

THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK



GOOD FRIDAY
MARCH 29, 2024 | 12:00 PM

WELCOME TO THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

Interdenominational · Interracial · International · Open · Welcoming · Affirming

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

What's happening at Riverside?

You can find a printed calendar listed in the back of your bulletin!



Give by your phone.

Text TRCNYCGIVE to 833.833.4035



Cover art by Jamil De Honney.

*Inspired by our Lenten theme "True Religion: Love Poured Out,"
Matthew 27:32-56, Mark 15:21-41, Luke 23:26-49, and John 19:16b-37.*

*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

Improvisation on *Were You There?*

Alan Montgomery

Alan Montgomery, *organist*

BELL TOLL

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

HYMN 85 *standing as able, sung by all*

What Wondrous Love is This

WONDROUS LOVE

THE FIRST WORD

Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.

Luke 23:34

PAN-AFRICAN LAMENT

Rev. Dr. Lisa M. Weaver

MUSIC

Weeping Mary

Take My Mother Home

H.T. Burleigh

Hall Johnson

Russell Saint John, *baritone*

SILENT MEDITATION

Light a candle either in memory of Africans who were enslaved and dispersed from their native land or in the hope of a brighter future for their descendants.

MUSIC

Yoruba Lament

Fela Sowande

THE SECOND WORD

Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.

Luke 23:43

COUNTRY LAMENT

Kathy Lin

MUSIC

The Joke

Brandi Carlisle

Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer, *voice & baritone ukulele*
Kristina Giles, *violin*

SILENT MEDITATION

Take the slip of paper in your bulletin or find a piece of paper at home and write about or draw your idea of paradise. Keep your rendering where you can see it throughout the Easter season.

MUSIC

Twenty-Four

Jon Foreman

Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer, *voice & baritone ukulele*
Kristina Giles, *violin*

THE THIRD WORD

Woman, behold your son!

John 19:27

JAPANESE LAMENT

Ryan Swihart

SILENT MEDITATION

While the music plays, walk to the Prayer Wall or visit trcnyc.org/GoodFridayPrayerWall and write the name of a parent you know who has lost a child and leave their name on the prayer wall (in the back of the nave).

MUSIC

Sakura-gari
Chōryu

Yamada-kengyō
Seiju Suzuki

Yoko Reikano Kimura, *koto*

THE FOURTH WORD
“Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” that is,
“My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”
Matthew 27:46

LATINX LAMENT

Sandra Rivera

MUSIC

Padre Nuestro

Diana Navarro

Sishel Claverie, *mezzo-soprano*

EMBODIED COMMUNITY MOVEMENT

Rev. Adriene Thorne

SILENT MEDITATION

In the silence, go to one of the bowls of water and dip your hands in the water for release. For those worshipping online, go to a sink to slowly and thoughtfully wash your hands.

THE FIFTH WORD
I thirst
John 19:28

SILENT MEDITATION

Take a prayer bead or find a bead/button in your space and pray for all those held in captivity especially those being held without charge or trial, especially children. Pray for the safe return of all captives.

JEWISH LAMENT

Rabbi Miriam Grossman

MUSIC

Psalm 23

Ben Zion Shenker

Jack Cottrell, *tenor*

THE SIXTH WORD

It is finished!

John 19:30

LAMENT FOR THE LAND

Blanche Colson

SILENT MEDITATION

- *Descend into the baptismal pool, like Jesus will soon descend into the tomb. Exit on the other side as an embodied hope of the resurrection.*
- *Visit the Beloved Earth and Ecclesia Prayer Stations and pray with your hands in the soil for the healing of the earth. Everyone worshiping online is invited to pray with their hands in the soil of their houseplants or in their outdoor space.*

MUSIC

Cantabile Symphonique

Camille Saint-Saens
arr. Virgil Fox

Alan Montgomery, organ

THE SEVENTH WORD

Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit.'

