



# WELCOME TO THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

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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:

“Race and racism is a reality that so many of us grow up learning to just deal with. But if we ever hope to move past it, it can’t just be on people of color to deal with it. It’s up to all of us – Black, white, everyone – no matter how well-meaning we think we might be, to do the honest, uncomfortable work of rooting it out. It starts with self-examination and listening to those whose lives are different from our own. It ends with justice, compassion, and empathy that manifests in our lives and on our streets.”

-Michelle Obama

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## THE LITURGICAL YEAR

The Riverside Church follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together. We are currently in the Season after Pentecost, also known as Ordinary Time. It is signified by the green paraments and clergy stoles that represent new life and growth. Ordinary Time is observed from Pentecost until the beginning of Advent.

Bulletin Cover Image: *Jamie Sinclair @pressuregrafix*

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## GATHERING

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

### CARILLON

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*arr. Paul Koch*

*Charles, Semowich, Carillonneur*

### ORGAN

Amazing Grace

*arr. George Shearing*

### LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In our disheartened moments of lament God has showered us with love.

**All: Let us celebrate the many ways God responds to our calls.**

One: As we examine our past, help us to remember God's amazing grace.

**All: Stories of compassion and mercy across generations of struggle and strain.**

One: Open our hearts in gratitude that our future will be better than our past.

**All: Remind us of God's all-encompassing love as we worship God together.**

### OPENING HYMN 281

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*CWM Rhondda*

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,  
Pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;  
Hold me with Thy powerful hand;  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
Feed me till I want no more,  
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,  
Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through;  
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,  
Be Thou still my strength and shield,  
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death, and hell's destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan's side;  
Songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to Thee,  
I will ever give to Thee.

## INVOCATION

Rev. Kevin VanHook

### LISTENING

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

## PSALTER LESSON

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

Psalms 116: 1-2, 12-19

*(pages 564 & 565 in the Old Testament)*

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE LESSON

Jania Jones

Romans 5:1-8

*(page 155 in the New Testament)*

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

Rev. Dr. Jacqueline Lewis

In the Matter of Black Lives

## PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Livingston

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

Rev. VanHook

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Rev. Livingston

### OFFERTORY SOLO

Then Shall the Righteous Shine Forth

*Felix Mendelssohn*

Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in their heavenly Maker's realm.  
Joy on their head shall be for everlasting, and all sorrow and mourning shall flee  
away for ever. (from *Elijah*)

*Jack Cotterell, tenor*

### 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. Livingston

### CLOSING HYMN 280

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

*Amazing Grace*

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares,  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,  
His Word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we'd first begun.

### SENDING

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

## BENEDICTION

Rev. Livingston

## POSTLUDE

Toccata in G Major

*Théodore Dubois*



The Rev. Jacqueline J. Lewis, Ph.D. is Senior Minister at Middle Collegiate Church, a 1,300-member multiethnic, welcoming, and inclusive congregation in New York City. She is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary and earned her Ph.D. in Religion and Society/ Psychology and Religion at Drew University. Ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA), Dr. Lewis hosted “Just Faith,” an on-demand television program on

MSNBC.com and is a frequent media commentator. Her books include *The Power of Stories: A Guide for Leaders in Multi-racial, Multi-cultural Congregations*, *Ten Strategies for Becoming a Multiracial Congregation*, and the children’s book, *You Are So Wonderful!* She is currently at work on a book on how to heal souls and our world.

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*Special thanks to our congregational leader: Jania Jones*

## **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](http://trcnyc.org/directory)*



[trcnyc.org](http://trcnyc.org)



**THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH**  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK