

THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK



PRAYER VIGIL & FAURÉ REQUIEM

A service of prayer, hymns, and musical meditation, dedicated to the memory of the victims of gun violence in the United States.

Collection to benefit the families of the victims of the Robb Elementary School shooting in Uvalde, Texas.

November 8th, 2022
7:00pm

The impetus for this evenings service came during the week when both the school shootings in Uvalde, Texas and the supermarket shooting in Buffalo, New York occurred. As we were planning the season's musical offerings at that time, we decided it more meaningful to present this music as a prayer service rather than a concert, to be in memory of the victims of gun violence in the United States.

Tonight's collection will benefit the "Robb School Memorial Fund" established by the school district in Uvalde and operated by the First State Bank of Uvalde, Texas. According to the The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) "As 90 percent of the students of Robb Elementary School identify as Hispanics and more than four-fifths are economically disadvantaged, this community NEEDS our collective prayers, help, and support."

Cover image: Wood carving on the Riverside choir stalls.

Order of Service

ORGAN MEDITATION

Adagio for Strings

Samuel Barber

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO SILENCE

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come let us go to the mountain of the Lord, that we may walk the path of the Most High.

All: That we may beat our swords into ploughshares, and our spears into pruning hooks.

One: Nation shall not lift up sword against nations. Neither shall they learn war any more.

All: We mourn the loss of all of our brothers and sisters killed by guns in our own country and throughout the world.

One: We are a nation at war with ourselves, a people who have forgotten who we are.

All: We gather today to remember that we are each a child of God. We gather to claim our belonging to each other and our commitment to living the way of God's peace.

HYMN 543

Abide With Me

All who are able may stand.

Eventide

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Congregation seated.

Rev. Bruce Lamb

One: Let us pray together: Loving God, you are the author and sustainer of our lives. You know the anguish of the sorrowful, you are attentive to the prayers of the brokenhearted. Hear your people who cry out to you in their need; strengthen their hope in your lasting goodness.

All: We pray today for those who have died because of gun violence. Draw them to yourself; let your face shine upon them. May they be greeted with choirs of angels and experience your eternal peace and joy.

One: Be near to all those who have been touched by violence: those who have been hurt, lost their loved ones or lost their sense of security. Be for them a steady comfort and safe resting place.

All: Soften the hearts and steady the minds of those who would do violence to others. May hate be replaced with love, violence with peace and darkness with your light.

One: Gracious God, inspire us with the gift of Shalom, the gift of wholeness and the promise of your presence. Give us wisdom to seek nonviolence as an answer to the violence of our lives and world. Give us courage to seek wholeness in a fractured and divided world, to find reconciliation rather than revenge, to abandon the instruments of violence and death and entrust our lives, our homes, our ministries and our families to you.

All: May your presence fill us and others with the thirst for unity, wholeness, and the desire to see all people valued as created in your image and likeness. May we, and others, receive your Shalom that we may be faithful instruments of your love and peace in our world today. Amen.

CHORAL MEDITATION

We Shall Walk Through the Valley

Spiritual, arr. Undine Smith Moore

We shall walk through the valley in peace, if Jesus, himself shall be our leader,
we shall walk through the valley in peace. There will be no trials there, if Jesus,
himself shall be our leader, we shall walk through the valley in peace.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Christina Cover

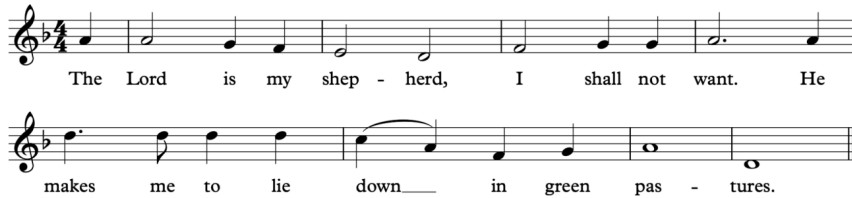
Isaiah 2: 1-5

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

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM 23

McNeil Robinson



The Lord is my shep - herd, I shall not want. He
makes me to lie down in green pas - tures.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Let us reflect upon those we remember who have been victims of gun violence.

