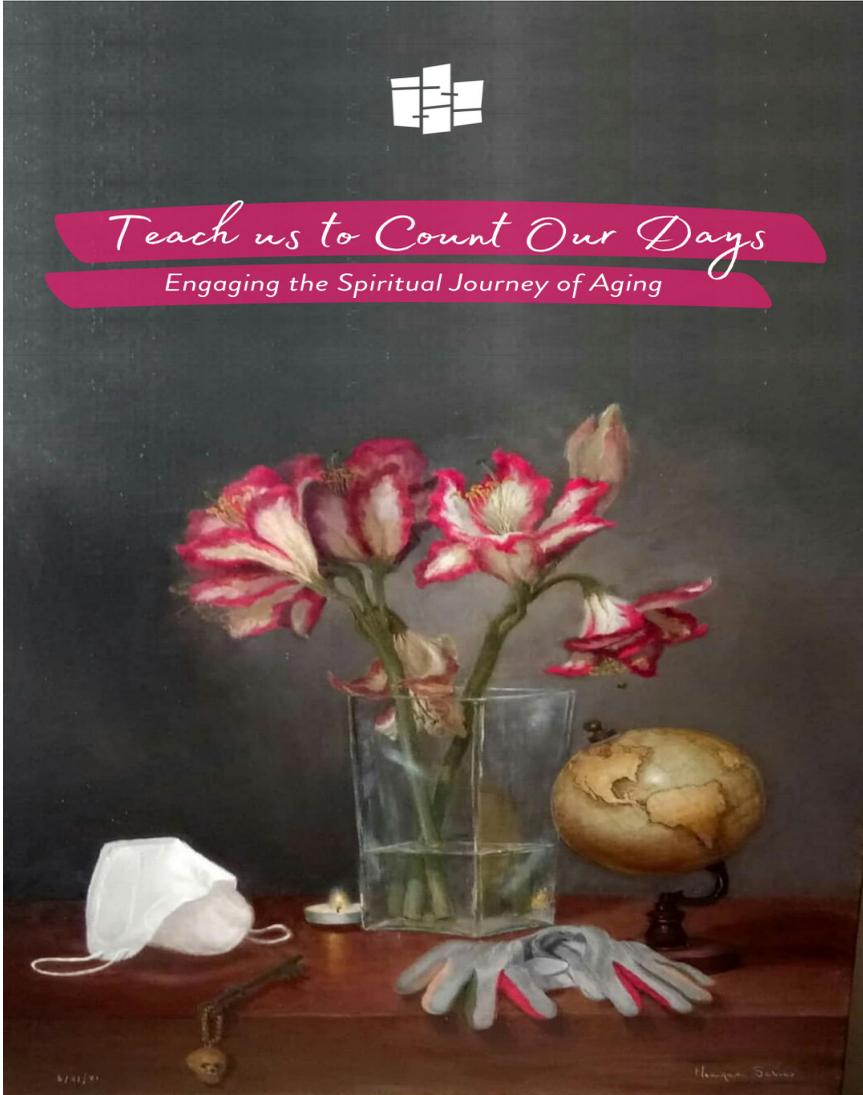


The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



Teach us to Count Our Days
Engaging the Spiritual Journey of Aging



MAY 1, 2022
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

WELCOME TO THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

Interdenominational · Interracial · International · Open · Affirming · Welcoming

WORSHIP is at the center of the life of The Riverside Church.

“A spirituality of aging calls in question the deepest values of our civilization. For if the aging process gradually reveals to us the mystery of life, then life’s ultimate meaning cannot lie in speed, consumerism, youth, achievement, and physical beauty as defined by our culture [...]

From the perspective of faith, the later years provide the most intense and vivid revelation of the paradox at the heart of the Christian Gospel: that in losing our lives we somehow find them; that loss can be gain, and weakness, strength; that death is the path to life.”

Kathleen Fischer, Winter Grace: Spirituality and Aging

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.

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

Chant and Jubilation for Carillon

Free Variations on 'Built on a Rock the Church Doth Stand'

Robert Byrnes

Ulla Laage

Charles Semowich, carillonneur

ORGAN

Nocturne

Arioso (BWV 156)

Gabriel Fauré, arr. Virgil Fox¹

Johann Sebastian Bach, arr. Virgil Fox

Christopher Creaghan, organist

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

✦CALL TO WORSHIP

Charlene Wingate

One: Holy Provider, you are our ever-present help,

All: In our desperate moments we are reminded of your presence.

One: When our fears blind our ability to embrace faith,

All: Your abundant love provides vision beyond sorrow.

One: Lead us into a new way this season.

All: With the presence of your wisdom let us worship together in love.

¹ Organist of the Riverside Church 1946-1965. Born May 3, 1912.

✦*All who are able, please stand*

✦ INVOCATION

✦ PROCESSIONAL HYMN 263
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

St. Denio

LISTENING

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

Teach Us to Count our Days: A Responsive Prayer Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

Ancient of Days, teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.

Consecrate our passing years that our experiences may turn into wisdom.

When we are tempted to worship at the “fountain of youth,” call us back to your living waters.

Forgive us when we discount ourselves and others based on age, ability, or appearance.

From Generation to Generation, You are Our God.

Thank you for mentors, grandparents, and other sages who show us the way of love, faith, and justice.

Your goodness and mercy follow us all the days of our lives.

Help us to nurture Beloved Community by welcoming the gifts of people at every age and stage of life.

Rock of Ages, teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.

Help us to create a world where we all can live out our days with respect, security, and dignity.

Amen.

✦ *All who are able, please stand*

ANTHEM

The Heart's Offering

Southern Hymn Tune, arr. A. Baldwin

As I rise with the dawn, may my soul be reborn; Take this heart all forlorn, and refresh me in the morn. Alleluia! In the warmth of the day I consider thy way, may thy love ever stay in my heart, O Lord, I pray. In the still of the night, as I think on the light in my heart burning bright, keep me precious in thy sight. God of each living thing, bless the gift that we bring. Take our hearts' offering while in joyful praise we sing. Alleluia!

PSALTER LESSON

Vernay Mitchell-Mcknight

Psalms 90:1-6; 12-17

(pg. 547 *in the Old Testament*)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

†HYMN 383

My Faith Looks Up To Thee

Olivet

EPISTLE LESSON

Rev. Livingston

2 Timothy 4:1-8

(pg. 213 *in the New Testament*)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Teach Us to Count our Days

Rev. Casteel Harper

SERMONIC SELECTION

Number of My Days

Tommy Walker

Irene King, mezzo-soprano

RESPONDING

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

† *All who are able, please stand*

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Emogene B. Stamper

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Happy and Blest are They²

Felix Mendelssohn

Happy and blest are they who have endured. For though the body dies, the soul shall live for ever.

†THE DOXOLOGY

The congregation rises row by row as ushers pass to symbolize the offering of our whole selves to God. 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

Charlene Wingate

Today we celebrate the ministry of Riverside's Tower League, a supportive, caring community of older adults that promotes the wellbeing of mind, body, and spirit as we age.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Livingston, Rev. Casteel Harper, Charlene Wingate

Following each petition, please join in the following responses:

One: God of love,

All: hear our prayer.

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.

² From the oratorio "St. Paul"

†All who are able, please stand

CHORAL AMEN

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Riverside Pastoral Staff

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

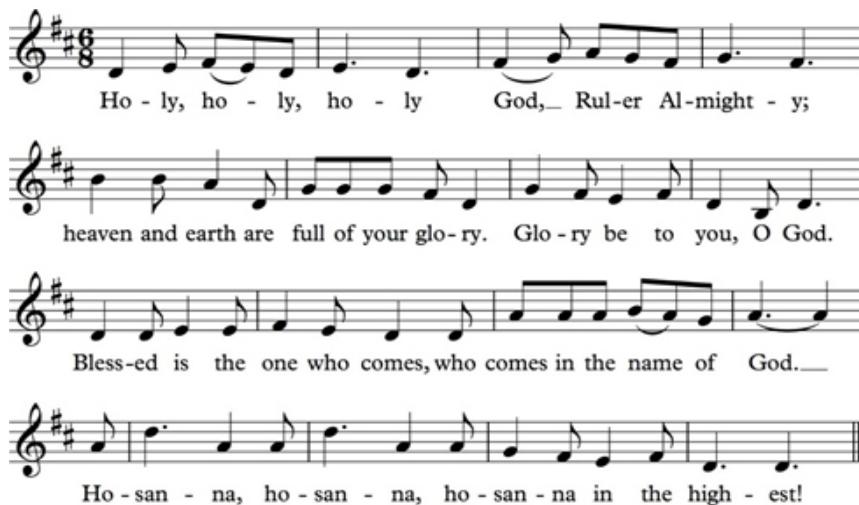
One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up unto the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God, Rul-er Al-might - y;

heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Glo - ry be to you, O God.

Bless-ed is the one who comes, who comes in the name of God.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est!

† *All who are able, please stand*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

CALL TO SUPPER

One: The body of Christ, broken for you.

All: Thanks be to God for the bread of life!

One: The blood of Christ, poured out for you.

All: Thanks be to God for the cup of blessing!

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

ORGAN

Larghetto Religioso

A. Von Ahn Carse

CHOIR

If Ye Love Me

Philip Wilby

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that he may abide with you forever, e'en the spirit of truth.

Kendra Berentsen, soprano

†PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

†*All who are able, please stand*

†RECESSIONAL HYMN 118
The Day of Resurrection

Lancashire

†BENEDICTION

Rev. Casteel Harper

POSTLUDE
Marche Épiscopale

Alan Montgomery, organist

Louis Vierne

*Special thanks to our congregational leaders Emogene B Stamper & Vernay
Mitchell-Mcknight*

Painter Monique Serres is an active member of The Riverside Church, including the Tower League. Monique joined the church in 1990, but has been involved since 1971. A native of Port-au-Prince, Monique is a graduate of Fashion Institute of Technology (Textile Design, Interior Design) and a life-member of the Art Students League. Her work has been exhibited in museums and galleries both in New York City and internationally, including West Side Arts Coalition, Cork gallery Lincoln Center, Hudson Guild Gallery, Marina Tsevetaeva Museum, Moscow, Russia; Royal Canberra Show, Australia. The featured image in Riverside's Older Adult Series is Monique's "Still life on the pandemic," which speaks to the fragility and sacredness of life and the need to love and protect our neighbors during the pandemic.



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 2022 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.

PARKING - 05/1/2022

Parking is available in the garage below the building. Present this bulletin to the attendant before 11:00 p.m. for a reduced rate of \$5.00.

CONNECT WITH US.

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For full staff directory visit trcnyc.org/directory



trcnyc.org



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