

THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK



TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 16, 2025 | 11:00 AM

WELCOME TO THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

Interdenominational · Interracial · International · Open · Welcoming · Affirming

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

As you prepare your heart and mind for worship, consider this quote:

“When the forces of extremism become so overwhelming that they depress the hope of the people, the prophetic voice and mission is to connect words and actions in ways that build restorative hope, so a Movement for restorative justice can arise.”

— Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, II

A question for reflection:

What does it mean to “abide in Christ” when the world offers so many competing voices

Connect With Us

Visit our Welcome Page to learn more



Give By Your Phone

Text TRCNYCGIVE to 833.833.4035



ASL Interpreters

Avery Gordon and M. Lisa Lockley

Cover art by Jamil De Honney.

inspired by 1 John 2:18–3:8a, which reminds us to stay faithful to the truth, to discern the Spirit of God from what is false, and to remain grounded in love even when the world feels uncertain.

Assisted listening devices are available to anyone who needs them. Speak to an usher to secure one for service. They can be returned to any usher at the end of service.

*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 to prepare our hearts to worship God.

CARILLON

Prelude from Suite I
There's a Balm in Gilead
Frolic

J. S. Bach, arr. Albert Gerken
arr. John Courter
Frank Della Pennav

Lynnli Wang, *carillonneur*

HANDBELLS

Grazioso
La Paix

Arnold B. Sherman
Julie Stitt

The Riverside Ringers
Daniel Potter, *director*

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Jabe Ziino

INTROIT

Let The Heaven Light Shine on Me

Moses Hogan

*Let the light from heaven shine on me. Let it shine on me.
Let the heav'n light shine on me, for low is the way to the
upper bright world. Let the heav'n light shine on me.*

CALL TO WORSHIP *standing as able*

Alexander Simons

One: We come together, waiting for what is yet to be.

***All:* We come together, trusting what God will bring.**

One: In every heartbeat, hope is being born.

***All:* In every voice, peace is finding its song.**

One: The promise of love is growing among us.

***All:* Let us worship the child that is born to make us new.**

INVOCATION *remain standing*

Rev. Jabe Ziino

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *remain standing, sung by all*
For the Fruit of All Creation

ARD HYD Y NOS

1. For the fruit of all cre-a-tion, thanks be to God.
2. In the just re-ward of la-bor, God's will be done.
3. For the har-vests of the Spi-rit, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev-ery na-tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will be done.
For the good we all in-her-it, thanks be to God.

For the plow-ing, sow-ing, reap-ing, si-lent growth while we are sleep-ing,
In our world-wide task of car-ing for the hun-gry and de-spair-ing,
For the won-ders that as-tound us, for the truths that still con-found us,

fu-ture needs in earth's safe-keep-ing, thanks be to God.
in the har-vests we are shar-ing, God's will be done.
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Min. Jillian Langford

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

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

GLORIA PATRI

1. Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the
Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be -
gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,
world with - out end. A - men, A - men.

ANTHEM

Holy Manna

American Folk Hymn, arr. Betty Garee

The Riverside Ringers

LISTENING

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

GOSPEL SCRIPTURE READING

Carol Fouke-Mpoyo

Matthew 25:31-46 (*Pew Bible* p. 29)

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

***All:* Thanks be to God.**

CHRISTIAN NEW TESTAMENT READING

Carla Dubose Simons

1 John 2:18-3:8a (*Pew Bible* p. 239)

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

***All:* Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Tim Dalton

HYMN 376

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRDOL

SERMON *Seeing The Testimony and Teaching of Jesus in Troubling Time* Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

RESPONDING

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

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Charlene Wingate

We have heard the word of God read and proclaimed. Now let us pray together.

One: The Lord be with you.

***All:* And with your spirit.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

***All:* We lift them up unto the Lord.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

***All:* 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.**

CHORAL AMEN

PASSING OF THE PEACE *standing as able*

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Lord is My Light

Horatio Parker

*The Lord is my light, my light and my salvation.
Whom then shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength, the strength of my life, of whom then shall I be afraid?
When the wicked even mine enemies and my foes came upon me,
To eat of my flesh, they stumble and fail.
Though a host of men be laid against me,
yet shall not my heart be afraid; and though there rose up war against me,
Yet will I put my trust in Him.
Hearken unto my voice, O Lord, when I cry unto Thee;
Have mercy upon me and hear me.
Thou hast been my succor,
Leave me not, never forsake me, O God of my salvation.
O tarry thou the Lord's leisure, be strong and he shall comfort thine heart.*

AT THE PRESENTATION: THE DOXOLOGY *standing as able, sung by all*
The congregation rises row by row as ushers pass to symbolize the offering of our whole selves to God.

All: **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 AND DEDICATION *remain standing* Rev. Dr. Leah Fowler

Today, we celebrate the work of our Clothing Distribution program, which continues to offer free casual and professional attire to those in economic and social crisis year-round.

SENDING

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

RECESSIONAL HYMN *remain standing, sung by all*
Standing on the Promises

PROMISES

1. Stand-ing on the pro-mis-es of Christ, my King, Through e-ter-nal a-ges let the
2. Stand-ing on the prom-is-es that can-not fail. When to howl-ing storms of doubt and
3. Stand-ing on the prom-is-es of God's true word, Bound to Christ e-ter-nal-ly by
4. Stand-ing on the prom-is-es I can-not fall, Lis-t'ning ev-'ry mo-ment to the

prais-es ring; Glo-ry in the high-est, I will shout and sing,
fear as-sail, By the liv-ing word of God I shall pre-vail,
love's strong cord, O-ver-com-ing dai-ly with the Spir-it's sword,
Spir-it's call, Rest-ing in my Sav-ior, as my all in all,

Stand-ing, stand-ing,
Stand-ing on the prom-is-es of God. Stand-ing on the prom-is-es, Stand-ing on the prom-is-es,

Stand-ing, stand-ing,
Stand-ing on the prom-is-es of God, my Sav-ior; Stand-ing on the prom-is-es,

stand-ing,
Stand-ing on the prom-is-es, I'm stand-ing on the prom-is-es of God.

BENEDICTION *remain standing*

Rev. Adriene Thorne

POSTLUDE
Carillon de Westminster

Louis Vierne

Paul Byssainthe, Jr., *organist*

TODAY AT RIVERSIDE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Breakfast <i>(available for purchase)</i>	South Hall	8:30 AM
Fresh Start	Online	8:30 AM
Seekers Book Study	323 MLK & Online	9:00 AM
Absolute Beginners Biblical Hebrew	314 MLK & Online	9:30 AM
Open Bible Study	316 MLK & Online	9:30 AM
ParentConnect	321 MLK & Online	10:00 AM
Cherub Choir	721 MLK	10:00 AM
Rising Voices & Youth Choir	311 MLK	10:00 AM
Grace Space Nursery	See Usher or Security for Location	10:00 AM
Sunday Morning Worship	Nave & Online	11:00 AM
Coffee Hour	South Hall Lobby	After Service
Virtual Coffee Hour	Online	After Service
Lunch <i>(available for purchase)</i>	South Hall	After Service
Congregational Meeting	South Hall & Online	1:00 PM
Carillon Recital	Riverside Neighborhood	1:30 PM
Recital: Silent Stories	9T	3:00 PM

COMING SOON

Morning Prayer	Monday-Friday	8:00 AM
Tower League Bible Study	Monday, November 17	11:00 AM
Multifaith Monday Vigil	Monday, November 17	5:30 PM
Community Conversation	Monday, November 17	7:00 PM
Midweek Bible Study	Wednesday, November 19	12:30 PM
Dinner Church	Wednesday, November 19	6:30 PM
Tower League Bible Study	Thursday, November 20	11:00 AM
Tower League on Zoom	Thursday, November 20	1:30 PM
Short Circle with Rev. Dr. Leah Fowler	Thursday, November 20	8:00 PM
Theatre of the Oppressed	Saturday, November 22	1:00 PM
Thanksgiving Day Service	Thursday, November 27	11:00 AM
Annual Thanksgiving Brunch	Thursday, November 27	12:00 PM
AdventFest	Sunday, November 30	1:00 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.

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



ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES & ASL INTERPRETATION

Assisted listening devices are available for those who need them, and ASL interpretation is provided on select Sundays. Please see an usher to request a device or to find the best seating for viewing the interpreters.

SUNDAY MORNING PARKING

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. This discounted rate applies to Sundays only.

GRACE SPACE NURSERY

Babies and toddlers are not too young to start learning about God's love for them. The grace space 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.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON CARILLON RECITALS

Recitals take place most weeks at 1:30 PM and can be best heard outdoors listening from Sakura Park, north of The Riverside Church at 122nd Street. Visit trcnyc.org/carillonrecitals for the complete schedule and programs.

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.

VOLUNTEER AT RIVERSIDE

Riverside offers a variety of volunteer opportunities, from ushering to providing support in our social services programs, and so much more! Discover the joy of giving back, and make a lasting difference in the lives of those we serve. Visit trcnyc.org/volunteer for more information.

