

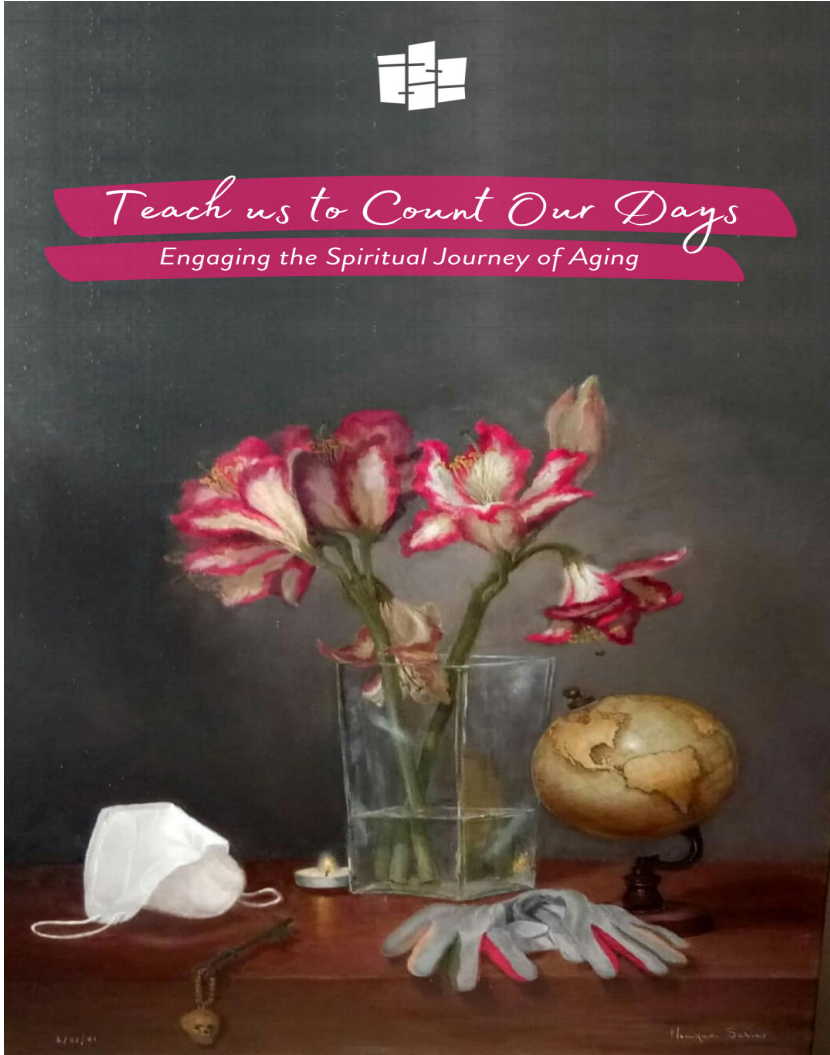
The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



Teach us to Count Our Days

Engaging the Spiritual Journey of Aging



MAY 8, 2022
FOURTH 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

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

Three settings of “Ave Maria”

Johann Sebastian Bach & Charles Gounod, arr. Peter Bremer

Jef Denyn

Franz Schubert, arr. Timothy Hurd

Charles Semowich, carillonneur

ORGAN

Intermezzo, from Sonata No. 4

Prelude on “Christ be With Me”

Prelude on “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

Alan Montgomery, organist

Josef Rheinberger

Charles Villiers Stanford

C. V. Stanford

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingston

†*All who are able, please stand*

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN¹

Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us

Abbot's Leigh

1. Like a mo - ther who has borne us, held us close in
2. Though as chil - dren we have wan - dered, placed our trust in
her de - light. Fed us free - ly from her bo - dy, God has
power and might, Left be - hind our bro - thers, sis - ters, God still
called us in - to life. Like a fa - ther who has taught us,
calls us in - to life. When we of - fer food and com - fort,
grasped our hand and been our guide, Lift - ed us and
grasp our neigh - bor's hand in love, Tread the path of
healed our sor - rows, God has walked with us in life.
peace and jus - tice, God still walks with us in life.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Bruce Lamb

One: Come, God gathers every mother and every child to worship!

All: Bring the wisdom of all your days to share one with another.

One: In love, God nurtures our hearts to transform beyond imagination.

All: Let the freedom of God's Spirit embrace every nation.

One: We are the people of God, our bond is one of family.

All: With the presence of God's wisdom let us worship together in love.

†INVOCATION

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† All who are able, please stand

ANTHEMS

I Will Call Upon the Lord

Michael Shields

I will call upon the Lord who is worthy to be praised. So shall I be saved from mine enemies.
The Lord liveth and blessed be the rock and may the God of all creation be exalted.

A Peaceful Alleluia

Jean Anne Shafferman

Alleluia, sing alleluia, sing, O sing alleluia. Peace, peace, O sing of peace. Alleluia.

The Riverside Rising Voices Choir

Matthew Hommez, director

Yuliya Basis, accompanist

LISTENING

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

Teach Us to Count our Days: A Responsive Prayer

Rev. Jim Keat

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.

PSALTER

Una Tapper

Psalm 23

(pg. 501 in the Old Testament)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

✝ *All who are able, please stand*

†HYMN 387

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Bradbury

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 9:36-43

(pg. 128 *in the New Testament*)

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Una Tapper

SERMON

Rev. Livingston

RESPONDING

We respond to the hearing of God's word through prayer,

PASTORAL PRAYER

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your spirit.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Rev. Lamb

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.**

†*All who are able, please stand*

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Joanne Toran

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The God of Love My Shepherd Is

Godfrey Sampson

The God of love my shepherd is, and he that doth me feed;
while he is mine and I am his, what can I want or need?

He leads me to the tender grass, where I both feed and rest;
then to the streams that gently pass: in both I have the best.

Or if I stray, he doth convert, and bring my mind in frame,
and all this not for my desert, but for his holy name.

Yea, in death's shady black abode well may I walk, not fear;
for thou art with me, and thy rod to guide, thy staff to bear.

Surely thy sweet and wondrous love shall measure all my days;
and, as it never shall remove, so neither shall my praise.

✠ AT THE PRESENTATION: THE DOXOLOGY

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

**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. Keat

Today we celebrate the work of the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival, which is uniting tens of thousands of people across the country to challenge the evils of systemic racism, poverty, the war economy, ecological devastation and the nation's distorted morality.

✠ *All who are able, please stand*

SENDING

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

†**RECESSIONAL HYMN 108**

Christ Is Alive!

Truro

†**BENEDICTION**

Rev. Livingston

POSTLUDE

Final, from Symphonie VI

Christopher Creaghan, organist

Charles-Marie Widor

Special thanks to our congregational leaders Una Tapper, Joanne Toran & Joanne Tapper

†*All who are able, please stand*

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 Tsevetavaeva 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 - 05/8/2022

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



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