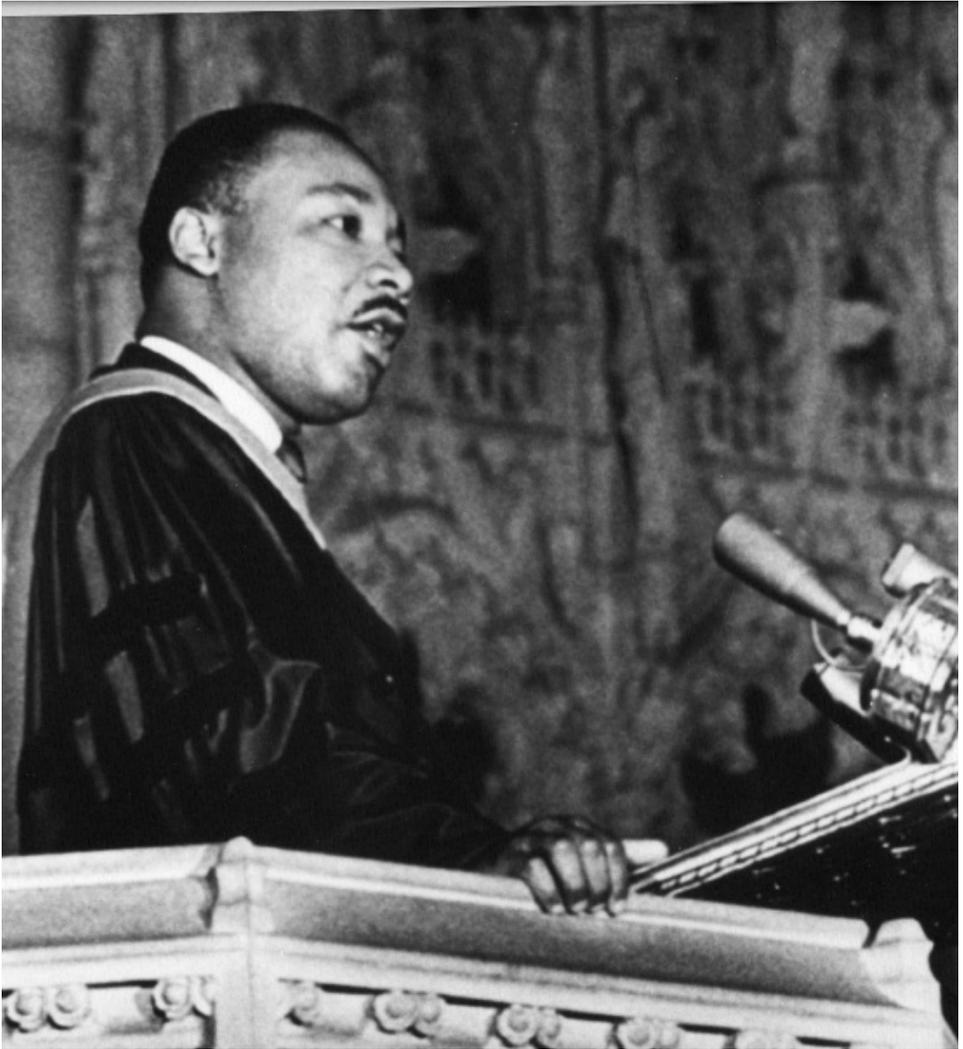


The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



JANUARY 16, 2022
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
MLK 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:

God's love is constantly at work to heal us from the infirmities of victimization. Jesus came that we might have life and to be whole in order that we might be free indeed.

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 Epiphany, as signified by white paraments and clergy stoles, symbolizing joy in the light of Christ's birth.

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.



Following industry standard, Riverside has secured rapid onsite COVID testing services for the health and safety of performers singing together, allowing us to permit unmasked singing. All performers will remain masked at all other times, but will unmask for anthems and singing in the chancel.



GATHERING

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

CARILLON

Lift Every Voice and Sing
MLK's Dream
I'll Overcome Someday

arr. Joey Brink
Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra
Albert Findley, arr. by Milford Myre

Charles Semowich, carillonneur

ORGAN

Blessed Assurance

arr. Nancy Wertsch

Christopher Creaghan, organist

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Rev. Dr. Debra Northern

One: The God whom we worship is able to beat back gigantic waves of opposition and to bring low prodigious mountains of evil.

All: The ringing testimony of the Christian faith is that God is able.

One: Humankind must evolve for all human conflict a method which rejects revenge, aggression and retaliation.

All: The foundation of such a method is love.

One: Without love there is no reason to know anyone, for love will in the end connect us to our neighbors, our children and our hearts.

**All: Let us worship at its best, with people of all levels of life coming together to realize our oneness and unity under God.
Let us worship in beloved community.**

INVOCATION

OPENING HYMN 341

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine

Assurance

LISTENING

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Northern

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

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM

The Dream and the Dreamer: II. Color (Martin's Theme)

M. Roger Holland II

I am more than the color on my face. I am more than the color you see. I am the child my parents bore, the hope of my ancestors gone on before. The smiles and tears of yesteryears, I am me. I am more than the color on my hands. I am more than the color you see. I am the work I've done, the souls I've touched, I am me. I am more than the color on my feet. I am more than the color you see. I am the places I've been, the lessons I've learned. I am me. I am more, much more. I am more, so much more. Open your eyes and see me. Open your heart and see me. Close your eyes and see me.

