

# The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



APRIL 11, 2021  
FIRST SUNDAY OF EASTER

# 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:

“We are all called to live in the power of the resurrection.”

-Rev. Kevin VanHook

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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 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.

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## GATHERING

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

### CARILLON

Toccata Jubilante

*Jac Bonset*

*Charles Semowich, carillonneur*

### ORGAN

Christ is Arisen

*Anton Wilhelm Leupold*

Prelude on "O Filii et Fillae"

*Healey Willan*

*Christopher Creaghan, organist*

### LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: How good and pleasant it is when we live in unity.

**All: Let the spirit of God unite us as we assemble with hope.**

One: New hope for a season blessed by God's peace.

**All: Let us receive Christ's voice saying, peace be with you!**

One: In humility, patience, love and grace let us enter into worship with an open heart and mind.

**All: May peace be with us all! Let us worship and give God praise!**

### INVOCATION

#### OPENING HYMN 104

**Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!**

*Hymn to Joy*

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!

Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: All creation is amazed.

In the desert all-surrounding, See a spreading tree has grown.

Healing leaves of grace abounding Bring a taste of love unknown.

Christ is risen! Raise your spirits From the caverns of despair.

Walk with gladness in the morning, see what love can do and dare.

Drink the wine of resurrection, Not a servant, but a friend.

Jesus is our song companion. Joy and peace shall never end.

Chris is risen! Earth and heaven Nevermore shall be the same.

Break the bread of new creation Where the world is still in pain.

Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"

God the First and Last is with us, Sing Hosanna, everyone!

## LISTENING

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

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Minister Charlene Wingate

One: Lord have mercy.

**All: Christ have mercy.**

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

#### NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Lissa Dodington

John 20:19-31

*(page 115 in the New Testament)*

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

Rev. Kevin VanHook

Scared to Life

## RESPONDING

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

### 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.**

### 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.**

### CHORAL AMEN

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

Minister Wingate

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Vernay Mitchell McKnight

### OFFERTORY SOLO

Walk Together, Children

*Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan*

Walk together children, don't you get weary. Walk together children, don't you get weary. Oh, talk together children, don't you get weary. There's a great camp meeting in the Promised Land. Sing together children, don't you get weary. Sing together children, don't you get weary. Oh, shout together children, don't you get weary. There's a great camp meeting in the Promised Land. Gonna mourn and never tire. Mourn and never tire. Mourn and never tire. There's a great camp meeting in the Promised Land.

*Linda Childs, soprano*

*Matt King, piano*

### 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

*Today we celebrate the ministry of the Sharing & Densford Funds, which offer grants to ministries around the world, so that all people may know safety, have access to education, clean drinking water, and live each day knowing their worth in God's beloved community.*

### CLOSING HYMN 399

**We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight**

*Dunlap's Creek*

**We walk by faith and not by sight;  
No gracious words we hear  
From Christ Who spoke as none e'er spoke;  
But we believe Him near.**

**We may not touch His hands and side,  
Nor follow where He trod;  
But in His promise we rejoice,  
And cry, "My Lord and God!"**

**Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;  
And may our faith abound  
To call on You when You are near  
And seek where You are found:**

**That, when our life of faith is done,  
In realms of clearer light  
We may behold You as You are,  
With full and endless sight.**

*SENDING*

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

**BENEDICTION**

Rev. VanHook

**POSTLUDE**

Toccata on "O Filii et Filiae"

*Lynwood Farnam*

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*Special thanks to our congregational leaders: Lissa Dodington & Vernay Mitchell McKnight*

## **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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**Rev. Michael Livingston**  
Interim Senior Minister  
mlivingston@trcnyc.org

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## Pastoral and Program Staff

**Meighan Corbett**  
Director of Stewardship & Development  
mcorbett@trcnyc.org

**Christopher Creaghan**  
Associate Organist  
ccreaghan@trcnyc.org

**Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper**  
Minister of Older Adults  
lharper@trcnyc.org

**Rich Glassey**  
Executive Director of Operations  
rglassey@trcnyc.org

**Christopher Johnson**  
Director of Music and Organist  
cjohnson@trcnyc.org

**Rev. Jim Keat**  
Digital Minister  
jkeat@trcnyc.org

**Rev. Bruce Lamb**  
Minister of Faith Formation  
blamb@trcnyc.org

**Amanda Meisenheimer**  
Minister of Children & Families  
mmeisenheimer@trcnyc.org

**Rev. Debra Northern**  
Minister of Parish Care  
dnorthern@trcnyc.org

**Carrie Quarquesso**  
Coordinator for Worship & Arts  
cquarquesso@trcnyc.org

**Rev. Kevin VanHook**  
Minister of Justice, Advocacy, & Change  
kvanhook@trcnyc.org

## CONTACT US:

To contact the church with general questions, call 212-870-6700 or email [communications@trcnyc.org](mailto:communications@trcnyc.org).

*For full staff directory visit [trcnyc.org/directory](http://trcnyc.org/directory)*



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