

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



DECEMBER 4, 2022
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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 your heart and mind for worship, consider this quote:

“He allowed himself to be swayed by his conviction that human beings are not born once and for all on the day their mothers give birth to them, but that life obliges them over and over again to give birth to themselves.”

-Gabriel García Márquez, Love in the Time of Cholera

A question for reflection:

What identities might place someone in danger? Why?

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.

What's 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

Grant us Peace

Adventi ének (Veni, Emmanuel)

Three Carillon Preludes for Advent

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, arr. Bob Van der Linde

Zoltán Kodály, arr. Gideon Bodden

Geert D'hollander

Charles Semowich, carillonneur

ORGAN

Choral Prelude on 'Divinum Mysterium'

Chorale from Cantata 140, Wachet Auf!

John Blackburn

Johann Sebastian Bach

Christopher Creaghan, organist

Tenor section of the Riverside Choir

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Adriene Thorne

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Turn away from the stress and worry of the season.

All: We pray for peace in our world.

One: Turn away from the distractions that blind us from reasoning.

All: We pray for peace in our relationships and communities.

One: Turn to our Peacemaker to find peace from within.

All: We pray for peace within ourselves.

Let us turn to God in worship together.

†INVOCATION

†*All who are able, please stand*

✠ **OPENING HYMN 17**

“Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us

Wachet Auf

LISTENING

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

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Eleanor Campbell, Una Tapper

INTROIT Veni Emmanuel

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer

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

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM

In That Great Gettin' Up Morning

arr. Jester Hairston

I'm going tell you about the coming of the judgment, fare ye well, fare ye well,
There's a better day a coming, fare ye well, fare ye well, in that great gettin' up morning,
fare ye well, fare ye well.

Oh, preacher, fold your bible, before the last soul's converted. Blow your trumpet Gabriel.
Lord, how loud shall I blow it? Blow it right calm and easy. Do not alarm all my people, tell
them all to come to the judgment.

Then you see them coffins busting, then you see the folks arising, then you see the world on
fire, then you see the stars a falling, then you see that fork of lightning, then you hear that
rumbling thunder. Fare ye well, poor sinner, fare ye well, fare ye well.

*Kendra Berentsen, soprano
Russell Saint John, baritone*

✠ *All who are able, please stand*

GOSPEL LESSON

Virli Andrick

Matthew 5:13-16

(pg. 4 in the New Testament)

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

†HYMN

For Such a Time As This²

Melita



1. For such a time as this, O Lord, we seek the gift of
2. For such a time as this we ask for strength that's e - qual
3. For such a time as this, O Lord, we pray for guid - ance
4. For such a time as this a - bid, be ev - er with us



grace out - poured, up - on Your peo - ple ev - ery-where, bowed
to our task, that we may bear our cross of pain, and
from Your Word; Your truth re - vealed from by - gone age still
at our side, to heal our hurts, to give us peace, and



down with sor - row, filled with care; now bless us, Lord, we
through our suf - ferings tri - umph gain. Our trou - bles then shall
shines from ev - ery sa - cred page. Its light for this day
from our bur - dens grant re - lease. Your pres - ence guides us



hum - bly plead, with grace suf - fi - cient for our need.
not bring shame but glo - ry to our Sav - ior's name.
we would see; from dark - ened minds, Lord, set us free.
through the day and leads us on our home - ward way.

†All who are able, please stand

INTRODUCTION TO HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON³

Minister Derrick

Jordan

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Stacey Robinson

Esther 4:1-17

(pg. 446 in the Old Testament)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Who? Me?!

Rev. Thorne

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

RESPONDING

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

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Reginald Evans

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Edward Bairstow

Let all mortal flesh keep silence and stand with fear and trembling, and lift itself above all earthly thought. For the King of kings and Lord of lords, Christ our God, cometh forth to be our redeemer, and to be given for food to the faithful. Before him come the choirs of angels with every principality and power; the cherubim with many eyes, and wingèd seraphim, who veil their faces as they shout exultingly the hymn: Alleluia!

†*All who are able, please stand*

† AT THE PRESENTATION: VENI EMMANUEL

The congregation rises row by row as ushers pass to symbolize the offering of our whole selves to God.

**O come, O Wisdom from on high,
who ordered all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show
and teach us in its ways to go.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

Rev. Meisenheimer

Today we celebrate the ministry of our Social Services programs, which is continuing to offer comprehensive services for those in economic and social crisis by providing food, clothing, and many other resources year-round, and throughout this global event.

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Riverside Clergy
Maranatha

Following each petition, please join in the following responses:

One: O Christ our light is dawning.

All: Prepare the way of 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, deliver us from evil.

For Yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CHORAL AMEN

† *All who are able, please stand*

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. Thorne

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.

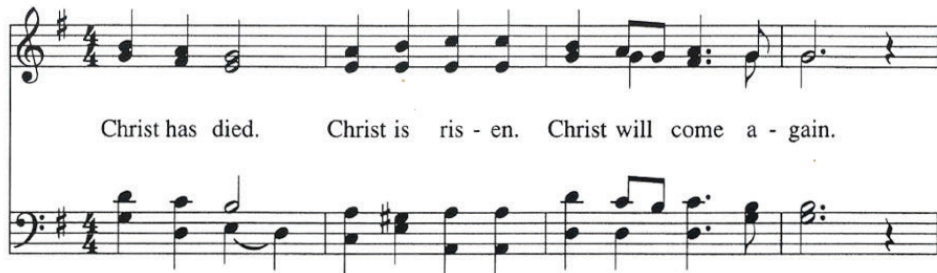


Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

†*All who are able, please stand*

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!

†*All who are able, please stand*

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

ORGAN

Meditation on Conditor Alme Siderum

Alec Rowley

CHOIR

Creator of the Stars of Night

arr. Dale Wood

Creator of the stars of night, thy people's everlasting light, O Christ, thou Saviour of us all, we pray thee, hear us when we call. To thee the travail deep was known that made the whole creation groan. Till thou, Redeemer shouldst free thine own in glorious liberty. And when the world drew on toward night, thou camest, not in splendor bright as monarch, but the humble child of Mary, blameless mother mild. At thy great name of Jesus now, all knees must bend, all hearts must bow: and things celestial thee shall own, of things terrestrial, Lord alone. Come in thy holy might, we pray; redeem us for eternal day. Defend us while we dwell below from all assaults of our dread foe. To God Creator, God the Son, and God the Spirit, three in one. Laud, honor, might, and glory be, from age to age eternally. Amen.

HYMN 452

O Day of God Draw Nigh⁴

St. Michael

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

Rev. Meisenheimer

O God our mystery, you bring us to life, call us to freedom, and move between us with love. Having been nourished at your table, may we go into your wondrous and diverse world to tear down walls of exclusion, to confront powers and principalities, to live and love boldly in the promise of your resurrection. Amen.

SENDING

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

†**CLOSING HYMN 8**

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Truro

†**BENEDICTION**

Rev. Thorne

POSTLUDE

Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland (BWV 661)

J. S. Bach

All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and podcast under OneLicense.net #A-717132.

¹Sung in German. See the opening hymn 17, verse 2, for English translation.

²Text: Thomas A. Jackson, Copyright © 2010 by Celebrating Grace Music, a division of Celebrating Grace, Inc.

³Written by Teri Peterson

⁴Text: Robert Baltharnie Young Scott, Copyright © 1972 Emmanuel College, Toronto.

Special thanks to our congregational leaders Stacey Robinson, Virl Andrick, and Reginald Evans and gratitude to Maranatha, a ministry of The Riverside Church which exists to serve the LGBTQ community.

TODAY AT RIVERSIDE

Sunday, December 4

Fresh Start | 8:30 AM | Zoom

Without Buddha I Could Not be a Christian | 9:00 AM | 321 MLK & Zoom

Open Bible Study | 9:30 AM | 330 MLK

Biblical Hebrew- Beginners | 9:30 AM | 314 MLK & Online

Church Nursery Open | 10:30 AM

Limitless | 10:30 AM | 9T

Sunday Morning Worship | 10:45 AM | Nave & Online

Virtual Coffee Hour | After Worship | 318 MLK & Online

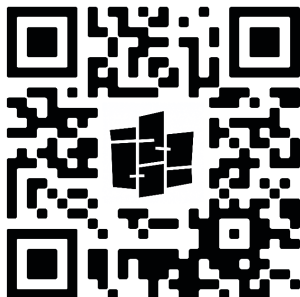
Coffee Hour | After Worship | South Hall Lobb

Theatre of the Oppressed | 1:00 PM | 15T

Biblical Hebrew- Intermediate | 1:00 PM | 314 MLK & Online

Service of Hope and Consolation | 2:00 PM | Christ Chapel

Sunday Afternoon Carillon Recital | 3:00 PM



Visit trcnyc.org/LOC or scan the QR code to find out more about all the programs and events happening in the life of our community.