*The Inspirational Choir
Nedra Olds-Neal, director
Folei Brown, soprano
Linda Childs, alto
Robert Hughes, tenor
Barry Spatz, piano*

EPISTLE LESSON

Rev. Livingston

Romans 8:31-39

(page 158 in the New Testament)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

God's Love Feast is Now At Hand²



1. God's love feast is now at hand, Pre - pare for the dream di - vine,
 2. The signs of the reign of God, still hid - den from pow'r and might,
 3. Ye home - less and hun - gry come, op - pressed ones and lone - ly too.
 4. Come all ye who tend the feast. Serve hum - bly as love de - mands.
 5. And lest faith and cour-age fail While saints wait in hope to see



A just way of life for all hu - man kind.
 can - not be dis - cerned by mere hu - man sight;
 The feast day has dawned, There's good news for you.
 With tow - el and bowl Speak peace to all lands.
 The ban - quet of life for love's fa - mi - ly,



The new wine is rea - dy, Bread bro - ken for all.
 Yet Christ shows be - lie - vers a trea - sure so fair.
 Your name has been writ - ten as God's spe - cial guest.
 Though king - doms should threat - ten To si - lence your voice,
 God's Mo - ther - ing Spi - rit Now e - choes the Son:



In - vite all cre - a - tion to God's ban - quet hall.
 A - bun - dant pro - vi - sions for all souls to share.
 Sit down at the ta - ble, find peace and sweet rest.
 God reigns, be not fear - ful, Sing on and re - joice.
 Hold on to the pro - mise, God's will shall be done.



A - wake and a - rise _____ The love feast is wait - ing.



Re - joice and re - ceive God's free gift of love.

GOSPEL LESSON

Michael Winger

John 5:1-9

(page 96 in the New Testament)

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes Jr.

Healing from Infirmities of Victimization

RESPONDING

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

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Michael 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

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

INSPIRATIONAL DANCE

Ntrinsik Movement Dance Company

"Love Letter"

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Chiara Fuller

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Sound Over All Waters³

Paul Halley

Sound over all waters, reach out from all lands
The chorus of voices, the clasping of hands;
Sing hymns that were sung by the stars of the morn,
Sing songs of the angels when Jesus was born;
With glad jubilations bring hope to the nations:

The dark night is ending and dawn has begun.
Arise, hope of the ages, arise like the sun.
All speech flows to music, all hearts beat as one.
The dark night is ending, and dawn has begun.

Blow, bugles of battle, the marches of peace,
East, west, north and south, let the long quarrels cease;
Sing the song of great joy that the angels began,
Sing of glory to God, and of good will to man!
Joining in chorus, the heavens bend o'er us:

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 Theatre of the Oppressed, which uses interactive drama as an educational means of engaging and empowering participants to confront and address oppressive situations that challenge their everyday lives.

CLOSING HYMN 398

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

SENDING

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

BENEDICTION

Rev. Livingston

POSTLUDE

Improvisation on "We Shall Overcome"

Carl Haywood

Special thanks to our congregational leaders: Michael Winger & Chiara Fuller

Liturgical Resources for Today:

¹*A compilation of words from Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

²*Words and music by Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes Jr. Harmonization by Bettye F. Forbes.*

³*Composed in honor of Coretta Scott King, widow of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

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

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.

JOIN OUR WEEKLY SERMON TALKBACK

Go deeper with the sermons from The Riverside Church every Sunday after worship for a sermon talkback as part of Virtual Coffee Hour. Visit trcnyc.org/VirtualCoffeeHour to join us online or go to 311 MLK to join us in person. If you are unable to join the live conversation you can listen to After the Amen, our weekly sermon talkback podcast, as Riverside clergy and congregants talk with Sunday's preacher about how their sermon resonates in our lives and in our world. Visit trcnyc.org/AfterTheAmen to listen now.

RIVERSIDE EMAIL LIST

Are you receiving our weekly emails? Check your junk folder and add communications@trcnyc.org 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!

DOWNLOAD THE RIVERSIDE APP

Take Riverside with you, wherever you go. Text TRCNYC to 833.833.4035 or visit trcnyc.org/app to download the app and stay connected to all the videos, podcasts, and events from The Riverside Church.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON CARILLON RECITALS

Fall and Winter 2021 Sunday afternoon carillon recitals take place most weeks at 3:00 p.m. and can be best heard outdoors listening from Sakura Park, immediately north of The Riverside Church at 122nd Street. Visit trcnyc.org/CarillonRecitals for the complete schedule.

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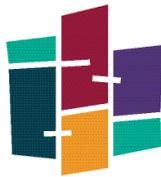
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For full staff directory visit trcnyc.org/directory



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