

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:


“Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us.”

-Marianne Williamson

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](https://www.instagram.com/pressuregrafix)

GATHERING

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

CARILLON

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

arr. Betty Buchanan

Charles Semowich, carillonneur

ORGAN

Come Thou, Jesu, From Heaven to Earth (BWV 650)

J. S. Bach

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Amanda Meisenheimer

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Holy Light of the World, come shine on us!

All: Chase our fears into the darkness far away from our hearts.

One: Brighten our minds, let our lights emerge from within.

All: Fill us with the courage to shine in Your glory.

One: Embolden in us the power of Your unequivocal love.

All: Let us receive Your Word today in worship!

OPENING HYMN 263

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

St. Denio

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessèd, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small;
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish; but naught changeth Thee.

Thou reignest in glory, Thou rulest in light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render; O help us to see
‘Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

INVOCATION

Rev. Bruce Lamb

LISTENING

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

GOSPEL LESSON

Amanda Meisenheimer

John 12:42-50

(page 107 in the New Testament)

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Kevin VanHook

Who's Afraid of the Dark?

PASTORAL PRAYER

Minister Derrick Jordan

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. Lamb

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Frances Connell

OFFERTORY SOLO

Give Me Jesus

Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan

In the morning, when I rise, give me Jesus. You may have all this world, give me Jesus. Dark midnight was my cry: "Give me Jesus". And when I come to die, give me Jesus.

Irene Ryan King, mezzo-soprano

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

Amanda Meisenheimer

Today we celebrate the work of the Sojourners Ministry, which works with people currently held in detention centers in the U.S., while petitioning for asylum and providing support to those recently released.

CLOSING HYMN 286

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

St. Bride

Give to the winds thy fears;
Hope and be undismayed:
God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears,
God shall lift up thy head.

Through waves and clouds and storms
God gently clears thy way;
Wait patiently; so shall this night
Soon end in joyous day.

Leave to God's sovereign sway
To choose and to command;
So shalt thou, wondering, own God's way,
How wise, how strong God's hand!

On God the Lord rely,
And safe shalt thou go on;
Fix on God's work thy steadfast eye,
So shall thy work be done.

SENDING

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

BENEDICTION

Rev. VanHook

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

Paul Manz

Special thanks to our congregational leader: Frances Connell

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



trcnyc.org



THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK