

# The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



APRIL 9, 2020  
MAUNDY THURSDAY



## GATHERING

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

### ORGAN

Ah, Holy Jesus (Op. 65)

*Sigfrid Karg-Elert*

### WELCOME

Rev. Michael Livingston

### HYMN 85

#### What Wondrous Love is This

*Wondrous Love*

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,  
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
To bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul,  
To bear the heavy cross for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,  
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;  
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am,  
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;  
While millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on.  
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;  
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,  
And through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on.  
And through eternity I'll sing on.

*Tammy Mesic, soprano*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Hsien-Yu Wang

One: Welcoming God, remembering Jesus. Today, we gather as Jesus did through our connections surrounded by friends.

**All: United together as one we come! We offer our worship and our praise.**

One: At this symbolic table we are called to a feast made of bread, meat, bitter herbs and wine.

**All: United together as one we come! Teach us to wholly love one another in remembrance of you.**

One: We are grateful for the many ways you respond to our hearts. As we remember Jesus suffering all the way to the Cross, prepare in us a heart to respond through service.

**All: United together as one we come! To worship, to love and to serve.**

## INVOCATION

### LISTENING

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

## PSALTER LESSON

Rev. Debra Northern

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

*(pgs. 564 & 565 in the Old Testament)*

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE LESSON

Hsien-Yu Wang

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

*(pg. 173 in the New Testament)*

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Northern

**O Faithful God, through Jesus Christ we see your love in all of its glory. The same magnificent love that you have commanded us to share with one another. Still, in hesitation we grapple with loving those with whom we are different.**

**In spite of ourselves, you serve us with immeasurable kindness offering us grace, mercy and even peace in the midst of our most painful suffering. Still, we selfishly restrain our service. Often choosing to be served instead of serving others.**

**From our lips we speak of great commitment to discipleship, professing our dedication to walk with Christ all the way to the cross. A cross that displays the ultimate sacrifice Jesus made out of love for us. Still, when tested we offer only our weakest traits.**

**Forgive us dear God, for all the ways we fail to live out your example. Strengthen and guide us back to the path so that we may be courageous in our love, grateful in our service and generous in our sacrifice.**

**Hear now the confessions of our hearts.**

*(time of silence)*

**In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

## HOMILY

Rev. Livingston

With Thanksgiving

## HYMN 94<sup>1</sup>

An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare  
*verses 1-3*

*O Waly Waly*

An upper room did our Lord prepare  
For those He loved until the end:  
And His disciples still gather there,  
To celebrate their risen Friend.

A lasting gift Jesus gave His own;  
To share His bread, His loving cup.  
Whatever burdens may bow us down,  
He by His cross shall lift us up.

And after supper He washed their feet,  
For service, too, is sacrament.  
In Christ our joy shall be made complete:  
Sent out to serve, as He was sent.

*Karen McVoy, soprano*

### RESPONDING

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

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. Livingston & Rev. Northern

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### 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!**

## HYMN 76

My Song is Love Unknown  
*verses 1,3,5*

*Love Unknown*

My song is love unknown,  
My Savior's love to me,  
Love to the loveless shown  
That they might lovely be.  
O who am I  
That for my sake  
My Lord should take  
Frail flesh, and die?

Sometimes they strew His way,  
And His sweet praises sing,  
Resounding all the way  
Hosannas to their King,  
Then "Crucify!"  
Is all their breath,  
And for His death  
They thirst and cry.

Here might I stay and sing,  
No story so divine:  
Never was love, dear King,  
Never was grief like Thine.  
This is my Friend,  
In whose sweet praise  
I all my days  
Could gladly spend.

*Erik Rasmussen, tenor*

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*Rev. Livingston*

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this meal, shared among friends, in the warmth of each home, in the strength of your Spirit. We give you thanks for Jesus who has given himself to us. May his presence be the delight and pleasure of our souls, our strength and salvation in all temptations, our joy and peace in every trial, and our light and guide through the darkness of these holy days. Amen.**

#### *SENDING*

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

#### **BENEDICTION**

*Rev. Livingston*

#### **ORGAN**

Meditation on "Love Unknown"

*Matthew Corl*

Liturgical Resources for Today:

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# CONNECT WITH US.

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**Rev. Michael Livingston**

Interim Senior Minister

[mlivingston@trcnyc.org](mailto:mlivingston@trcnyc.org)

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## Pastoral and Program Staff

**Christopher Creaghan**

Associate Organist

[ccreaghan@trcnyc.org](mailto:ccreaghan@trcnyc.org)

**Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper**

Minister of Older Adults

[lharp@trcnyc.org](mailto:lharp@trcnyc.org)

**Rich Glassey**

Executive Director of Operations

[rglassey@trcnyc.org](mailto:rglassey@trcnyc.org)

**Christopher Johnson**

Director of Music and Organist

[cjohnson@trcnyc.org](mailto:cjohnson@trcnyc.org)

**Rev. Jim Keat**

Digital Minister

[jkeat@trcnyc.org](mailto:jkeat@trcnyc.org)

**Rev. Bruce Lamb**

Minister of Faith Formation

[blamb@trcnyc.org](mailto:blamb@trcnyc.org)

**Farley Lord**

Minister of Stewardship & Development

[flord@trcnyc.org](mailto:flord@trcnyc.org)

**Amanda Meisenheimer**

Minister of Children & Families

[mmeisenheimer@trcnyc.org](mailto:mmeisenheimer@trcnyc.org)

**Rev. Debra Northern**

Minister of Parish Care

[dnorthern@trcnyc.org](mailto:dnorthern@trcnyc.org)

**Carrie Quarquesso**

Coordinator for Worship & Arts

[cquarquesso@trcnyc.org](mailto:cquarquesso@trcnyc.org)

**Rev. Kevin VanHook**

Minister of Justice, Advocacy, & Change

[kvanhook@trcnyc.org](mailto:kvanhook@trcnyc.org)

**CONTACT US:**

To contact the church with general questions, call 212-870-6700 or email [communications@trcnyc.org](mailto:communications@trcnyc.org).

*For full staff directory visit [trcnyc.org/directory](http://trcnyc.org/directory)*

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