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

- One: Let us remember the children, teachers, and school staff who were killed in their sanctuaries of learning, and those traumatized in the wake of such violence. Let us remember all victims of mass shootings: those shopping for groceries, worshiping in their churches or synagogues, dancing in a club, or otherwise living their everyday lives.
- One: Let us remember those killed by gang warfare and stray bullets, by domestic violence and accidental shootings, by police brutality and racial profiling, by politically-motivated violence and war.
- All: Let us remember all who have been harmed by violence. We acknowledge the strength of those who survived and of those still struggling to heal. For their sake and for ours, we commit ourselves to building each other up and to healing – together.**
- One: Let us remember the families and loved ones of those who have died from gun violence. We acknowledge their pain and their deep grief. They too, are part of our community and need our love and help towards healing.
- One: Let us remember the perpetrators, and the families of those who commit violence. We acknowledge that their lives, too, are devastated and their hopes dashed. For their sake and for ours, we remember that pain goes in many directions from each act of violence.
- All: With God's help, we will stand up to violence. We stand together expressing our unity, our connection to each other and to the divine; our hope for healing and for transformation. Let the Spirit of our Creator move through us. Help us to transform and heal our communities. Let our hearts fill with compassion – towards ourselves and towards all living beings. Let us practice the establishment of peace in our hearts and justice upon earth.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Requiem, Op. 48

Rev. Harper

Gabriel Fauré
(1883-1924)

Jessica Marsten, soprano
Juan José Ibarra, baritone

TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

I. Introit et Kyrie

Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis.
Te decet hymnus, Deus, in Sion,
et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem:
Exaudi orationem meam, ad te omnis
caro veniet.

*Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,
and may perpetual light shine upon them. To
you, O God, hymns of praise are sung in
Sion, and unto you shall vows be performed
in Jerusalem. Hear my prayer, to you shall
all flesh come.*

Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.

*Lord have mercy.
Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy.*

II. Offertorium

O Domine, Jesu Christe, Rex Gloriam
libera animas defunctorum
de poenis inferni et de profundo lacu,
de ore leonis ne absorbeat eus Tartarus:
ne cadant in obscurum.

*O Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, deliver
the souls of all the faithful departed from the
pains of hell and from the bottomless pit.
from the lion's mouth, let them not be
swallowed up, nor vanish into darkness.*

Hostias et preces tibi Domine,
laudis offerimus: tu suscipe pro
animabus illis, quarum hodie
memoriam facimus: Fac eas, Domine, de
morte transire ad vitam. Quam olim
Abrahamae promisisti et semini eius.

*Our sacrifices and prayers, Lord
We offer to you with praise: Receive them on
behalf of the souls whom today we
commemorate. Allow them, O Lord, to cross
from death into life as you promised to
Abraham and his seed.*

III. Sanctus

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy
Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.*

IV. Pie Jesu

Pie Jesu, Domine,
dona eis requiem,
sempiternam requiem.

*Merciful Jesus, Lord,
grant them rest,
eternal rest.*

V. Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem.

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the
world, grant them rest.*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem, sempiternam requiem.

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the
world, grant them rest, eternal rest.*

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine. Cum
sanctis tuis in aeternum, quia pius es.
Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

*May perpetual light shine on them, o Lord.
With your saints for ever, by your grace.
Grant them eternal rest, o Lord,
and may perpetual light shine on them.*

VI. Libera me

Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna,
in die illa tremenda quando coeli
movendi sunt et terra; dum veneris
judicare saeculum per ignem.
Tremens factus sum ego et timeo
dum discussio venerit atque ventura ira

*Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death
on that dreadful day
when the heavens and the earth are shaken;
when you come to judge all things by fire.
I quake with fear and tremble awaiting the
day of account and the wrath to come.*

Dies illa, dies irae,
calamitatis et miseriae,
dies illa, dies magna,
et amara valde.