THIS WEEK AT RIVERSIDE

Monday, December 5

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

Tuesday, December 6

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

Young Adult Bible Study | 6:30 PM | 313 MLK & Online

Wednesday, December 7

Morning Prayer 8:00 AM | Online

2022 Biblical Hebrew Graduates | 5:00 PM | Online

Grace Notes | 7:00 PM | Zoom

Thursday, December 8

Morning Prayer 8:00 AM | Online

Tower League's Annual Christmas Luncheon | 12:00 PM | Assembly Hall

Friday, December 9

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

Saturday, December 10

Riverside Book Club | 11:00 AM | Online

Maranatha Christmas Party | 6:00 PM | 9T

COMING SOON

Sunday, December 11

2022 The Riverside Church School Christmas Pageant | 10:45 AM | Nave

Sunday, December 18

Young Adults Christmas Brunch | 12:30 PM | 311 MLK

The Annual Riverside Church Candlelight Carol Festival | 4:00 PM | Nave & Online

Wednesday, December 21

Space for Grace | 7:00 PM | Assembly Hall & Online

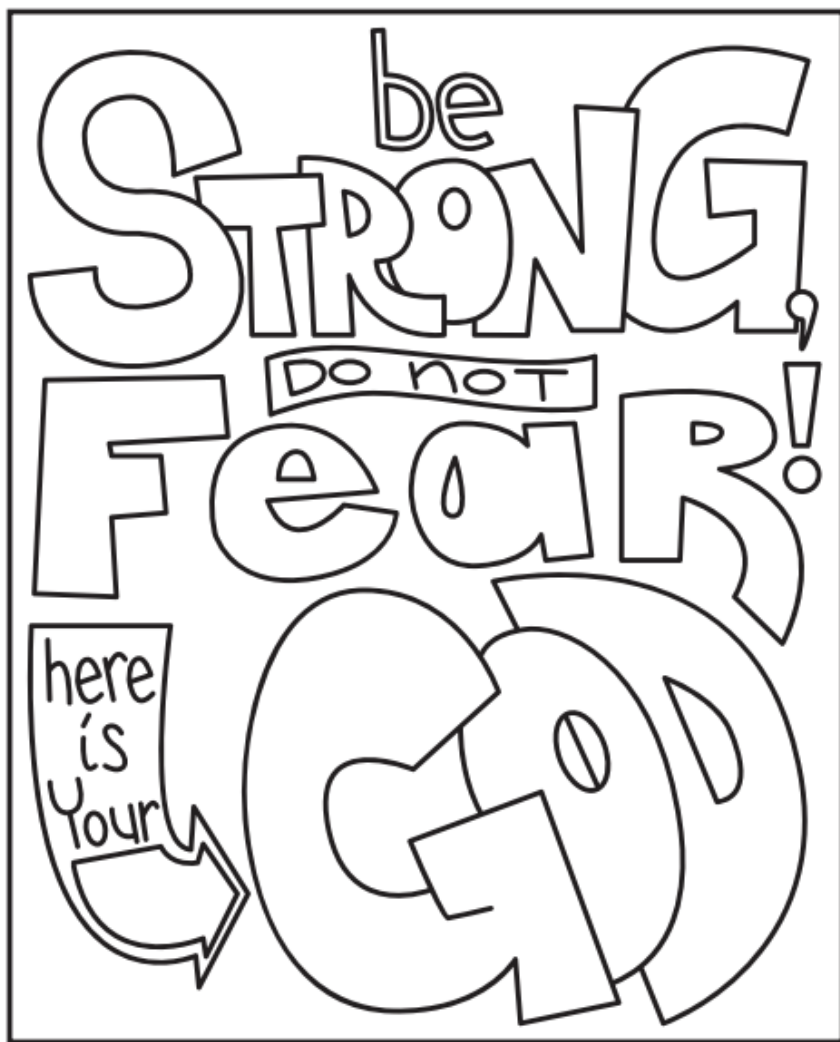
Saturday, December 24, 2022

Christmas Eve: Children & Families | 4:00 pm | Nave & Online

Cookies & Cocoa | 5:00 pm | South Hall

Christmas Eve: Lessons & Carols | 8:00 pm | Nave & Online

COLOR IN THE WORDS



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

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

For announcements of programs and events at The Riverside Church, please visit trcnyc.org/ Events for more information and to download a copy.

RIVERSIDE EMAIL LIST

Are you receiving our weekly emails? Check your junk folder and add communications@trcnyc.org to your "safe sender list" or visit 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 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 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.

PARKING - 12/04/2022

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.

CONNECT WITH US.

Rev. Adriene Thorne
Senior Minister
athorne@trcnyc.org

Pastoral and Program Staff

Minister Nordia Bennett
Interim Director of Children, Youth and
Family Ministry
nbennett@trcnyc.org

Meighan Corbett
Director of Stewardship & Development
mcorbett@trcnyc.org

Christopher Creaghan
Director of Music & Organist
ccreaghan@trcnyc.org

Natalie Fein
Chief Operating Officer
nfein@trcnyc.org

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper
Minister of Older Adults
lharper@trcnyc.org

Rich Glassey
Director of Operations
rglassey@trcnyc.org

Rev. Jim Keat
Digital Minister
jkeat@trcnyc.org

Rev. Bruce Lamb
Minister of Faith Formation
blamb@trcnyc.org

Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer
Interim Minister of Worship and the Arts
ameisenheimer@trcnyc.org

Alan Montgomery
Associate Organist
amontgomery@trcnyc.org

Shannel Morrison
Property Manager
smorrison@trcnyc.org

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

Brian Simpson
Director Of Communications & Strategy
bsimpson@trcnyc.org

Rev. Dr. Nyle Fort
Minister of Justice, Advocacy, and Change
nfort@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



trcnyc.org



THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK