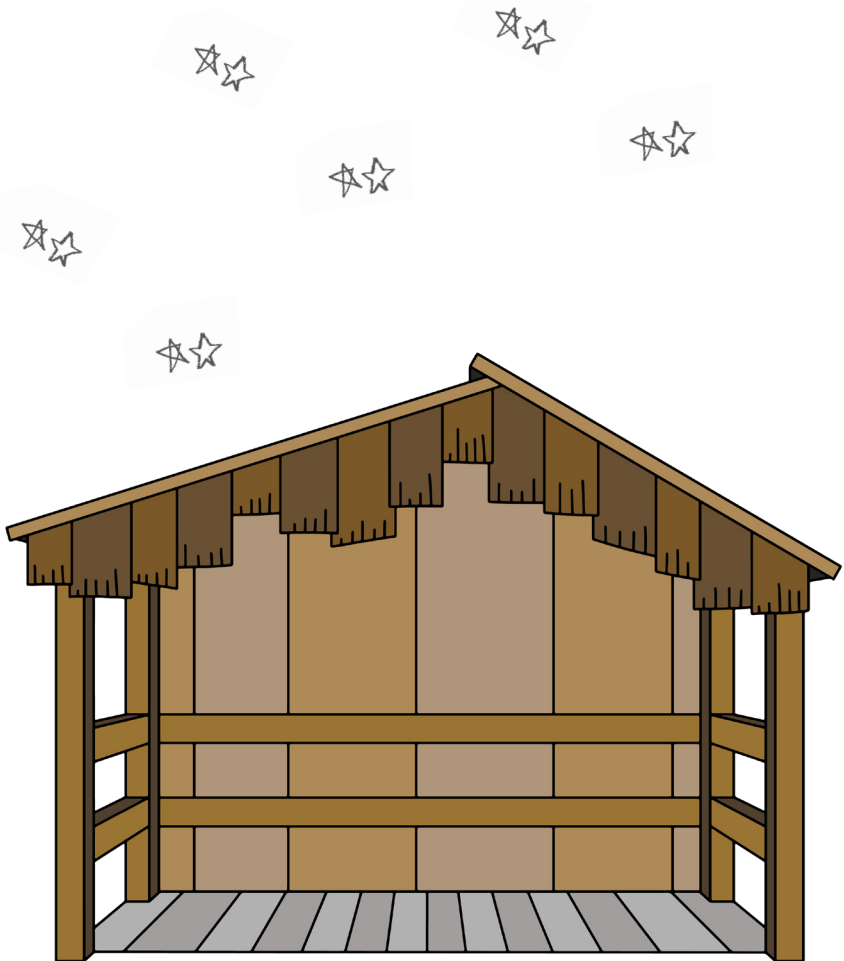


The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



DECEMBER 24, 2019

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY WORSHIP

Welcome and Merry Christmas! Everyone is invited to sit near the front.

PRELUDE

Matt King, piano, melodica

Dave Richards, bass

Jonathon Peretz, drums

WELCOME

Amanda Meisenheimer

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Herndon Family

CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come, and behold him, Born the King of angels!

O come, let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

✚CALL TO WORSHIP

Amanda Meisenheimer

One: The angel came to Mary and said, "Call him Emmanuel."

All: God is with us.

One: He was born among the poor people and cared for the people who felt rejected. Call him Emmanuel.

All: God is with us.

One: He shared a message of love and forgiveness from God and told the people to repent. Call him Emmanuel.

All: God is with us.

One: We celebrate the birth of Jesus because in him all things are made new. Call him Emmanuel.

All: God is with us.

One: Prince of Peace, King of Kings, Son of God, Light of the world. Call him Emmanuel.

All: God is with us.

One: Call him Emmanuel.

All: God is with us.

✚*All who are able, please stand*

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Rev. Michael Livinston

Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7

(International Children's Bible)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

CAROLS

Go Tell it on the Mountain

Refrain

Go, tell it on the mountain over the hills and everywhere;

Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

Refrain

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! Above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

Refrain

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo;

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:

Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare Him room,

And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,

And heaven and nature sing.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.

Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King,
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Away In a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the poor Baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,
And stay by side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Amanda Meisenheimer
& Farley Lord

What Child Is This?

What Child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain

This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

Refrain

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, one and all, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Refrain

†BENEDICTION

Amanda Meisenheimer

Following today's service, the children are invited to come forward and have their picture taken with the Nativity characters.

FLOWER GIFT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

The flowers in the Nave this season are dedicated in memoriam by:

Mary Joe Nenadovich
In loving memory of Ruth Hall.

Carolyn Britton-Mitchell
In deep appreciation for the life and love of the Britton Family.

Clarence C Anderson and Emily B Anderson,
*In Memory Of Their Parents Albert Anderson, Bertha Anderson and Curtis Butler
and Justine Butler.*

June Gray Fletcher
*In loving memory of our mother Rubye T. Gray, grandmothers Ruby Tilles and
Charlie Gray, and great grandmother Ardelia Michelle.*

John N. Johnson
In memory of Phyllis E. Johnson.

Lorraine Burchall
*In memory of my sister, Ruth Burchall-Sanseviro and my Riverside Mentor,
Cathryn Glover.*

Aida Montero
In memory of Hector Rodriguez and Joseph Montero.

LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY

For announcements of programs and events in the church, please pick up the *Life of Our Community* bulletin located in the back of the pew or outside the Welcome Center. Or visit our website www.trcnyc.org.

COVER ART:

Betsy Meisenheimer



Every year, Riverside's social services and programs provide more than 50,000 neighbors with nutritious meals, quality clothing, safe places to rest, hot showers, job training, and more.

In the spirit of the holidays, we invite you to consider a special gift to Riverside in support of those we serve. We invite you to consider a generous gift during today's time of offering. To learn more please visit trcnyc.org/give.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas Eve Services

Tuesday, December 24 | Nave

Service of Lessons & Carols | 8:00 p.m.

Watchnight

Tuesday, December 31 | Nave

Carillon Recital by Charles Semowich | 10:00 p.m.

Organ Recital by Christopher Johnson | 10:30 p.m.

Worship with Rev. Michael Livingston, preaching | 11:30 p.m.

Swinging Peal of the Carillon | 12:00 midnight

PARKING - 12/24/2019

Parking is available in the garage below the building. Present this bulletin to the attendant before 6:00 p.m. for a reduced rate of \$5.00.

CONNECT WITH US.

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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



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IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK