

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



DECEMBER 11, 2022
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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 your heart and mind for worship, consider these quotes:

“They looked like the people you see on the six o’clock news—refugees, sent to wait in some strange ugly place, with all their boxes and sacks around them. It suddenly occurred to me that this was just the way it must have been for the real Holy Family, stuck away in a barn by people who didn’t much care what happened to them. They couldn’t have been very neat and tidy either, but more like this Mary and Joseph.”

-Barbara Robinson, The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

A question for reflection:

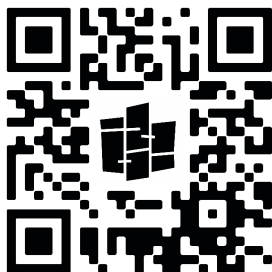
Today’s children’s pageant is about discovering good news in a suffering world. Where do you find “good news” today?

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 Advent, the four weeks leading up to Christmas in which we prepare ourselves for the coming of the Christ child. Advent is signified by purple paraments and clergy stoles representing the sovereignty of Christ (except for Communion Sundays when the liturgical color is white). Each week we light a candle in the wreath on the Nave floor for the four themes of Advent: hope, peace, joy (pink) and love.

Whats happening at Riverside?

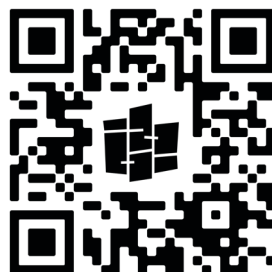
Learn about the events and activities of the Life of Our Community by opening your camera and scanning the code below. You can find a printed calendar listed in the back of your bulletin!



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.





GATHERING

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

CARILLON

Come, though Expected Jesus
More Love
Hark, a Herald Voice is Calling

(Hyfrydol) arr. Lynnli Wang
Shaker hymn arr. Ronald Barnes
(Merton) arr. Lynnli Wang

Lynnli Wang, assistant carillonneur

ORGAN

Prélude Solennel (Veni Emmanuel)
Magnificat

Richard Purvis
Jean-François Dandrieu

Christopher Creaghan, organist

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Bruce Lamb

†CALL TO WORSHIP¹

One: We come to hear the voices of children.

All: We come to see their wisdom through our traditions.

One: We come to hear words of care and concern, challenge and charge.

All: We come to help bend the arc of the moral universe toward justice for children.

One: We come to help bend the arc in partnership across religion and race, income and ethnicity, age and experience.

All: We come to help bend the arc with commitment and determination. Come, let us celebrate as children of God.

†INVOCATION

†*All who are able, please stand*

†HYMN 489

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

Unser Herrscher

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Church School Teachers

INTROIT Comfort, Comfort You My People

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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

Rev. Charlene Wingate

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

LISTENING

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

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 42:1-9

(pg. 670 in the Old Testament)

Minister Nordia Bennett, Isabella Soto

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

All: Thanks be to God.

†HYMN 13

Prepare the Way

Bereden Väg För Herran

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 12:15-21

(pg. 12 in the New Testament)

Chiara Fuller

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

†*All who are able, please stand*

CHILDREN'S PAGEANT

Where is the Good News?

The Riverside Rising Voices, Cherub Choir

The Riverside String Ensemble

Matthew Hommez, Rising Voices Director

Sharon Pritchard, Cherub Choir Director

Kristina Giles, String Ensemble Director

Amanda Meisenheimer, Original Script

Yuliya Basis, Pianist

Veronica Mittenzwei, Choreographer

Thomas Price, Set Design

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Adriene Thorne

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

RESPONDING

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

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Thorne

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

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up unto the Lord.

† *All who are able, please stand*

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.**

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Karen Diggs

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

Paul Manz

Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sin. Who loved us all, and shed his blood that we might saved be. Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Lord almighty God who was and is, and is to come. Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein. Rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming soon. E'en so Lord Jesus quickly come and night shall be no more. They need no light, no lamp, nor sun, for Christ will be their all!

†AT THE PRESENTATION: VENI EMMANUEL

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

**O come, O Wisdom from on high,
who ordered all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show
and teach us in its ways to go.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

†*All who are able, please stand*

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

Rev. Lamb

Today we celebrate the ministry of our Riverside Limitless Worship, which provides a sacred space for children and youth to connect with God in song, movement, art, and storytelling.

SENDING

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

† CLOSING HYMN 12

People, Look East

Besaṅṅon

† BENECTION

Rev. Thorne

POSTLUDE

Fughetta on “People Look East”

Richard Shepard

Alan Montgomery, Organist

¹Adapted from the Children’s Defense Fund Resources for a Multifaith Children’s Sabbath <https://www.childrensdefense.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Childrens-Sabbath-Multifaith.pdf>

Special thanks to our congregational leaders Chiara Fuller, Church School teachers, and Karen Diggs

† *All who are able, please stand*

TODAY AT RIVERSIDE

Sunday, December 11

Fresh Start | 8:30 AM | Zoom

Without Buddha I Could not be a Christian | 9:00 AM | 321 MLK & Online

Advent Open Bible Study | 9:30 AM | 330 MLK

Biblical Hebrew- Beginners | 9:30 AM | 314 MLK & Online

Church Nursery Open | 10:30 AM

Sunday Morning Worship | 10:45 AM | Nave & Online

The Riverside Church School Christmas Pageant | During Worship | Nave

Virtual Coffee Hour | After Worship | 318 MLK & Online

Coffee Hour | After Worship | South Hall Lobby

Cookies, Cocoa, and Caroling | 12:30 PM | Outdoor Garth

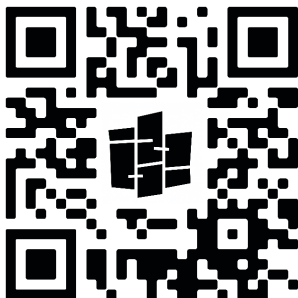
Theatre of the Oppressed | 1:00 PM | 15T

Maranatha Fellowship Meeting | 1:00 PM | 20T

Biblical Hebrew- Intermediate | 1:00 PM | 314 MLK & Online

Exploring and Reclaiming Progressive Christianity | 1:00 PM | 411 MLK & Online

Sunday Afternoon Carillon Recital | 3:00 PM



Visit trcnyc.org/LOC or scan the QR code to find out more about all the programs and events happening in the life of our community.

THIS WEEK AT RIVERSIDE

Monday, December 12

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

Tuesday, December 13

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

Young Adult Bible Study | 6:30 PM | 313 MLK & Online

Riverside Hawks 61st Annual Gala | 6:30 PM | Mandarin Oriental

Wednesday, December 14

Morning Prayer 8:00 AM | Online

2022 Biblical Hebrew Graduates | 5:00 PM | Online

Grace Notes | 7:00 PM | Zoom

Thursday, December 15

Morning Prayer 8:00 AM | Online

Tower League | 2:00 PM

Friday, December 16

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

COMING SOON

Sunday, December 18

Young Adults Christmas Brunch | 12:30 PM | 311 MLK

B&P Christmas Tea & Cookie Reception | 1:30 PM | 9T

The Annual Riverside Church Candlelight Carol Festival | 4:00 PM | Nave & Online

Wednesday, December 21

Space for Grace | 7:00 PM | Assembly Hall & Online

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve: Children & Families | 4:00 pm | Nave & Online

Cookies & Cocoa | 5:00 pm | South Hall

Christmas Eve: Lessons & Carols | 8:00 pm | Nave & Online

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Day Worship | 10:45 am | Nave & Online

Saturday, December 31

Watch Night Worship | 10:00 pm | Nave & Online

Sunday, January 1

Epiphany Sunday Worship | 10:45 am | Nave & Online

THEY SHALL

SEE

the GLORY of

GOD

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. Adriene Thorne, 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.

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

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.

CHURCH NURSERY OPEN

Babies and toddlers are not too young to start learning about God's love for them. The nursery is open every Sunday from 10:30-12:30 during worship staffed by trained nursery workers. For location please see an usher or security guard.

PARKING - 12/11/2022

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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questions, call 212-870-6700 or email



trcnyc.org



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