

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



JANUARY 5, 2020
EPIPHANY SUNDAY

WELCOME TO THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

Interdenominational · Interracial · International · Open · Affirming · Welcoming

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

As you prepare yourself for Worship, we invite you to reflect quietly on these words:

“No wonder, then, that Herod and all of Jerusalem shake like leaves in the wind when the wise men show up and ask about the king of the Jews. The question implies a wider and more gracious kingdom in play than the shriveled precinct they assume they control. What’s more, it hints that the little tin-pot Herod has no control over access. On Christmas Eve, children all over put on bathrobes and Burger King crowns and make their way down the church aisle to Bethlehem, imagining themselves to be a part of the great story of Jesus Christ. They’re onto something.”

-Dr. Thomas G. Long

THE LITURGICAL YEAR

The Riverside Church follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together. We are currently in the season of Christmastide where we celebrate the birth of the Christ child we have been waiting for throughout the Advent season. Christmastide is signified by white paraments and clergy stoles. The season concludes with Epiphany Sunday when we celebrate the visit of the Magi.

IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST VISIT:

Complete a Welcome Card and place it in the offering plate as it passes.

A free church tour is offered each Sunday after Worship. Meet in the 1st balcony, no reservation necessary. Tours also take place Wednesday-Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., as church schedule permits, leaving from the Welcome Center / Gift Shop. Reservations recommended. Visit trcnc.org/visit.

Assistive hearing devices and large print bulletins are available upon request from an usher.



GATHERING

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

CARILLON

How Brightly Shines the Morning Star

J. Pachelbel, Arr. C. Semowich

Ave Maris Stella

David Briggs

Charles Semowich, carillonneur

ORGAN

Greensleeves

Richard Purvis

Arrival of the Magi

Nancy Wertsch

following the Star - searching for the Child - awed by His radiant presence

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

✚PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

✚PROCESSIONAL HYMN 67

Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning

Morning Star

✚CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Rev. Debra Northern

One: Bright is the sun that endures on this new day of a new year.

All: **May Christ live as long as the moon, throughout all generations.**

One: In these days may righteousness flourish and peace abound.

All: **May prosperity for the people deliver a new life in Christ.**

One: For those who are needy, poor, hurting and oppressed, let their lives be redeemed, for precious is their blood in your sight.

All: **O God of peace, love, justice and righteousness, gather us together in your light. Restore and renew us in your love on this new day, in a new way.**

✚INVOCATION

✚*All who are able, please stand*

LISTENING

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

DUET

Midwinter

arr. Bob Chilcott

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow. In the bleak midwinter, long ago. Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign. In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ. Angels and archangels may have gathered there, cherubim and seraphim thronged the air; but his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved with a kiss. What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise one, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Tammy Mesic, soprano

Meghann Vaughn, mezzo-soprano

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Rev. VanHook

Isaiah 60:1-6

(pg. 690 in the Old Testament)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

†HYMN 58

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night

Winchester Old

†GOSPEL LESSON

Rev. Geraldine Howard

Matthew 2:1-12

(pg. 2 in the New Testament)

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Livingston

So What?

RESPONDING

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

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Rev. VanHook

†*All who are able, please stand*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

There Shall A Star

Felix Mendelssohn

Behold a star from Jacob shining, and a scepter from Israel rising, to reign in glory over the nations. Like some bright morning star is he, the promise of the coming day, beyond the night of sorrow. Break forth, O Light! We, our joyful hearts uplifting with thanksgiving, hail the brightness of thy rising.
(from Christus, Op. 97)

✦ AT THE PRESENTATION: THE DOXOLOGY

The congregation rises row by row as ushers pass to symbolize the offering of our whole selves to God.

**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 & DEDICATION

Rev. VanHook

Today we celebrate the work of our Communion Ministry, which faithfully prepares and serves Communion for worship on the first Sunday of each month and other special liturgical services throughout the year.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Riverside Pastoral Staff

Following each petition, please join in the following responses:

One: Light of the world,
All: **hear our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pray in the language or version of your heart.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy 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.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

CHORAL AMEN

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. Livingston

✦ *All who are able, please stand*

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

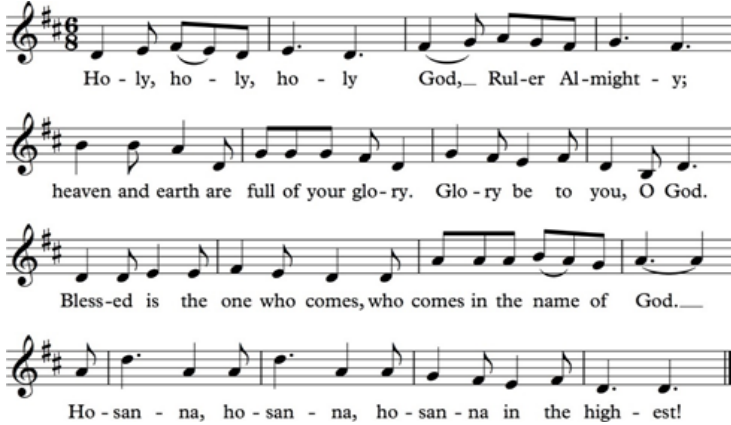
One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up unto the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God, Rul-er Al-might - y;
heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Glo-ry be to you, O God.
Bless-ed is the one who comes, who comes in the name of God. —
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

CALL TO SUPPER

One: The body of Christ, broken for you.