*Day of torment, day of anger,
of calamity and of misery,
that day, the great day,
and most bitter.*

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

*Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,
and may perpetual light shine upon them.*

VII. In Paradisum

In Paradisum deducant Angeli:
in tuo adventu suscipiant te Martyres,
et perducant te in civitatem sanctam
Jerusalem.

*May angels lead you into Paradise,
may you be received by the martyrs,
and brought to the holy city of Jerusalem.*

Chorus Angelorum te suscipiat,
et cum Lazaro quondam pauper,
aeternam habeas requiem.

*May choirs of angels greet you,
and with Lazarus, who once was lowly,
may you find eternal rest.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Lamb

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

One: Let us pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

You are invited to say the Lord's Prayer in the language or version that is most familiar to you.

CHORAL AMEN

COLLECTS

Collect for Justice

One: O God, bring our nation and all nations to uphold justice and equity, that poverty, oppression, and violence may vanish and all may know peace and plenty; in the name of Jesus Christ, the ruler of all.

All: Amen.

Collect for Peace

One: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your people, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior.

All: Amen.

Collect for Aid Against Perils

One: Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

HYMN 404

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

All who are able may stand.

Precious Lord

CONCLUDING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

Congregation seated.

Rev. Harper

ORGAN MEDITATION

Nimrod, from "Enigma Variations"

Edward Elgar

Please remain seated for the organ meditation.

We thank the following for their support and participation in tonight's service:

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

Rev. Bruce Lamb

The Music Committee - David Vaughan, Chair

The Mission and Social Justice Commission - Sumati Devadutt, Chair

Christina Cover, Reader

This service was made possible with support from the Friends of Music.

To become a Friend of Music at Riverside and support more events such as this, we invite you to contribute by mailing your financial gift to the Music Office with "Friends of Music" noted in the memo line.

THE RIVERSIDE CHOIR

Christopher Creaghan, Director of Music & Organist

Alan Montgomery, Associate Organist

Sopranos

Lisa Daehlin

Nonie Donato

Margaret Dudley*

Manami Hattori

Jasmine Ismail

Jessica Marsten

Makea McDonald

Nina Negri*

Rachel Rosales

Catherine Tyrell

Tenors

Jack Cotterell

Daniel Cucura

Mark Donato

Johnny Lee Green

David Jackson

Matthew Krenz

Erik Rasmussen

Jacob Roan

Jacob Terrell

Basses

Andrew Feyer

Eric Fischer*

Jonathan Guss

Nicholas Hay

Juan José Ibarra

Christopher Judd

David Orcutt

Russell Saint John

Aaron Theno*

Altos

Yiselle Blum

Jennifer Borghi

Valerie Coates

Suzanne Schwing*

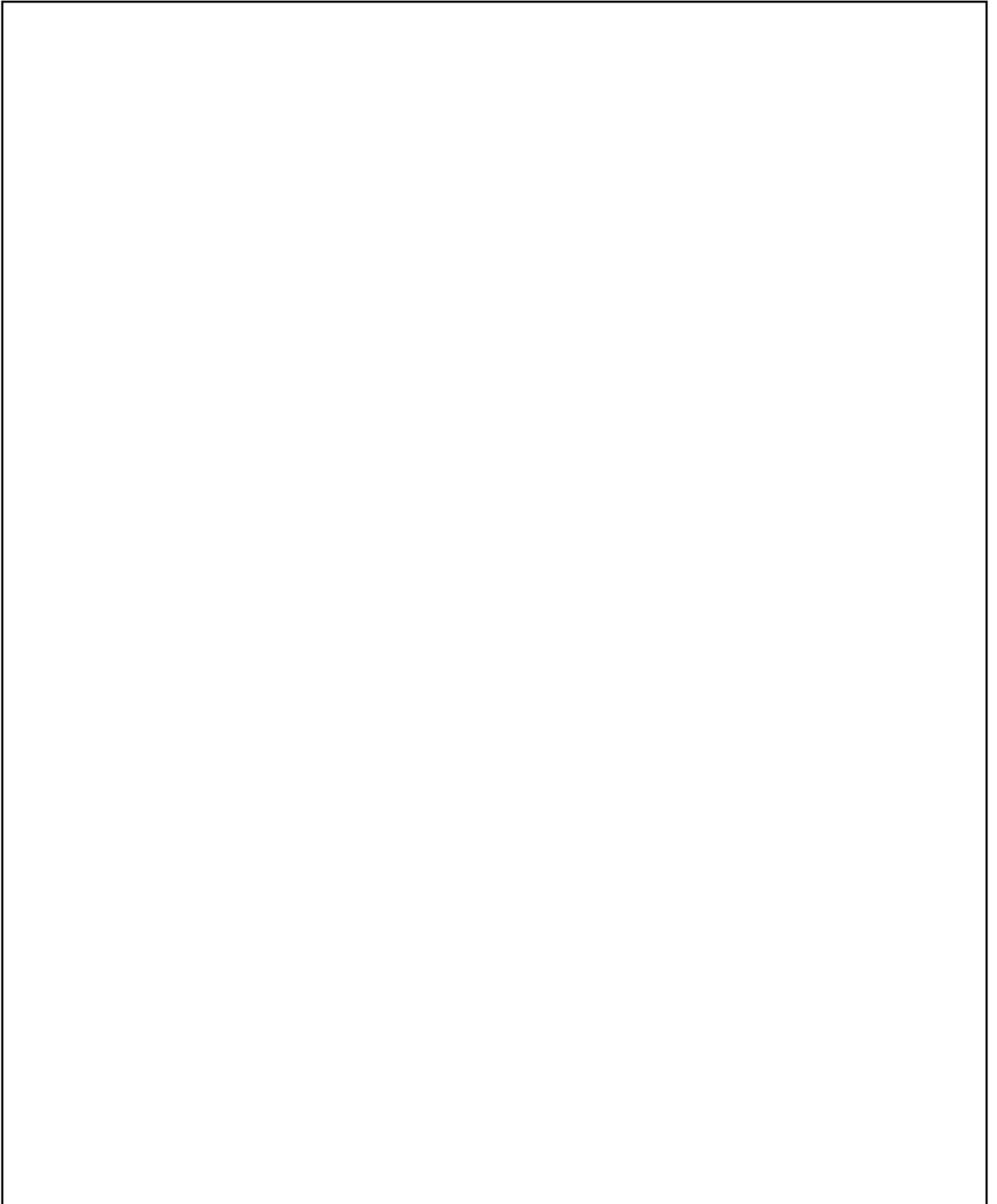
Kimberly Walton

Nancy Wertsch

Denise Woods

Daiyao Zhong

** visiting artist*



THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

490 RIVERSIDE DRIVE · NEW YORK, N.Y. 10027 · TELEPHONE 212.870.6700

Interdenominational · Interracial · International · Open · Affirming · Welcoming

Rev. Adriene Thorne, *Senior Minister*
Christopher Creaghan, *Director of Music & Organist*
Alan Montgomery, *Associate Organist*
Matthew Hommez, *Director, Riverside Rising Voices & Youth Choir*
Charles Semowich, *Carillonneur*
Nedra Olds-Neal, *Director, Riverside Inspirational Choir*
Daniel Potter, *Director, Riverside Ringers*
Kristina Giles, *Riverside Community String Ensemble*
Robert Pearson, *Curator of Organs*
Angela Haddock, *Administrative Assistant*

The Riverside Church is a member of the American Baptist Churches, U.S.A. and the United Church of Christ and cooperates with the Council of Churches in the City of New York, and with the New York State, National, and World Council of Churches.

www.trcnyc.org