

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



MAY 17, 2020
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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:

“A community is not always an intentional gathering...sometimes communities form because unpredictable events and circumstances draw people into shared life intersections...Communities form when ego-focused concerns recede in favor of shared agendas and a more universal identity,”

-Barbara A. Holmes

In Joy Unspeakable: Contemplative Practices of the Black Church

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 Eastertide, a period of 50 days following the resurrection of Jesus Christ until Pentecost. The liturgical color of Eastertide is white, which symbolizes the hope of the resurrection, as well as the purity and newness that comes from victory over sin and death, as signified by the paraments and clergy stoles.

GATHERING

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

CARILLON

Hyfrydol

arr. Theophil Rusterholz

Charles, Semowich, Carillonneur

ORGAN

Offertoire pour une messe en l'honneur de la sainte Vierge

Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Praise be to our God! Let the praises long be heard!

All: God preserved us among the living. On solid rock our feet shall stand!

One: Like silver we have been tried and refined. We have survived the fire, the storms and the rain.

All: Praise be to our God for securing us in safety!

One: With praises on our tongues, we invite your Holy presence. Send your loving Spirit into our homes where we worship through the science of technology.

All: Praise be to our God for hearing the cries of our hearts!

OPENING HYMN 376

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Hyfrydol

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven to earth come down,
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit,
Let us find that second rest;
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Finish, then, Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation

**Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

INVOCATION

Rev. Bruce Lamb

LISTENING

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

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Annah Heckman

Acts 17:22-31

(pages 137 & 138 in the New Testament)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

Camille Massey

John 14:15-21

(page 109 in the New Testament)

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Fast Forward

Rev. Livingston

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Kevin VanHook

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up unto the Lord.

RESPONDING

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

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.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Annah Heckman

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Lakeisha McCoy

OFFERTORY SOLO

But the Lord, from "St. Paul"

Felix Mendelssohn

But the Lord is mindful of his own, the Lord remembers his children. Bow down before the Lord, ye mighty, for the Lord is near us.

Jeremy Leung, baritone

THE DOXOLOGY

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. Lamb

Today we celebrate the work of the Riverside Development Committee, which is working with our congregation to imagine the next 90 years of life and mission for The Riverside Church

CLOSING HYMN 391

Take My Life

Hendon

**Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.**

**Take my moments and my days;
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love.**

**Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee,
Swift and beautiful for Thee.**

**Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee,
Filled with messages from Thee.**

**Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee,
Ever, only, all for Thee.**

SENDING

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

BENEDICTION

Rev. Livingston

POSTLUDE

Grand Choeur in G Major

Théodore Salomé

Special thanks to our congregational leaders: Annah Heckman, Camille Massey

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**](http://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 visit [**trcnyc.org/Events**](http://trcnyc.org/Events) for more information and to download a copy.

WORSHIP ONLINE & ALL WEEK LONG

If you need more Riverside worship throughout the week, visit [**trcnyc.org/DigitalDiscipleship**](http://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.

CONNECT WITH US.

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For full staff directory visit trcnyc.org/directory



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