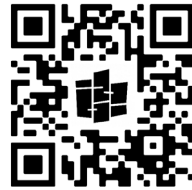
Learn about the events and activities of the Life of Our Community by opening your camera and scanning the code below.



### 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

St. Francis' Trial

*Jo Coenen*

*Charles Semowich, carillonneur*

### ORGAN

Soliloquy

Obangiji

*Rachel Laurin*

*Fela Sowande*

*Janet Chung, organist*

### LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

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

Dr. Colleen Birchett

One: Creator God, We are here, together in hope!

**All: With community and creation**

One: With neighbors near and far

**All: With those known and new**

One: With Christians across geography and time

**All: Together in hope, let us worship!**

### INVOCATION

### OPENING HYMN

#### For the Healing of the Nations<sup>2</sup>

*Westminster Abbey*

*Please meditate silently on the hymn, and refrain from singing.*



1. For the heal - ing of the na - tions, Lord, we pray with one ac - cord;  
2. Lead us, for - ward, in - to free - dom, From des - pair your world re - lease;  
3. All that kills a - bund - ant li - ving, Let it from the earth be banned:  
4. You, cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten Your great name on hu - man - kind;



For a just and e - qual shar - ing Of the things that earth af - fords.  
That re - deemed from war and ha - tred, All may come and go in peace.  
Pride of sta - tus, race or school - ing, Dog - mas that ob - scure your plan.  
For our grow - ing in your like - ness Bring the life of Christ to mind:



To a life of love and ac - tion Help us rise and pledge our word.  
Show us how, through care and good - ness, Fear will die and hope in - crease.  
In our com - mon quest for jus - tice May we hal - low life's breife span.  
That, by our re - sponse and ser - vice, Earth its des - ti - ny may find.

### LISTENING

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

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

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

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Rev. Harper

## ANTHEM

Esta Tierra (This Land)

Javier Busto

Do not look for me in the wilderness, however high, nor look for me in the sea, however wide it seems. Look here, in this low land, with bridge and pine grove, with points and slow water, where one can hear it ripple although the sound fades out.

## PSALTER LESSON

Dr. Birchett

Psalm 8:1-9

*(page 492 in the Old Testament)*

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## HYMN

Touch the Earth Lightly<sup>3</sup>

Tenderness

*Please meditate silently on the hymn, and refrain from singing.*

1. Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gent - ly,  
2. We who en - dan - ger, who cre - ate hun - ger,  
3. Let there be green - ing, birth from the burn - ing,  
4. God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,  
nour - ish the life of the world in our care:  
a - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,  
wa - ter that bless - es and air that is sweet,  
God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,  
gift of great won - der, ours to sur - ren - der,  
we who would fos - ter clouds of di - sas - ter,  
health in God's gar - den, hope in God's chil - dren,  
teach us, de - flect us, Christ re - con - nect us,  
trust for the chi - dren to - mor - row will bear.  
God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!  
re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.  
us - ing us gent - ly and mak - ing us one.

## EPISTLE LESSON

Tunde Cole

Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12

*(pages 218 & 219 in the New Testament)*

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Worthy

**RESPONDING**

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

**INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE**

Will Nichols

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

Rejoice in the Lord Always

*Barrie Cabena*

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, rejoice. Let your moderation be known to all. The Lord is at hand. In nothing be anxious but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

**THE DOXOLOGY**

*Please meditate silently and refrain from singing.*

**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 our Communion Ministry, which faithfully prepares and serves Communion for worship on the first Sunday of each month and other special liturgical services throughout the year.*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Rev. Livingston

*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, deliver us from evil.  
For Yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**CHORAL AMEN**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

Dr. Birchett

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. Harper

## 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.

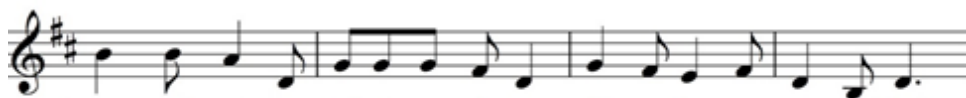
All: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

## SANCTUS


*Please meditate silently, and refrain from singing.*




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.

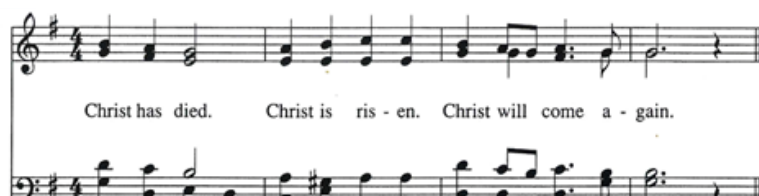


Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est!

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

*Please meditate silently, and refrain from singing.*



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!**

*The ushers will distribute single serve cups containing both juice and a small wafer sealed in between the plastic film on the top. If you need assistance, the ushers are available. We will lower our masks briefly to take communion together, then replace our masks over our nose and mouth. For the safety of our staff and volunteers, we ask that you please hold onto your empty cups until the end of the service, and dispose of them safely in the trash cans provided as you exit the Nave.*

## MUSIC AT COMMUNION

**ORGAN** Ach Gott und Herr

*Jacobus Kloppers*

**CHOIR** Ubi Caritas

*Ola Gjeilo*

Where charity and love are, God is there. Christ's love has gathered us into one. Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him. Let us fear, and let us love the living God. And may we love each other with a sincere heart. (sung in Latin)

## PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

Rev. Harper

## CLOSING HYMN

**O God Of Every Nation<sup>4</sup>**

*Lancashire*

*Please meditate silently on the hymn and refrain from singing.*

1. O God of ev - ery na - tion, Of ev - ery race and land,  
2. From search for wealth and pow - er And scorn of truth and right,  
3. Lord, strength-en those who la - bor That all may find re - lease  
4. Keep bright in us the vi - sion Of days when war shall cease,  
Re - deem the whole cre - a - tion With Your al - might - y hand;  
From trust in bombs that show - er De - struc - tion through the night;  
From fear of rat - tling sa - ber, From dread of war's in - crease;  
When ha - tred and di - vi - sion Give way to love and peace,  
Where hate and fear di - vide us And bit - ter threats are hurled,  
From pride of race and sta - tion And blind - ness to Your way,  
When hope and cour - age fal - ter, Your still small voice be heard;  
Till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious When peace on earth shall reign  
In love and mer - cy guide us And heal our strife - worn world.  
De - liv - er ev - ery na - tion, E - ter - nal God, we pray.  
With faith that none can al - ter, Your ser - vants un - der - gird.  
And Christ shall rule vic - to - ri - ous O'er all the world's do - main.

## SENDING

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

### BENEDICTION

Rev. Livingston

### POSTLUDE

Fanfares

*Calvin Hampton*

*Christopher Creaghan, organist*

### COMMENTARY ON TODAY'S MUSIC

"The first Sunday in October is designated as World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our oneness in Christ with all our brothers and sisters around the world." - Presbyterian Mission Agency

The music for today's service is drawn from points around the globe near and far, with hymn texts written by authors with a commitment to world unity, integration, and peace.

#### Organ music

Soliloquy

**Rachel Laurin** (b.1961) a French-Canadian organist, she is a composer of over one hundred works for solo instruments, voice, instrumental ensembles, choir and orchestra.

Obangiji

**Fela Sowande** (1905-1987) a Nigerian composer, organist and bandleader. Obangiji incorporates West African rhythms and a Yoruba hymn tune written by Rev. J. J. Ransome-Kutie with the text "Obangiji wo l'o to sin," which translates as "Almighty God, thou art worthy to be worshipped."

Ach Gott und Herr

**Jacobus Kloppers** (b.1937) Born in South Africa, emigrating in the mid-1970s in protest of Apartheid. Ach Gott und Herr is a Lutheran chorale tune used as an Afrikaans baptismal prayer and as an Anglican Communion Prayer.

Toccatà

**Calvin Hampton** (1938-1984). From Kittanning, PA. Director of Music at Calvary Episcopal Church in New York from 1963 to 1983, he is known for his organ compositions and hymns in the Episcopal hymnal. **Javier Busto** (b.1949, Basque country, Spain) A composer, conductor, and doctor, he is known for his gorgeous choral music with warm and vibrant rich harmonies. Anthems



## Anthems

Esta Tiero

**Javier Busto** (b.1949, Basque country, Spain) A composer, conductor, and doctor, he is known for his gorgeous choral music with warm and vibrant rich harmonies.

