

THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK



FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JUNE 28, 2026 | 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:

"Hold me, like branches on trees do leaves and small beings nesting in resolve. Stand tall,
even as the seasons pass."

-Jesus Solis-Leon

A question for reflection:

Where do you see life growing and flourishing in your life, at Riverside, or in
our world?

Connect With Us

Visit our [Welcome Page](#) to learn more



Give With Your Phone

Text TRCNYCGIVE to 833.833.4035



Cover Art by Félix Vallotton (1865–1925): Seascape with Rainbow

ASL Interpreter

Sheldon Price and Canara Price

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 and prepare our hearts to worship God.

CARILLON

Recuerdos de La Alhambra
Wiegenliedchen
Two Estudios for Guitar

Francisco Tárrega, arr. Austin Ferguson
Robert Schumann, arr. Elizabeth Vitu
Francisco Sor, arr. Ronald Barnes

Carla Staffaroni, *carillonneur*

ORGAN

Go Down, Moses

Fela Sowande

Dr. Nathaniel Gumbs, organist

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Dr. Jillian Langford

CALL TO WORSHIP

standing as able

An Winslow

One: Holy One, beyond every boundary and yet nearer than our breath, You create us in wondrous diversity.

***All:* We give thanks for the beauty of every life and the sacredness of every body.**

One: You call us Beloved, Cherished, and Valued, revealing Your image in unexpected places.

***All:* Open our eyes to celebrate the gifts the world too often overlooks.**

One: In your boundless love, You delight in all You have made and continue to make new.

***All:* With grateful hearts and holy pride, let us worship God.**

INVOCATION

standing as able

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

remain standing

All Are Welcome

TWO OAKS



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly live,
2. Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are strong and true,
3. Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and stone
4. Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions heard



a place where saints and chil - dren tell how hearts learn to for - give.
where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to dream God's reign a - new.
to heal and strength-en, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as words with - in the Word.



Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the cross shall stand as wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace:
Here the out - cast and the strang - er bear the im - age of God's face;
Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,



here the love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
here as one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
let us bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
let this house pro - claim from floor to raf - ter:



All are wel - come, all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

SPECIAL BLESSING FOR MARCHERS

Rev. Tim Dalton

HYMN

We Are Marching in the Light of God

SIYAHAMBA

1. We are march - ing in the light of God we are march ing in the light of God.
 2. Si - ya ham - b'e - ku - ka nyen - i kwen - khos, si - ya - ham - b'e - ku - kah nyen - i kwen - khos.

2. We are march - ing in the light of God (light of God) We are
 Si - ya ham - b'e - ku - kah - nyen - i kwen - khos, (nyen - i kwen - khos) Si - ya -

march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing, we are
 ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya -

march - ing in the light of God! We are
 ham - b'e - ku - kha nyen - i - kwen - khos. Si - ya -

D.S.

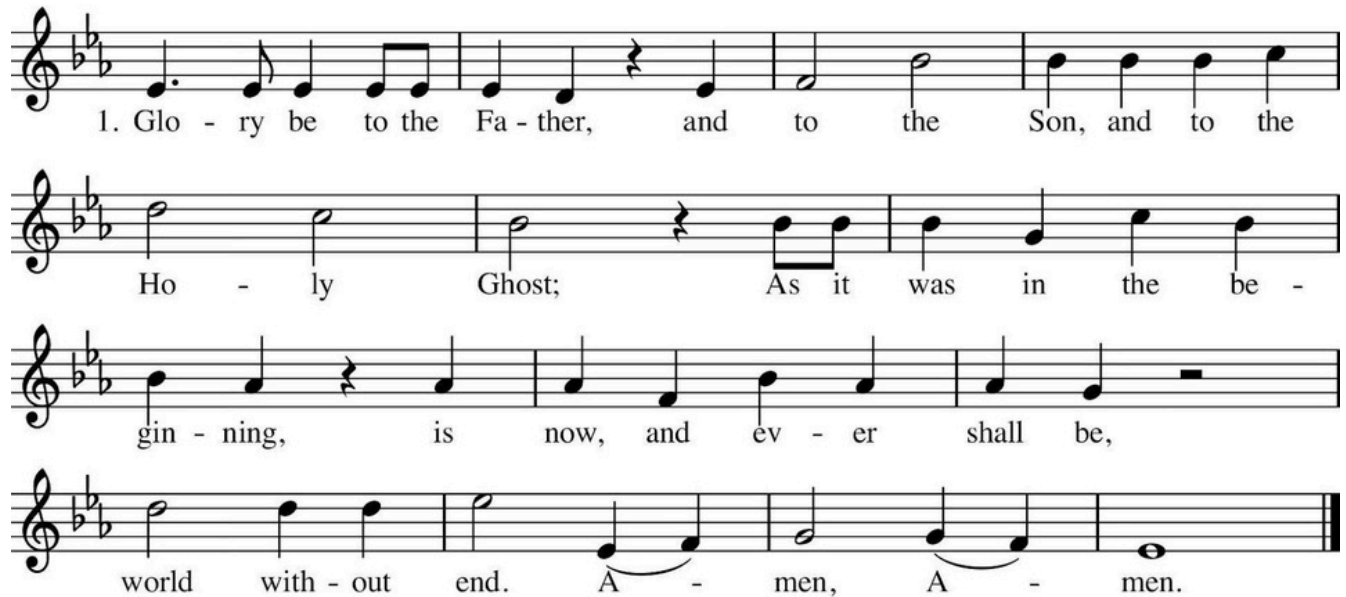
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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

Rev. Dr. Leah Fowler

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.

SOLO

Somewhere Over the Rainbow

E.Y. Harburg
Harold Arlen

*Somewhere over the rainbow way up high
There's a land that I heard of once in a lullaby
Somewhere over the rainbow skies are blue
And the dreams that you dare to dream really do come true*

*Someday I'll wish upon a star
And wake up where the clouds are far
Behind me
Where troubles melt like lemon drops
Away above the chimney tops
That's where you'll find me*

*Somewhere over the rainbow bluebirds fly
Birds fly over the rainbow
Why then, oh, why can't I?*

*If happy little bluebirds fly
Beyond the rainbow
Why, oh, why can't I?*

Kyle Freeman, guest soloist

LISTENING

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

HEBREW BIBLE SCRIPTURE READING

David Kirkpatrick

Psalm 22:25-31 (*Pew Bible page 501*)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL SCRIPTURE READING

Carol Lee

John 15:1-8 (*Pew Bible page 109*)

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Jim Keat

SOLO

Bein' Green

Joe Raposo

*It's not that easy bein' green
Having to spend each day the color of the leaves
When I think it could be nicer bein' red or yellow or gold
Or something much more colorful like that*

*It's not easy bein' green
It seems you blend in with so many other ordinary things
And people tend to pass you over 'cause you're
Not standin' out like flashy sparkles on the water
Or stars in the sky*

*But green is the color of Spring
And green can be cool and friendly-like
And green can be big like an ocean
Or important like a mountain
Or tall like a tree*

*When green is all there is to be
It could make you wonder why
But why wonder, why wonder?
I am green and it'll do fine
It's beautiful*

*And I think it's what I want to be
When green is all there is to be
It could make you wonder why
But why wonder, why wonder?
I am green and it'll do fine
And it's beautiful*

It's what I want to be

Liz Lang, soprano

SERMON

Abide

Rev. Jim Keat

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Adriene Thorne

One: The Lord be with you.

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

One: Lift up your hearts.

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

PRAYER LIST

Yvonne Allen	Dr. Colleen Birchett
Kathia Almeida	Chris Butler
Valda Campbell	Juanita Merritt
Linda Chu	Nancy Mosley
Jim Dager and John Souza	Joyce Norris
Kara Dago-Clark	Dolores O'Connor
Lourdes Davila-Rojas	Mary Jo Page
Morrell Dooley and family	Nickie Palmer
Leslie Forshey	Megan Pell
Karissa Garner & her son,	Celena Pena's Grandmother
Isaac Cooke & mother,	Janice and Aunt Joy
Maria Garner	Joan Ricketts
Bernard George	Ann Rocker
Winston Huang	Danielle Scott
Taniqua Huguley-Chaplin and son, Caycen Chaplin	John Seabrook, Jr.
Tom Jarosz	Shirley Sutherland
George Johnson	Libby Turnock
Joan Knibb	Janet Wise Thomas
Orlando Lagforega	Crystal Vines
Margaret Madden	
Makenna Mattesi	

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pray in the language or version closest to your heart.

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

RESPONDING

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

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

Draw The Circle Wide

Mark Miller

*Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
Let this be our song: No one stands alone.
We'll stand side by side.
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.*

AT THE PRESENTATION: THE DOXOLOGY

standing as able

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. Derrick T. Jordan

Today we celebrate the ministry of Maranatha, which for over forty years has worked to provide a safe and welcoming haven where lesbian, bisexual, transgender, gay, and queer people can be their whole selves, find healing community, and share their God-given gifts in faith and love.

SENDING

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

RECESSIONAL HYMN #430

Come Sing O Church, in Joy!

remain standing

DARWALL'S 148th

BENEDICTION

remain standing

Rev. Jim Keat

POSTLUDE

Fantasia in G Minor, BWV 542

Johann Sebastian Bach

Paul Byssainthe, Jr., *organist*

GUEST SOLOIST

Kyle Ramar Freeman



Kyle Ramar Freeman is a celebrated stage performer whose dynamic career has taken him from his hometown of Miami to the world's most prestigious theatrical stages. A graduate of AMDA, he made his Broadway debut as a member of the original cast of the Tony Award-winning musical *A Strange Loop*, later starring as Usher in the acclaimed West End production in London. He most recently captivated audiences nationwide as the Lion in the Broadway revival and national tour of *The Wiz* and currently appears on Broadway in *Titanique*.

Known for his powerful stage presence, artistry, and versatility, Kyle has established himself as one of the rising voices of contemporary musical theater. Beyond his professional accomplishments, he is deeply committed to fostering community and connection, using the transformative power of the performing arts to inspire, encourage, and uplift others.

TODAY AT RIVERSIDE - YOU ARE INVITED

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

Pride Sunday Breakfast (<i>ticketed event</i>)	9T	8:00 AM
Breakfast (<i>available for purchase</i>)	South Hall	8:30 AM
Fresh Start	Online	8:30 AM
Open Bible Study	316 MLK & Online	9:30 AM
Parent Connect	318 MLK & Online	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
Ecclesia Ministry	Assembly Hall Kitchen	12:50 PM
Carillon Recital	Riverside Neighborhood	1:30 PM

THIS WEEK AT RIVERSIDE - YOU ARE INVITED

MONDAY, JUNE 29

Morning Prayer	Online	8:00 AM
Multifaith Monday:	Columbus Circle	5:30 PM
Witness to Democracy		

TUESDAY, JUNE 30

Morning Prayer	Online	8:00 AM
Summer Organ Series: Paul Byssainthe, Jr.	Nave & Online	7:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

Morning Prayer	Online	8:00 AM
Midweek Bible Study	Online	12:30 PM

THURSDAY, JULY 2

Morning Prayer	Online	8:00 AM
Personnel & Salary Committee Meeting	Online	6:00 PM

FRIDAY, JULY 3

Morning Prayer	Online	8:00 AM
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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.

COMING SOON

Voting Rights Act: Fault Lines of the American Experiment and the Politics of Redemption With Dr. Andrea White

Sunday, July 12 and 19

9:30 AM

Summer Organ Series: Christopher Houlihan Tuesday, July 14

7:00 PM

SERVICE PROGRAM FOR OLDER PEOPLE

Riverside Church partners with Service Program for Older People (SPOP). SPOP's mission is to enhance the quality of life of older adults and to foster their independent living through the delivery of comprehensive mental health and supportive services, advocacy and education. If you need support please reach out to Riverside's Director of Social Services, Alexandra Pimentel at apimentel@trcnyc.org.

SPOP

SERVICE PROGRAM FOR OLDER PEOPLE

LGBTQ+ PRIDE FLAGS

Source: Human Rights Campaign



Gilbert Baker
Pride Flag



Traditional
Pride Flag



Philadelphia
Pride Flag



Progress
Pride Flag



Intersex-Inclusive
Progress Pride Flag



Queer
Pride Flag



Lesbian
Pride Flag



Trans-Inclusive Gay
Men's Pride Flag



Bisexual
Pride Flag



Pansexual
Pride Flag



Asexual
Pride Flag



Demisexual
Pride Flag



Polyamory
Pride Flag



Polysexual
Pride Flag



Transgender
Pride Flag



Nonbinary
Pride Flag



Intersex
Pride Flag



Genderfluid
Pride Flag



Genderqueer
Pride Flag



Agender
Pride Flag



Bigender
Pride Flag



Demigender
Pride Flag



Pride of
Africa Flag



Queer People of
Color Pride Flag



Two-Spirit
Pride Flag

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.

PASTORAL TEAM AND MINISTERIAL STAFF



Rev. Adriene Thorne
Senior Minister



Rev. Tim Dalton
Minister for Congregational
Care and Older Adults



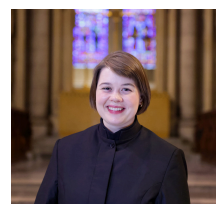
Rev. Dr. Leah Fowler
Minister for Intergenerational
Christian Education and Formation



Rev. Derrick T. Jordan
Ministerial Staff



Rev. Jim Keat
Minister of Digital Worship
and Education



Dr. 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

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