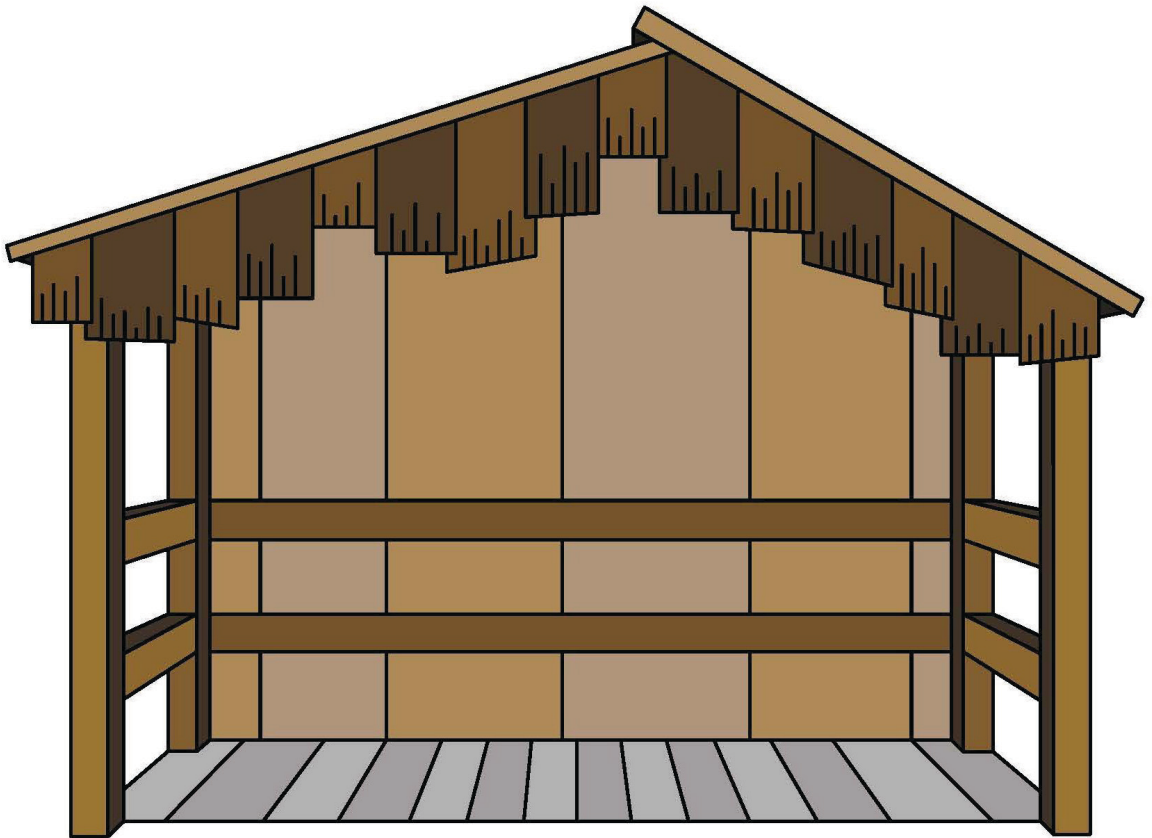


# The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



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DECEMBER 24, 2022  
CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY WORSHIP

# WELCOME TO THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

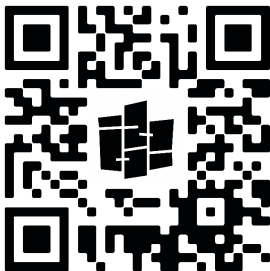
Interdenominational · Interracial · International · Open · Affirming · Welcoming

## 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 Advent, the four weeks leading up to Christmas in which we prepare ourselves for the coming of the Christ child. Advent is signified by purple paraments and clergy stoles representing the sovereignty of Christ (except for Communion Sundays when the liturgical color is white). Each week we light a candle in the wreath on the Nave floor for the four themes of Advent: hope, peace, joy (pink) and love.

### Whats happening at Riverside?

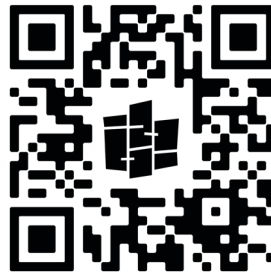
Learn about the events and activities of the Life of Our Community by opening your camera and scanning the code below. You can find a printed calendar listed in the back of your bulletin!



### 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.





## PRELUDE

*Matt King, piano, melodica  
Christian Fabian, bass  
Jonathon Peretz, drums*

## WELCOME

Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Toran Family - Joanne, Tasha, Sonaya

### **O Come, All Ye Faithful (stanza 1)**

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come, and behold him, Born the King of angels!  
O come, let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

## †CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The angel came to Mary and said, "Call him Emmanuel."

**All: God is with us.**

One: He was born among the poor people and cared for the people who felt rejected.  
Call him Emmanuel.

**All: God is with us.**

One: He shared a message of love and forgiveness from God and told the people to repent.  
Call him Emmanuel.

**All: God is with us.**

One: We celebrate the birth of Jesus because in him all things are made new.  
Call him Emmanuel.

**All: God is with us.**

One: Prince of Peace, King of Kings, Son of God, Light of the world.  
Call him Emmanuel.

**All: God is with us.**

One: Call him Emmanuel.

**All: God is with us.**

†*All who are able, please stand*

**HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON** *from the International Children's Bible*

**Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7**

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Rev. Bruce Lamb

**JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM**

**Go Tell it on the Mountain**

*Refrain*

Go, tell it on the mountain over the hills and everywhere;

Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,  
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

*Refrain*

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! Above the earth,  
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

*Refrain*

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,  
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

*Refrain*

**Angels We Have Heard on High**

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,

And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo;

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

† *All who are able, please stand*

### **Joy to the World**

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,

### **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

### **Hark the Herald Angels Sing**

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King,  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

### **Away in a Manger**

Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the poor Baby wakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

## **Silent Night**

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,  
Round yon virgin mother and child!  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia;  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."

## **CHRISTMAS PRAYER**

Rev. Lamb

## **OFFERING**

### **What Child is This?**

What Child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping?

#### *Refrain*

This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
Come, one and all, to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

#### *Refrain*

† *All who are able, please stand*

## **BENEDICTION**

Rev. Meisenheimer

### **Nativity Play Cast (in order of appearance)**

Angel – Victoria Anderson

Mary – Rev. Charlene Wingate

Joseph – Minister Nordia Bennett

Innkeeper – Jacq Gregg

Shepherd – Rob Hartley

Magi - Rev. Adriene Thorne, Rev. Nyle Fort

### **Musicians**

Matt King, piano, melodica

Christian Fabian, bass

Jonathon Peretz, drums

†*All who are able, please stand*





# WORD SEARCH

Try to find the words from Psalm 80 in the word search below. Words may go diagonal, up OR down and forward OR backward.

S V W B L B C W S M W O V J X  
N U F H F E Y X D T A X V X C  
D G R L U G A D I N R X X O F  
B N Q X X Y N R G A A O T V Y  
G E D B S P S E S E U H N W P  
L U A C R P X H H I S V Y G E  
M F E Q A E G P I T E P J L O  
T E R Z E R R E F N P Q D I P  
A F B U T O U H B R E X D F L  
E X G M Z T G S A V A M L E E  
C C P I Q S A Y D G R Q H R Z  
A E P G C E E R O B H G I E N  
F U H H K R M V L L U H J F T  
X S W T W C A L A A O K N Z U  
A N P I E Z N K L S K F S R X

EAR  
SHEPHERD  
ISRAEL  
MIGHT  
SAVE  
RESTORE

FACE  
SHINE  
PEOPLE  
PRAYER  
BREAD  
TEARS

NEIGHBOR  
LAUGH  
HAND  
STRONG  
LIFE  
NAME



## **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. Adriene Thorne, Senior Minister  
Rev. Dr. James Forbes, Senior Minister Emeritus

## **LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY**

For announcements of programs and events at The Riverside Church, please visit [trcnyc.org/loc](http://trcnyc.org/loc) for more information.

## **RIVERSIDE EMAIL LIST**

Are you receiving our weekly emails? Check your junk folder and add [communications@trcnyc.org](mailto:communications@trcnyc.org) 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!

## **DOWNLOAD THE RIVERSIDE APP**

Take Riverside with you, wherever you go. Text TRCNYC to 833.833.4035 or visit [trcnyc.org/app](http://trcnyc.org/app) to download the app and stay connected to all the videos, podcasts, and events from The Riverside Church.

## **SUNDAY AFTERNOON CARILLON RECITALS**

Sunday afternoon carillon recitals take place most weeks at 3:00 p.m. and can be best heard outdoors listening from Sakura Park, immediately north of The Riverside Church at 122nd Street. Visit [trcnyc.org/CarillonRecitals](http://trcnyc.org/CarillonRecitals) for the complete schedule.

## **CHURCH NURSERY OPEN**

Babies and toddlers are not too young to start learning about God's love for them. The nursery is open every Sunday from 10:30-12:30 during worship staffed by trained nursery workers. For location please see an usher or security guard.

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### **PARKING - 12/24/2022**

Parking is available in the garage below the building. Present this bulletin to the attendant before 11:00 p.m. for a reduced rate of \$5.00.

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## CONNECT WITH US.

**Rev. Adriene Thorne**  
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athorne@trcnyc.org

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### Pastoral and Program Staff

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### CONTACT US:

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questions, call 212-870-6700 or email  
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