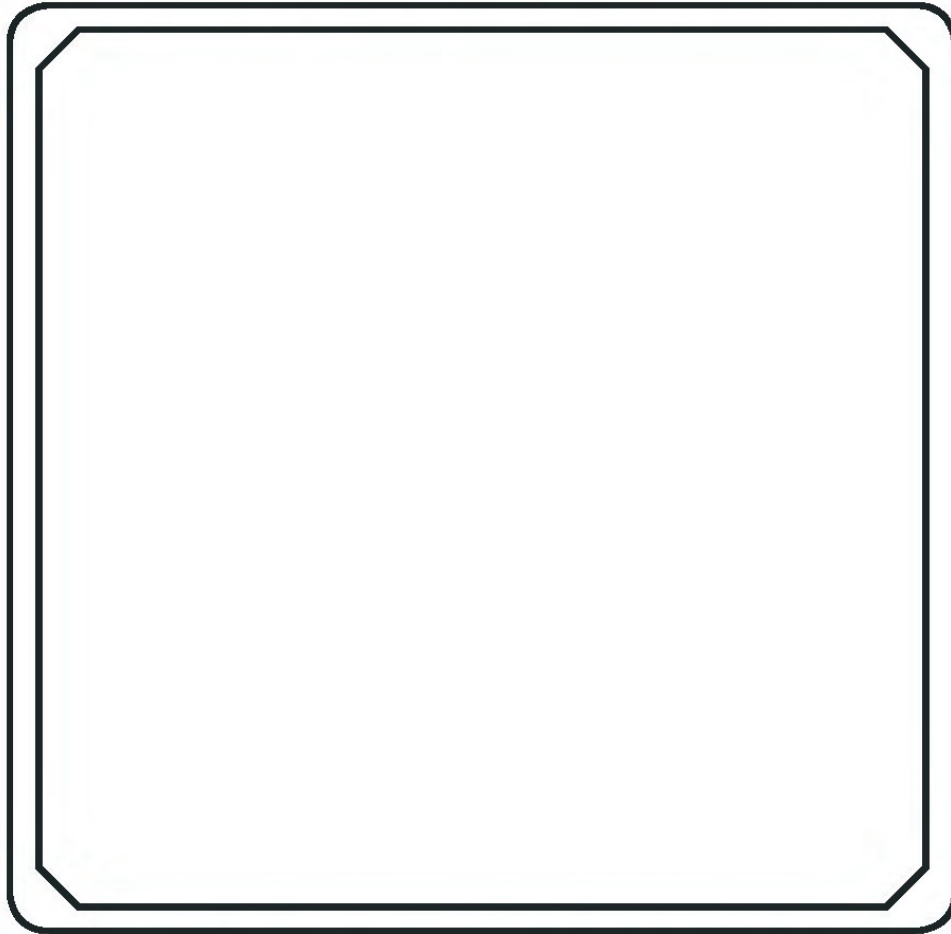
RIVERSIDE EMAIL LIST

Get the latest news and events at The Riverside Church from our weekly emails. Sign up at trcnyc.org/email. Be sure to add communications@trcnyc.org to your "Safe Sender list."

DOWNLOAD THE RIVERSIDE APP

Take Riverside with you wherever you go. Text TRCNyc to 833.833.4035 or visit trcnyc.org/app to stay connected to all the videos, podcasts, and events from The Riverside Church.

DRAW IT



In Matthew 25, Jesus says that whenever we help someone - like giving a hungry person something to eat or caring for a person who is sick or visiting someone who is lonely - we are actually helping Jesus himself. Think about the last week and someone that you helped. Maybe it was at home or school or when you were out and about. Draw a picture of that experience here, but draw Jesus as the person you were helping.



PASTORAL TEAM & MINISTERIAL STAFF



Rev. Adriene Thorne
Senior Minister



Rev. Tim Dalton
*Minister for
Congregational Care
and Older Adults*



Rev. Dr. Leah Fowler
*Minister for
Intergenerational Christian
Education and Formation*



Rev. Derrick T. Jordan
Ministerial Staff



Rev. Jim Keat
*Minister of Digital
Worship and Education*



Min. Jillian Langford
*Associate Director of
Education and Faith
Formation (Children
and Families)*



Rev. Mira Sawlani-Joyner
*Minister of Justice,
Advocacy, and Change*



Rev. Charlene A. Wingate
Ministerial Staff



Rev. Jabe Ziino
*Associate Director of
Education and Faith
Formation (Youth and
Young Adults)*

If you or someone you know is experiencing a pastoral emergency, please call 212.870.6710 and ask for the clergy on call.

PROGRAM AND SUPPORT STAFF

Paul Byssainthe, Jr.
Associate Organist

Natalie Fein
Chief Operating Officer

Dr. Nathaniel Gumbs
Director of Music

Talia Johnson
Manager of Member Services

Alexandra A. Pimentel
Director of Social Services & Outreach

Natalie Graves Tucker
Director of Communications and Development

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