

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
HOMECOMING SUNDAY

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 regularly capitulate to the world’s standards of greatness, which are usually yoked with power over, wealth, control, status, influence, etc. Criteria set by those who do not have the Gospel in mind, who choose blissful unawareness of Jesus’ principles, who have relegated the ministry of Jesus to the margins of moral imagination.”

-Karoline Lewis, Professor of Biblical Preaching, Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN

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.

Whats happening at Riverside?

Learn about the events and activities of the Life of Our Community by opening your camera and scanning the code below.



Give by your phone

Make an offering using your smartphone by opening your camera and scanning the code below.

Or text TRCNYCGIVE to
833.833.4035.





GATHERING

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

CARILLON

Hail Festival Day

arr. Phyllis Webb

Centennial Prelude on "God of Grace and God of Glory"

Robert Hebble, arr. James Lawson

Fanfare for Riverside's Homecoming

Charles Semowich

Four Variations on the Parsival Chime

Johan Franco

Charles Semowich, carillonneur

HYMN SING

Please meditate silently on the hymn, and refrain from singing.

341 Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine! vs. 1 & 2

Assurance

479 Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven vs. 1, 2 & 3

Lauda Anima

504 Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether vs. 1 & 3

Union Seminary

138 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! vs. 1, 2, & 4

Nicaea

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Jim Keat

One: Let our hearts overflow with the joy of coming home!

All: **A celebration of endurance through a time of narrow hope.**

One: With fresh eyes shall we gaze upon the warmth of every smile,

All: **In the company of those we have not encountered in awhile.**

One: Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you!

All: **Welcome home to a place where our spirits will be renewed.**

For the Glory of God let us worship.

INVOCATION

INTROIT

Gabi, Gabi

Trad. South African melody

Trans. Nyberg, Notman KB, Ljungbro, and Parkman

Praise our Creator, Liberator, and Lord, who frees all the captives and gives the hungry bread.

OPENING HYMN 442

Please meditate silently on the hymn, and refrain from singing.

The Church's One Foundation

Aurelia

LISTENING

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Debra Northern

In a moment of silence, offer your own prayers of confession.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM

Great Day

Trad. Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan

Great Day the righteous marchin', God's gonna build up Zion's wall. Chariot moved on the mountain top, brother. My God spoke an' de chariot stopped, sister. This is the year of Jubilee, brother. My God set the people free, sister. Great Day that mornin', Great Day my brother, Great Day my sister, God's gonna build up Zion's wall!

Christopher Judd, baritone

PSALTER LESSON

Rev. Phil Tom

Psalms 1:1-6

(page 489 in the Old Testament)

Please join in our responsive Psalter reading.

One: Happy are those
who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread,
or sit in the seat of scoffers;

**All: But their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on the Lord's law they meditate day and night.**

One: They are like trees
planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,

**All: and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper**

One: The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

**All: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgement,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

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

All: Thanks be to God.

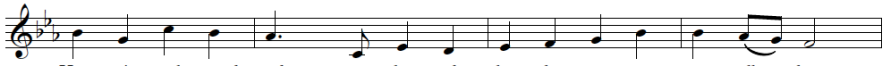
HYMN We Belong Because We're Eager²



1. We be - long be - cause we're ea - ger for a lar - ger, com - mon_ aim,
 2. We be - lieve we're called to tra - vel through a realm where ques - tions_ thrive,
 3. We be - come trans - formed em - brac - ing those we once had judged as_ strange.
 4. May the grace and love sus - tain - ing our dear chur - ch's sto - ried_ past



some com - mit - ment much less mea - ger than suc - cess of wealth or_ fame.
 As our cer - tain - ties un - ra - vel faith and won - der come a - live.
 Life to - ge - ther means dis - plac - ing fear of o - thers bring - ing_ change.
 grant us cour - age for at - tain - ing the i - deals that we hold_ fast,



Here we're wel - comed and re - lat - ed by the pur - pose we all_ share:
 They ex - tend our range of see - ing to the ve - ry core of_ things
 Ways of pray - ing, be - ing, do - ing that our hearts re - sist at_ first
 till be - long - ing and be - liev - ing and be - com - ing are the_ way



liv - ing as we were cre - a - ted_ for a life of trust and care.
 where all life is giv - en be - ing_ and fresh hope for - e - ver springs.
 come in time to be re - new - ing, quench - ing our pro - found - est thirst.
 that we learn the art of weav - ing_ how we live with what we pray.

GOSPEL LESSON

Phil Salmon

Mark 9:30-37

(page 45 in the New Testament)

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Livingston

Welcome

RESPONDING

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

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

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 in heaven,

Hallowed be Your name.

Your kingdom come,

Your 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.

Save us from the time of trial, deliver us from evil.

For Yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CHORAL AMEN

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Juanita Curtain & Carol Lee

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Psalm 122

C. Hubert Parry

I was glad when they said unto me, we will go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand in thy gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is builded as a city, that is at unity in itself. O pray for the peace of Jerusalem, they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, and plenteousness within thy palaces.

Nancy Wertsch, conductor

THE DOXOLOGY

Please meditate silently and refrain from singing.

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. Bruce Lamb

Today we joyfully celebrate 91 years of tireless dedication from all members of our lay ministries, committees, and commissions, here at The Riverside Church.

CLOSING HYMN 420

Please meditate silently on the hymn, and refrain from singing.

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM Rhondda

SENDING

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

BENEDICTION

Rev. Livingston

POSTLUDE

Final, from Symphonie No. 1

Louis Vierne

Special thanks to our congregational leaders: Phil Salmon, Juanita Curtain & Carol Lee

Liturgical Resources for Today:

¹A joyful song of liberation from South Africa, once sung in hope, now in thanksgiving

²Commissioned for the 85th Anniversary of The Riverside Church. Thomas H. Troeger, Copyright © 2015 Oxford University Press.

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 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 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 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.

PARKING - 9/19/2021

Parking is available in the garage below the building. Present this bulletin to the attendant before 6:00 p.m. for a reduced rate of \$5.00.

CONNECT WITH US.

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For full staff directory visit trcnyc.org/directory



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