Luke 23:46

PALESTINIAN LAMENT

Jack Saba

HYMN¹

Ya Rab as-salami (God of Peace and Justice)

YA RAB AS-SALAMI



Ya Rab as - sa - la - mi, am - ter al - ay - na as - sa - lam.
God of peace and jus - tice, rain down up-on us your peace.

Ya Rab as - sa - la - mi, Im - la' qu - lu - ba-na as - sa - lam.
God of peace and jus - tice, let ev - 'ry heart be filled with peace.

¹Voices Together #711.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER FOR PEACE²

Rev. Mira Sawlani-Joyner

One: May the One Who Comforts hold all those grieving and traumatized and frightened, for however long it takes.

***All:* May the One Who Releases the captive release all those caught and bound.**

One: May the One Who Makes Peace illuminate paths of peace for those seeing only paths of violence and vengeance.

***All:* May the One Who Loves Justice fortify us to reinforce our solidarities with all those who share a vision of justice and dignity for all people.**

One: May the One Who Knows Hope instill in us the confidence to imagine wholeness, safety, and freedom for all people.

***All:* May the One Who is Needed be there for us as we waver and struggle, as we are confused and uncertain, until we find solid ground once again.**

One: May the One Who is Slow to Anger soften our hearts and our fists, helping us to put down the sword even at the height of the arc of our rage.

***All:* May the One Who Endures allow us to act for the sake of the coming generations.**

One: May the One Who is Without Limit expand our senses of what is possible as we reach for justice, freedom, and peace for all.

***All:* May the One Who Grants Peace, Goodness, Blessing, Grace, Lovingkindness, and Compassion grant them now...no matter how undeserving we are.**

SILENT MEDITATION: CEASEFIRE PILGRIMAGE FOR GAZA

You are invited to silently walk the perimeter or outer edge of the nave 25 times to represent the 25 mile length of the Gaza Strip. If you are worshipping online, walk 25 times around your home or work place. If walking is a challenge you may stand or sit in silent solidarity. As you walk, stand, or sit, pray for release of the captives and pray for peace in the land.

*When you have completed your pilgrimage or witness, stay as long as you like to enjoy the silence.
Depart in silence as you feel led.*

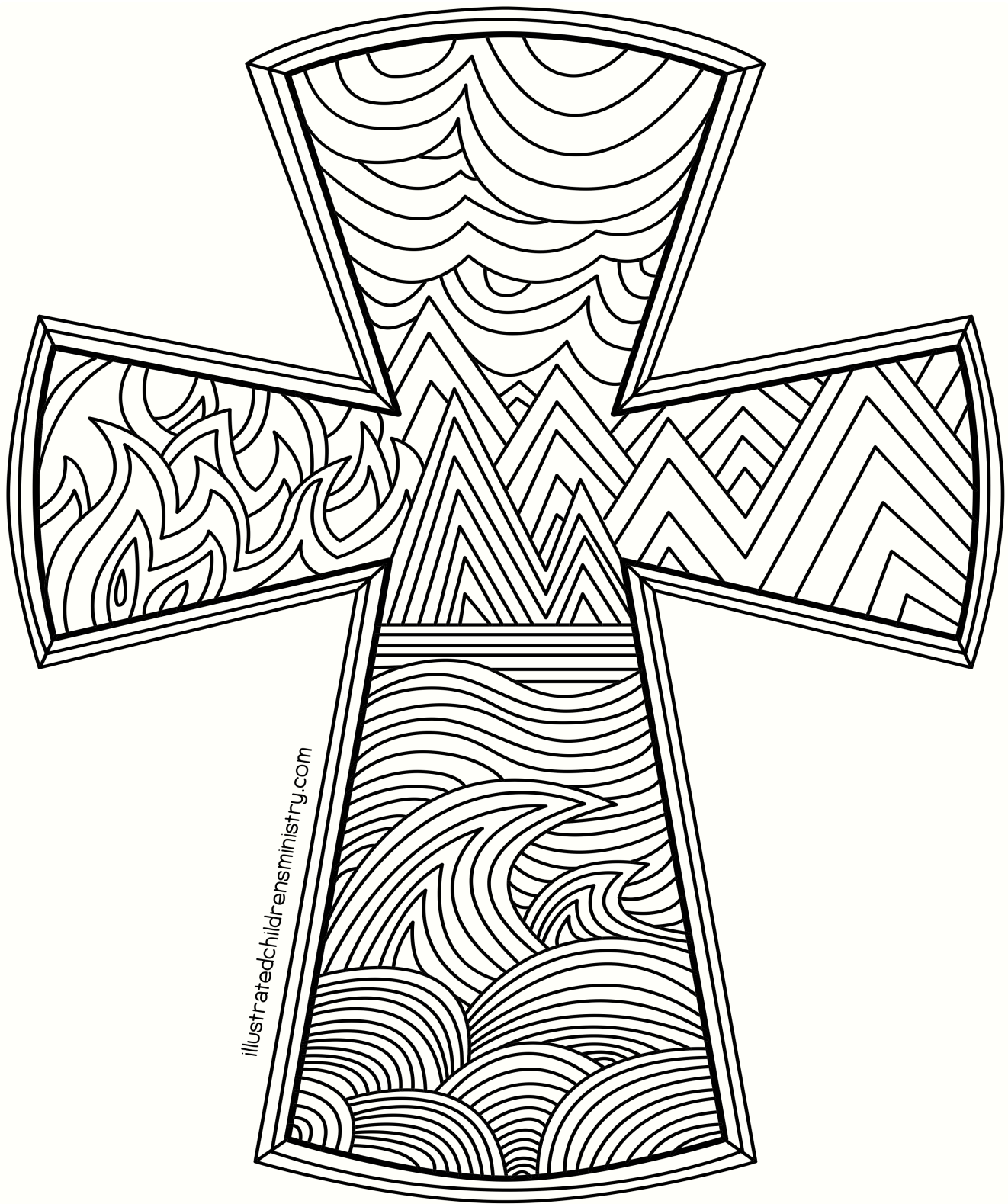


If only they had known the things that make for peace.

Luke 19:42

² Adapted from Rabbi Alissa Wise, from *Jewish Voices for Peace*.

This space is intentionally left blank for notes and reflection.



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 A. Forbes, Jr., Senior Minister Emeritus

RIVERSIDE EMAIL LIST

Get the latest news and events at The Riverside Church from our weekly emails. Sign up at trcnyc.org/email. If you're not receiving them, add communications@trcnyc.org to your "Safe Sender list."

MEMBERSHIP AT RIVERSIDE

Membership is about 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 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 to download the app and stay connected to all the videos, podcasts, and events from The Riverside Church.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON CARILLON RECITALS

These 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 for the complete schedule and programs.

SUNDAY MORNING PARKING *(includes Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday)*

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

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 and is staffed by trained nursery workers. For location, please see an usher or security guard.

VOLUNTEER AT RIVERSIDE

Riverside offers a variety of volunteer opportunities, from ushering to serving in our Communion and Greeters ministries, providing support in our Food Pantry and Clothing Distribution programs, to making a digital impact through our Digital Ministry, and so much more! Discover the joy of giving back, establish connections with those who share your passion and purpose, and make a lasting difference in the lives of those we serve. Join Riverside's volunteer family, and let your light shine in all the ways that matter. Visit trcnyc.org/volunteer for more information.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES & EVENTS

Holy Saturday | March 30, 2024

Labyrinth Walk | 12:00 PM | Assembly Hall

Resurrection Sunday | March 31, 2024

Sunday Morning Worship | 11:00 AM | Nave & Online

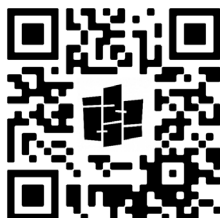
Easter Egg Hunt | After Service | Cloister Lounge

Holy Humor Sunday | April 7, 2024

Sunday Morning Worship | 11:00 AM | Nave & Online

What's happening at Riverside?

Find out more about all the programs and events happening in the life of our community.



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CONNECT WITH US

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For full staff directory visit
trcnyc.org/directory



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