Rejoice in the Lord

**Barrie Cabena** (b. 1933, Australia) An organist, choral director, and music professor emeritus of Wilfrid Laurier University, Ontario, Canada he is a widely performed prolific composer of over 500 organ and choral works.

Ubi Caritas

**Ola Gjeilo** (b.1978, Norway) grew up in a musically eclectic home listening to classical, jazz, pop and folk, a broad background he later incorporated into his classical composition studies at The Juilliard School and the Royal College of Music in London, and currently is a New York City-based freelance composer.

## Hymns

For the Healing of the Nations

**Fred Kaan** (1929-2009 Netherlands) lived through the Nazi occupation and witnessed his parents deep involvement in the resistance movement taking in a number of refugees. An ordained minister, he wrote many hymns throughout his life and sought to address issues of peace and justice. "For the Healing of the Nations" is among his most often sung hymns.

Touch the Earth Lightly

**Shirley Erena Murray** (1931-2020 New Zealand) Her upbringing was Methodist, but became a Presbyterian when she married the Reverend John Stewart Murray, a moderator of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand. She became active in Amnesty International, and for eight years she served the Labor Party Research Unit of Parliament. Her involvement in these organizations enriched her writing of hymns, which address human rights, women's concerns, justice, peace, the integrity of creation, and the unity of the church. "Touch the earth lightly; use the earth gently" is an Australian aboriginal saying.

O God of Every Nation

**William Watkins Reid, Jr.** (1923-2007 Queens, NY) The son of a hymnodist and graduate of Oberlin College, he received the BDIV degree from Yale Divinity School. He served as a Medic in the second war and ended the war as a POW in Germany. When he returned to this country he pastored Methodist churches in North Dakota and Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. "O God of Every Nation" is his most popular hymn.

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*Special thanks to our congregational leaders: Dr. Colleen Birchett, Tunde Cole & Will Nichols*

Liturgical Resources for Today:

<sup>1</sup>*ucc.org/worship-way*

<sup>2</sup>*Text: Fred Kaan, ©1968 Stainer and Bell Ltd., London, England (admin. Hope Publishing Co. Carol Stream, IL 60188) All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-717132*

<sup>3</sup>*Text: Shirley Erena Murray, ©1992, Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Used with Permission. Music: Colin Gibson, ©1992, Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Used with Permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-717132*

<sup>4</sup>*Copyright © 1958 by The Hymn Society of America. Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX 76129. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-717132*

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## **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.

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## **PARKING - 10/3/2021**

**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.

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**Rev. Michael Livingston**

Interim Senior Minister

[mlivingston@trcnyc.org](mailto:mlivingston@trcnyc.org)

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**Pastoral and Program Staff**

**Meighan Corbett**

Director of Stewardship & Development

[mcorbett@trcnyc.org](mailto:mcorbett@trcnyc.org)

**Christopher Creaghan**

Interim Director of Music & Organist

[ccreaghan@trcnyc.org](mailto:ccreaghan@trcnyc.org)

**Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper**

Minister of Older Adults

[lharp@trcnyc.org](mailto:lharp@trcnyc.org)

**Rich Glassey**

Executive Director of Operations

[rglassey@trcnyc.org](mailto:rglassey@trcnyc.org)

**Rev. Jim Keat**

Digital Minister

[jkeat@trcnyc.org](mailto:jkeat@trcnyc.org)

**Rev. Bruce Lamb**

Minister of Faith Formation

[blamb@trcnyc.org](mailto:blamb@trcnyc.org)

**Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer**

Minister of Children & Families

[mmeisenheimer@trcnyc.org](mailto:mmeisenheimer@trcnyc.org)

**Rev. Dr. Debra Northern**

Minister of Parish Care

[dnorthern@trcnyc.org](mailto:dnorthern@trcnyc.org)

**Carrie Quarquesso**

Coordinator for Worship & Arts

[cquarquesso@trcnyc.org](mailto:cquarquesso@trcnyc.org)

**Min. Richard X III**

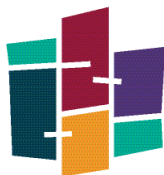
Assistant Minister of Faith Formation

[rx@trcnyc.org](mailto:rx@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)*



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