

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:


“We usually assume that we got smart first and then had to have an extended childhood to cultivate the circuitry of that smartness, and then had to live long enough as adults to care for our smart, slow-growing kids... the order of events is just the opposite. We got old, we got young, we got smart.”

from *Woman, An Intimate Geography* by Natalie Angier

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

GATHERING

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

CARILLON

O Jesus, Crowned with all Renown

arr. Betty Buchanan

Charles Semowich, carillonneur

ORGAN

Fantasia in G Major (BWV 572)

J.S. Bach

Christopher Johnson, organist

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister Derrick Jordan

One: God of life, we look to You to nurture our souls.

All: Come into this worship. Guide us with Your kind and caring hands.

One: In the purity of Your love we seek Your tender embrace.

All: Hold us close as our hearts learn to be wise.

One: Like the time spent in our mother's womb, You keep us safe.

All: In the safety of Your arms, help us to hear the voices of our biblical mothers and the Word that You share through their stories. Come, let us worship together.

OPENING HYMN 489

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

Unser Herrscher

Open now thy gates of beauty,
Zion, let me enter there,
Where my soul in joyful duty
Waits for God who answers prayer;
O how blessèd is this place,
Filled with solace, light, and grace!

Gracious God, I come before Thee,
Come Thou also down to me;
Where we find Thee and adore Thee,
There a heaven on earth must be;
To my heart O enter Thou,
Let it be Thy temple now.

Speak, O Lord, and I will hear Thee,
Let Thy will be done indeed;
May I undisturbed draw near Thee,
While Thou dost Thy people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows,
Here is balm for all our woes.

INVOCATION

Minister Jordan

LISTENING

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

SOLO

I Got Me Flowers

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Had I got me flowers to strew thy way;
I got me boughs off many a tree:
But thou wast up by break of day
And brought'st thy sweets along with thee

The Sun arising in the East
Though he give light, and the East perfume;
If they should offer to contest
With thy arising, they presume

Can there be any day but this
Though many suns to shine endeavour?
We count three hundred, but we miss:
There is but one, and that one ever
(*from Five Mystical Songs*)

Sidney Outlaw, baritone

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON Athena Wilkinson, Chloe & Mara Landers
Genesis 30:1, 6, 8, 22-23; 31:14-16, 35; 35:18
(*pages 26, 27, 28, 32 in the Old Testament*)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

When Rachel Speaks

Rev. Livingston

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Bruce Lamb

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

Irene King

OFFERTORY SOLO

Lord God of Abraham

Felix Mendelssohn

Draw near, all ye people, come to me. Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, this day let it be known that Thou art God, and that I am Thy servant! Lord God of Abraham! Oh show to all this people that I have done these things according to Thy word. Oh hear me, Lord, and answer me! Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, oh hear me and answer me, and show this people that Thou art Lord God. And let their hearts again be turned! (*from Elijah*)

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

Minister Jordan

Today we celebrate the work of our entire Music Ministry, which provides beautiful music for all our services, concerts and events, bringing glory to God through music.

CLOSING HYMN 339

Be Thou My Vision

Slane

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;

Nought be all else to me, save that Thou art

Thou my best thought, by day or by night,

Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,

Thou mine inheritance, now and always:

Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,

Great God of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

**Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

SENDING

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

BENEDICTION

Rev. Livingston

POSTLUDE

Prelude in F Major

Fanny Mendelssohn

Special thanks to our congregational leaders: Athena Wilkinson, Chloe & Mara Landers, & Irene King

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