

# The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



APRIL 7, 2023  
GOOD FRIDAY - SEVEN LAST WORDS

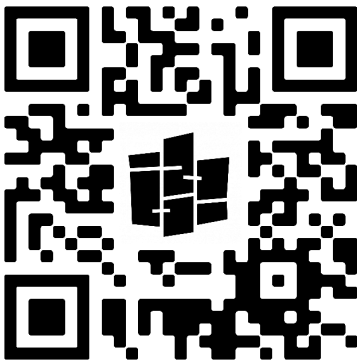
# WELCOME TO THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

Interdenominational · Interracial · International · Open · Affirming · Welcoming

WORSHIP is at the center of the life of The Riverside Church.

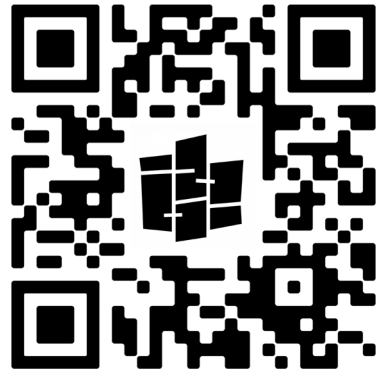
## **What's happening at Riverside?**

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**

Text TRCNYCGIVE to 833.833.4035.



*Riverside worship services are filmed, recorded, and broadcast online.  
If you do not want to appear in any videos or photos we invite you to sit in the balcony.*



## **GATHERING**

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

### **ORGAN**

Were You There

*Leo Sowerby*

*Alan Montgomery, Associate Organist*

### **WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER**

Rev. Adriene Thorne

### **HYMN 85**

**What Wondrous Love is This**

*Wondrous Love*

### **REFLECTION**

Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer & Rev. Dr. Debra Northern

*He Will Walk - Iona Community*

### **DANCE**

**Praeludium**

*Gaetano Pugnani*

### **REFLECTION**

Rev. Jim Keat

Mary, of Bethany, at your feet a third time - Andrea Skevington

### **REFLECTION**

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

The Last Supper - Rainer Maria Rilke

† *All who are able, please stand*

**REFRAIN**

**My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

*Paul Hillebrand*

**FIRST WORD**

*Laura Miraz*

“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” - Luke 23: 33-34

**SILENT MEDITATION** *A time for reflection, prayer and contemplation.*

**SOLO**

**My Song Is Love Unknown**

*Malcolm Archer*

My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me, love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be. Oh, who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?

He came from his blest throne, salvation to bestow: but such disdain! So few the longed-for Christ would know! But oh, my friend, my friend indeed, who at my need his life did spend!

Sometimes they crowd his way, and his sweet praises sing; resounding all the day hosannas to their king. Then “Crucify!” is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry.

Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine; never was love, dear king, never was grief like thine. This is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend.

*Kendra Petuch, soprano*

*Mark Donato, tenor*

**REFLECTION**

*Rev. Bruce Lamb*

*Chile: ‘Our Father’*

*as prayed by ten people detained in the Central Police Station, Santiago*

**REFRAIN**

**My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

*Paul Hillebrand*

**SECOND WORD**

Luvon Roberson

“Truly, I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.” - Luke 23:39-43

**SILENT MEDITATION**

**HYMN 101**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

*Hamburg*

**REFLECTION**

Rev. Charlene Wingate & Rev. Lamb

Solemn Reproaches of the Cross - 9th century

**REFRAIN**

**My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

*Paul Hillebrand*

**THIRD WORD**

Beth Wynne St. Louis

“He said to his mother, ‘Woman, here is your son.’ Then to the disciple,  
‘Here is your mother.’” - John 19: 25b-27

**SILENT MEDITATION**

**SOLO**

**Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child**

*Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan*

Sometimes I feel like a motherless child, a long ways from home. Sometimes I feel like I'm almost gone. True believer, a long way from home.

*Russell Saint John, baritone*

**REFLECTION**

Rev. Meisenheimer

*Argentina: anonymous poem*

**DANCE**

**Praeludium**

*Gaetano Pugnani*

†All who are able, please stand

**REFRAIN**

**My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

*Paul Hillebrand*

**FOURTH WORD**

Danielle Hartley

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” - Matthew 27: 45-46

**SILENT MEDITATION**

**SOLO**

**The Crucifixion**

*Samuel Barber*

At the cry of the first bird  
They began to crucify Thee, O Swan!  
Never shall lament cease because of that.  
It was like the parting of day from night.  
Ah, sore was the suffering borne  
By the body of Mary's Son,  
But sorer still to Him was the grief  
Which for His sake  
Came upon His Mother.

*Jennifer Borghi, soprano*

**REFLECTION**

Rev. Casteel Harper

*Still - Jan Richardson*

**REFRAIN**

**My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

*Paul Hillebrand*

**FIFTH WORD**

Rev. Wingate

“I am thirsty.” - John 19:28

**SILENT MEDITATION**

† *All who are able, please stand*

**HYMN 92**

**Beneath the Cross of Jesus**

*St. Christopher*

**REFLECTION**

Rev. Dr. Northern

*Cameroon: meditation on the XIth Station*

**REFRAIN**

**My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

*Paul Hillebrand*

**SIXTH WORD**

Annie Meredith

“It is finished.” - John 19:29-30

**SILENT MEDITATION**

**SOLO**

**Nearer My God to Thee**

*arr. Tom Trenney*

Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee! E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me, still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to thee. Yea, though the vale I tread, thou art with me. When shadows cloud my head, thou anointest me. Thy rod and staff shall be comfort to shepherd me, nearer, my God to thee. Though waters foam and roar, though mountains quake, thou art my refuge sure, though the earth should shake. Lord, strengthen and shelter me, nearer, my God, to thee.

*Kendra Petuch, soprano*

**REFLECTION**

Rev. Meisenheimer

*O God of My Heart - Ann Weems*

**DANCE**

**Praeludium**

*Gaetano Pugnani*

†*All who are able, please stand*

**REFRAIN**

**My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

*Paul Hillebrand*

**SEVENTH WORD**

Alexa Donaphin

“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” - Luke 23:46

**SILENT MEDITATION**

*The congregation departs in silence.  
Anyone who wishes may remain for silent meditation and prayer.*

*A special thank you to our acolytes for this service: Zachary Newton, Chiara Fuller, Reginald Evans,  
and Gabriel Toribio*

*“Pieta” choreography: Erika Thimey*

*Music: Gaetano Pugnani*

*Dancers: Mingon Gillen, Sandra Rivera, and Rev. Adriene Thorne*

*Musicians: Kristina Giles, violin and Alan Montgomery, piano*

†*All who are able, please stand*

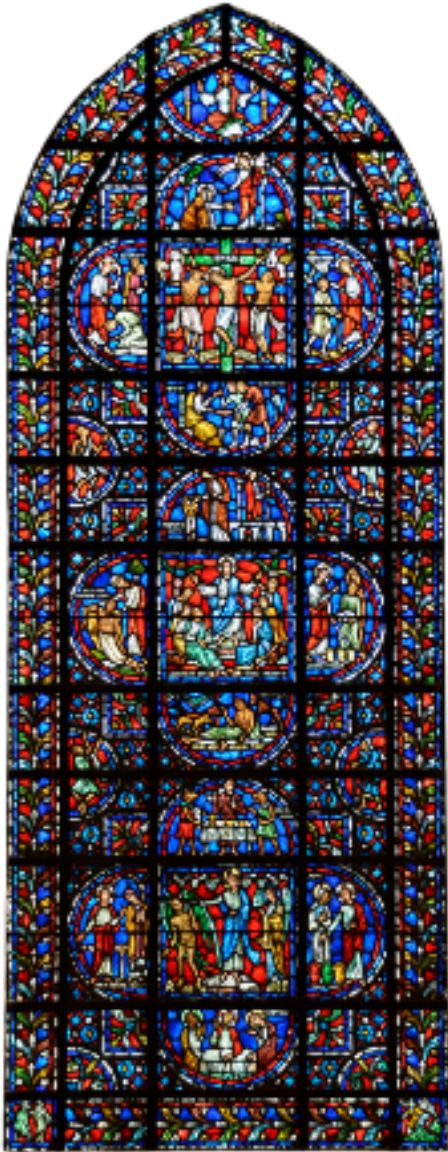


## **FOLLOW THE LEADER**

The childhood game of “Follow the Leader” invites players to mimic the actions of a designated leader, to watch closely and do what they do in order to win. As disciples of Christ, we, too, are invited to Follow the Leader—to watch and mirror the spiritual practices and commitments of Jesus. While this is not a game we “win,” it is a daily challenge to enter deeper into the heart of worship, community, and prayer. During this Lenten season, we will focus on Following the Leader, as we journey with Jesus on the road of love and justice, on the way from death to new life. In a culture where authority is too often abused and power is misused, let us deepen our commitment to following the Crucified Christ, the One True Authority.

Visit [trcnyc.org/Lent](http://trcnyc.org/Lent) to find out more.

The image on the cover is a panel from the Christ and Humanity window. Turn to the back of the bulletin to learn more about this window.



One of ten aisle stained glass windows, the Christ and Humanity Window is the second from the back of the nave, in Bay 9 on the east side. Each aisle window is a story that depicts a particular theme. This one, in the Gothic Arch form, tells its story through figures and scenes in three quatrefoils vertically down the center and five semi-circle medallions, with one at the top and two on either side.

The Christ and Humanity Window portrays fifteen scenes in which Christ's attitudes toward three types of human need or experience are suggested. Five of these scenes concern his attitude toward the rich, five reflect on his contacts with the poor, and five deal with his disposition to alleviate suffering or forgive sin. The scenes are as follows: Supper at Emmaus; Rich Young Ruler; Wedding in Cana - First Miracle; Parable of the Rich Fool; Temptations of Christ (center quatrefoil); Lazarus at the Rich Man's Door; Parable of the Good Samaritan; Miracle of Loaves and Fishes; Parable of Widow's Mite; The Sermon on the Mount (center quatrefoil); Parable of Laborers in Vineyard; Ten Lepers Healed - Gratitude of One Healing the Blind Man; "Noli me tangere," Christ Forgives the Thief on the Cross (center quatrefoil); and Christ Blessing.

In the corners of the border are the temptations of a woman and St. Michael slaying the dragon. In the four small semi-circles are figures of people seeking healing and liberation from poverty.

## **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!

## **VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR**

Go deeper with the sermons from The Riverside Church every Sunday after worship for a sermon talkback as part of Virtual Coffee Hour. Visit [trcnyc.org/VirtualCoffeeHour](http://trcnyc.org/VirtualCoffeeHour) to join us online or go to 318 MLK to join us in person.

## **MEMBERSHIP AT RIVERSIDE**

Membership is about you responding to God's call on your life to step up and belong to this community as you pursue the passion God has set in your heart. By joining The Riverside Church you are taking the next step to partner with us as we seek to cultivate a community of justice, peace, and love that transforms the world. Visit [trcnyc.org/membership](http://trcnyc.org/membership) to find out more.

## **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 PM 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**

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 AM-12:30 PM during worship staffed by trained nursery workers. For location please see an usher or security guard.

## **SUNDAY MORNING PARKING**

Visit the Security Desk on the Claremont Level to pick up a \$5 parking coupon. Bring this coupon and your parking ticket to the attendant to receive this discounted rate.

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## CONNECT WITH US.

**Rev. Adriene Thorne**  
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### Pastoral Staff

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### CONTACT US:

To contact the church with general  
questions, call 212-870-6700 or email  
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*For full staff directory visit [trcnyc.org/directory](http://trcnyc.org/directory)*



[trcnyc.org](http://trcnyc.org)



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