All: Thanks be to God for the bread of life!

One: The blood of Christ, poured out for you.

All: Thanks be to God for the cup of blessing!

A gluten-free option for communion bread is available upon request from a communion server.

ORGAN

Interlude on the Coventry Carol
Pastorale from the 'Christmas' Concerto

W. S. Lloyd Webber
Archangelo Corelli

CHOIR

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

arr. David Willcocks

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall; oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ the babe is Lord of all. Swift are winging angels singing, nowells ringing, tidings bringing; Christ the babe is Lord of all. Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new; saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true. Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow: Christ the babe was born for you.

HYMN 53

What Child Is This?

Greensleeves

+PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

Rev. Livingston

God of hope you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May this food strengthen us in love, and help us to serve you in each other. We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

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

+RECESSIONAL HYMN 40

Joy to the World!

Antioch

BENEDICTION

Please be seated.

Rev. Livingston

POSTLUDE

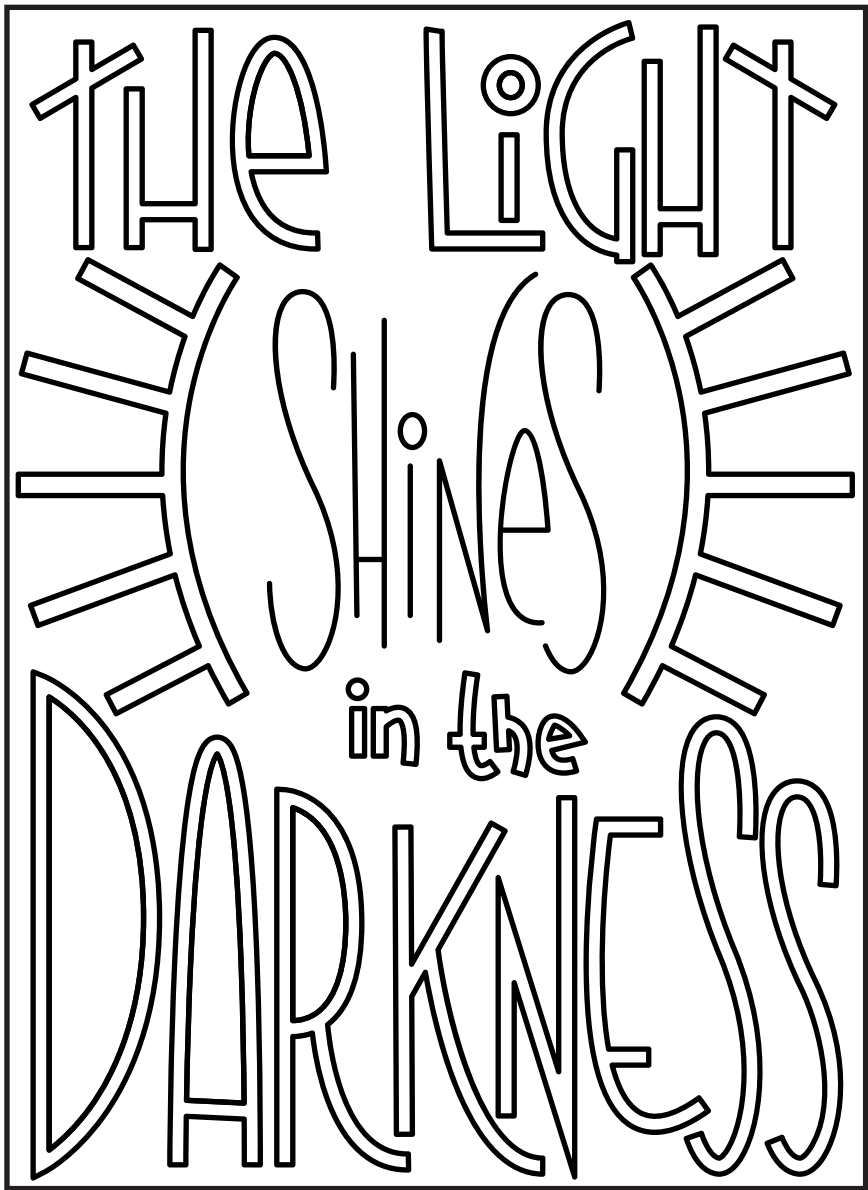
Quand Jésus naquite à Noël

Claude Balbastre

Special thanks to our congregational leader: Rev. Geraldine Howard

Liturgical Resources for Today:

¹*Based on Psalm 72*



THE LIGHT

SHINES

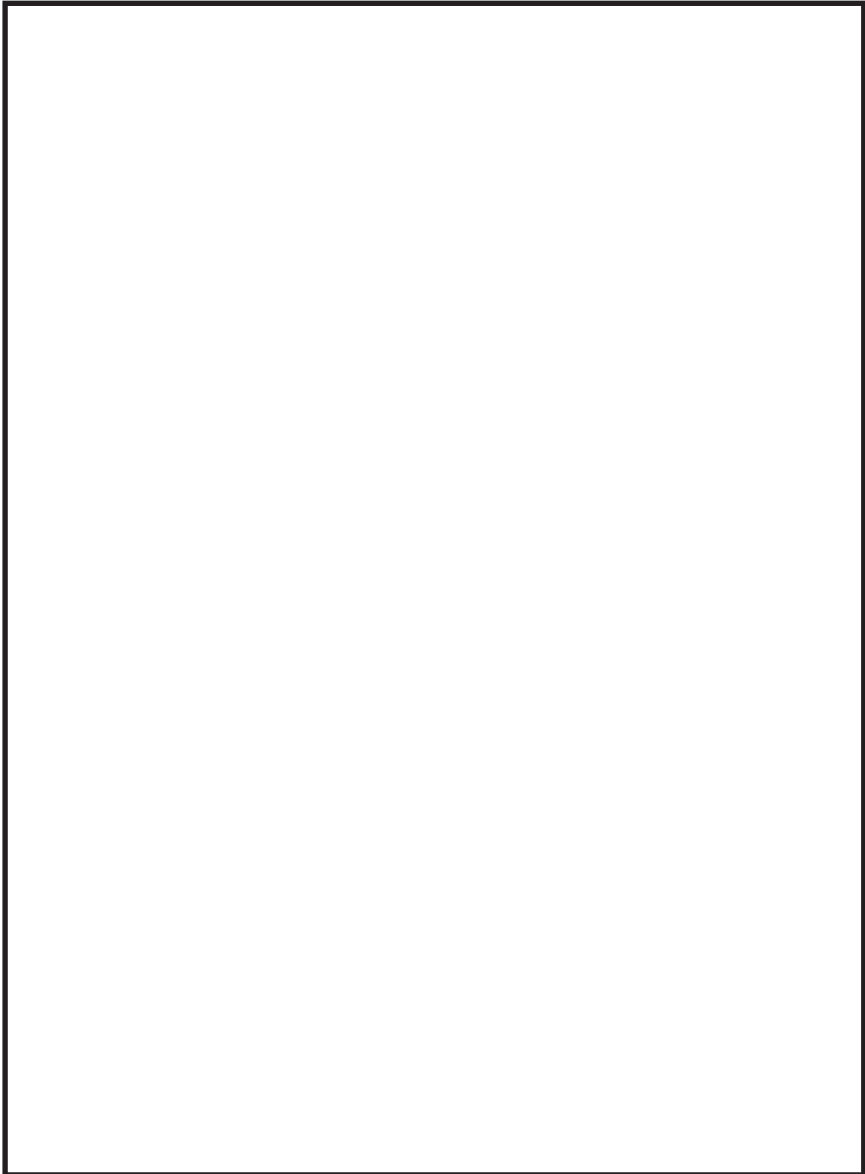
in the

DARKNESS



DRAW IT

John 1: 14 describes how God became human and lived with us that we might know, see, and love God in new ways. How do you picture Jesus? **Draw him here.**



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. Michael Livingston, Interim Senior Minister
Rev. Dr. James Forbes, Senior Minister Emeritus

RIVERSIDE EMAIL LIST

Are you receiving our weekly emails? Check your junk folder, add us to your “safe sender list,” or visit trcnyc.org/Email to sign up. We want to make sure that you know all the latest news and events at The Riverside Church!

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

For announcements of programs and events at The Riverside Church, please pick up the Life of the Community newsletter located in the back of the pew or outside the Welcome Center. Visit trcnyc.org/Events for more information and to download a copy.

WORSHIP ONLINE & ALL WEEK LONG

If you're out of town or in need of more Riverside worship throughout the week, visit trcnyc.org/DigitalDiscipleship to watch the Sunday morning Livestream, videos of the sermon and the choirs, and more. Be sure to watch The Word Made Fresh, our weekly video Bible Study, and catch up on Be Still and Go, our devotional podcast.

PARKING - 01/05/2020

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



trcnyc.org



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