



# The Riverside Church

in the City of New York

For such a time as *this*

JANUARY 10, 2021  
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

# 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:

“The power of life and death is in the tongue”

-Barry C. Black, U.S. Senate Chaplain

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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 of Advent, the four weeks leading up to Christmas in which we prepare ourselves for the coming of the Christ child. Advent is signified by purple paraments and clergy stoles representing the sovereignty of Christ (except for Communion Sundays when the liturgical color is white). Each week we light a candle in the wreath on the Nave floor for the four themes of Advent: hope, peace, joy (pink) and love.

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## GATHERING

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

### CARILLON

How Brightly Shines the Morning Star *Johann Pachelbel, arr. Charles Semowich*

*Charles Semowich, carillonneur*

### ORGAN

Berceuse sur le nom de SWANN

*George Baker*

*Christopher Creaghan, organist*

### LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

*Amanda Meisenheimer*

### CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>

*Hsien-Yu Wang*

One: Give to our God, O heavenly beings. Give to our God glory and strength.

**All: Give to our God a glorious name; worship our God in holy splendor.**

One: The voice of our God is over the waters; the God of glory thunders,  
the Lord, over mighty waters.

**All: The voice of our God is powerful; the voice of our God is full of  
majesty.**

One: May our God give strength to the people!

**All: May the Lord bless the people with peace!**

### OPENING HYMN 474

**O Splendor of God's Glory Bright**

*Puer Nobis Nascitur*

**O splendor of God's glory bright,  
From light eternal bringing light;  
Thou light of life, light's living spring,  
True day, all days illumining.**

**Come, Holy Sun of heavenly love,  
Shower down Thy radiance from above,  
And to our inward hearts convey  
The Holy Spirit's cloudless ray.**

**O joyful be the passing day  
With thoughts as clear as morning's ray,  
With faith like noontide shining bright,  
Our souls unshadowed by the night.**

**O Lord, with each returning morn  
Thine image to our hearts is born;  
O may we ever clearly see  
Our Savior and our God in Thee!**

## INVOCATION

### *LISTENING*

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

## GOSPEL LESSON

Hylde Clarke

Mark 1:4-11

*(pages 34 & 35 in the New Testament)*

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

Rev. Bruce Lamb

You Are God's Beloved!

### *RESPONDING*

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

## PASTORAL PRAYER

Amanda Meisenheimer

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And with your spirit.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

## 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

Wang

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Dr. Martha Wiggins

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Ich folge dir

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

I follow You likewise with happy steps and do not leave You, my Life, my Light. Pursue your journey, and don't stop, continue to draw me on, to push me, to urge me.

*Jessica Marsten, 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 mission of our Faith Formation Ministry, which serves to nourish and grow the faith of everyone seeking to know God, explore faith, ask challenging questions about life, and grow closer to God and one another.*

## CLOSING HYMN 67

**Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning**

*Morning Star*

**Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;  
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

**Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining,  
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;  
Angels adore Him in slumber reclining,  
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all!**

**Shall we then yield Him, in costly devotion,  
Odors of Edom and offerings divine,  
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,  
Myrrh from the forest, or gold from the mine?**

**Vainly we offer each ample oblation,  
Vainly with gifts would His favor secure;  
Richer by far is the heart's adoration,  
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.  
Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;  
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

*SENDING*

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

**BENEDICTION**

Rev. Lamb

**POSTLUDE**

In dir ist freude (BWV 615)

*J. S. Bach*

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Liturgical Resources for Today:

<sup>1</sup>*Inspired by Psalm 29*

*Special thanks to our congregational leader: Hylde Clarke*

## **Featured on the cover left to right:**

***Kamala Harris*** United States senator from California, and the first African American, the first Asian American, and the third female vice presidential running mate on a major party ticket.

***Debra White Plume*** Championed the rights of the Oglala Lakota in South Dakota and led protests at Wounded Knee and oil pipeline sites. "I'm Lakota, I'm a woman, and water is the domain of the women in our nation,"

***Dr. Jill Biden*** Second lady from 2009 to 2017. Married to Joe Biden, the U.S. president-elect, who is set to be inaugurated on January 20, 2021, at which time she will become first lady.

***Lucille and Ruby Bridges*** In 1960 Ruby and her mother Lucille braved a gauntlet of threats and racist slurs to escort Ruby to a formerly all-white school in New Orleans in what became a symbol of opposition to segregation.

***Monica Roberts*** Transgender rights advocate, founding editor of TransGriot and cofounder of the National Transgender Advocacy Coalition. The first to provide nationwide coverage of homicides against trans women of color, combing news reports to find misgendered murder victims.

***Anne Frank*** German-Dutch diarist of Jewish origin, she gained fame posthumously with the publication of *The Diary of a Young Girl*, in which she documents her life in hiding from 1942 to 1944, during the German occupation of the Netherlands in World War II.

***Deidre Davis Butler*** A wheelchair user herself, Deidre helped draft the landmark Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, and held government posts championing people with disabilities, especially those of color.

## **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/online\*\*](http://trcnyc.org/online) 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)*



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