

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



SERVICE OF HOPE & CONSOLATION
DECEMBER 5, 2021 2:00PM
CHRIST CHAPEL

BLESSING IN THE CHAOS

*To all that is chaotic in you,
let there come silence.*

*Let there be
a calming
of the clamoring,
a stilling
of the voices that
have laid their claim
on you,
that have made their
home in you, that go with you
even to the
holy places
but will not
let you rest,
will not let you
hear your life
with wholeness
or feel the grace
that fashioned you.*

*Let what distracts you cease.
Let what divides you
cease.*

*Let there come an end
to what diminishes
and demeans,
and let depart
all that keeps you
in its cage.*

*Let there be
an opening
into the quiet
that lies beneath
the chaos,
where you find
the peace
you did not think
possible
and see what shimmers
within the storm.*

- Jan Richardson



Piano and Violin

Meditation from 'Thais'

Jules Massenet

Welcome

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

+Call To Worship from Psalm 27:1, 13-14

One: The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

**All: The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?**

One: I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living.

**All: Wait for the Lord;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the Lord!**

+Opening Prayer

+Hymn

Please meditate silently on the hymn and refrain from singing.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Isaiah 40:1, 25-31

Minister Derrick Jordan

+*All who are able, please stand*

Psalm 121

Rev. Dr. Debra Northern

Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer, our spirits by thine advent here.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Matthew 11:28-30

Rev. Harper

Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

O come, O Desire of nations, bind, in one the hearts of all mankind.
Bid all our sad divisions cease and be yourself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Lighting of Candles of Hope and Remembrance

You are invited to come forward and light a candle in remembrance of a loved one, on acknowledgement of a loss, or in the hope of the light of Christ.

Music Violin meditation

Kristina Giles

Prayer for Healing

Rev. Northern

**The God of strength moves within us;
the God of courage hears our distress.
The God of hope reveals wholeness to us;
the God of healing touches us when we are broken.
When the pain overwhelms us, when the burden is too heavy,
we turn to our God, who sustains us and comforts us.
When there is loneliness, when there is isolation,
we turn to our God, who loves us tenderly and fiercely.
For God created us, redeemed us and sustains us,
and we are not alone.
Lead us in your ways, O God, and bring us your healing touch.**

Benediction

Rev. Northern

Postlude

Violin Meditation

Kristina Giles

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Debra Northern
Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper
Minister Derrick Jordan
Christopher Creaghan
Kristina Giles
Russell Saint John

CONNECT WITH US.

Rev. Michael Livingston

Interim Senior Minister
mlivingston@trcnyc.org

Pastoral and Program Staff

Meighan Corbett

Director of Stewardship & Development
mcorbett@trcnyc.org

Christopher Creaghan

Interim Director of Music & Organist
ccreaghan@trcnyc.org

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

Minister of Older Adults
lharper@trcnyc.org

Rich Glassey

Executive Director of Operations
rglassey@trcnyc.org

Rev. Jim Keat

Digital Minister
jkeat@trcnyc.org

Rev. Bruce Lamb

Minister of Faith Formation
blamb@trcnyc.org

Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer

Minister of Children & Families
mmeisenheimer@trcnyc.org

Rev. Dr. Debra Northern

Minister of Parish Care
dnorthern@trcnyc.org

Carrie Quarquesso

Coordinator for Worship & Arts
cqarquesso@trcnyc.org

Min. Richard X III

Assistant Minister of Faith Formation
rx@trcnyc.org

CONTACT US:

To contact the church with general questions, call 212-870-6700 or email communications@trcnyc.org.

For full staff directory visit trcnyc.org/directory



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