

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 26, 2021
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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 are permitted to question God, to challenge God, to demand an accounting from God. And this, rather than diminishing God is truly to take God seriously.”

-Robert McAfee Brown, from the introduction to *The Trial of God* by Elie Wiesel

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

Prelude, Fugue, Choral and Variations on Mit Freuden Zart
(World Premiere)

Ludo Geloen

ORGAN

Andante, from Symphonie No. 1

Louis Vierne

Christopher Creaghan, organist

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

One: I am the church; you are the church.

All: We are the church together.

One: We depend on our seniors and long-time members to remember our history and past experiences.

All: We are the church together.

One: We depend on our youth, new members and guests to retell our sacred stories, ask questions and make suggestions.

All: We are the church together. Let us worship together.

INVOCATION

OPENING HYMN 265

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

Great God We Sing That Mighty Hand

Wareham

LISTENING

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Minister Charlene Wingate

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

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RECEPTION OF CONFIRMANDS

Jania Jones
Chloe Landers
Isabella Soto

ANTHEM

Yih'yu l'ratzon²

Ernest Bloch

May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable to you, Adonai, my Rock and my Redeemer. (sung in Hebrew)

PSALTER LESSON

Chloe Landers

Psalm 19:7-14

(page 499 in the Old Testament)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

HYMN 419

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

Repton

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isabella Soto

Numbers 11:10-16

(page 129 in the Old Testament)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Dr. Jonathan Lee Walton

God, I Quit!

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 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

Jania Jones

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Ken Eisner

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Psalm 121

Leo Sowerby

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. God will not suffer thy foot to be moved; she that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall not slumber nor sleep. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. The Lord is thy keeper, thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon at night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil, and shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even forevermore. Amen.

Jennifer Borghi, soprano

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. Lamb

Today we celebrate the work of our Faith Passage Confirmation Ministry, which gathers youth and their mentors for a time of spiritual development and discernment to prepare them to publicly confirm their faith at The Riverside Church.

CLOSING HYMN 343

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

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

Beecher

SENDING

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

BENEDICTION

Rev. Livingston

POSTLUDE

Postlude in C Major

Henry Smart

Special thanks to our congregational leaders: Jania Jones, Chloe Landers, Isabella Soto, & Ken Eisner

Liturgical Resources for Today:

¹Resources adapted from *UCC Worship Ways*

²From “Sacred Service”



Dr. Jonathan Lee Walton is the Dean of the Divinity School at Wake Forest University in

Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Trained as a social ethicist focusing on evangelical Christianity, his work and insights have been featured in several national and international news outlets that range from the New York Times, CNN, Time Magazine, ESPN, and the BBC.

His latest book, *A Lens of Love: Reading the Bible in Its World for Our World* (Westminster John Knox Press) explores the Bible from the perspective of the most vulnerable and violated characters. Its aim is to underscore a tradition of Christian witness that privileges radical inclusion and social justice. He is also the author of *Watch This! The Ethics and Aesthetics of Black Televangelism* (New York University Press). *Watch This!* examines the impact of evangelical religious broadcasting on African American religious and political thought.

Dean Walton earned his Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Divinity degrees from Princeton Theological Seminary. He served as the Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church at Harvard University prior to his appointment at Wake Forest. Along with serving as the Dean of the School of Divinity, Professor Walton also occupies the Presidential Chair in Religion & Society and is the inaugural Dean of Wait Chapel at Wake Forest University.

Dean Walton is married to Cecily Cline, a children’s book author, and they are the parents of three children—Zora Neale, Elijah Mays, and Baldwin Cline.

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.

PARKING - 9/26/2021

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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CONTACT US:

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For full staff directory visit trcnyc.org/directory



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