

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



DECEMBER 25, 2022
CHRISTMAS DAY

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 this quote:

“When day comes, we step out of the shade, aflame and unafraid.

The new dawn blooms as we free it.

For there is always light,

if only we're brave enough to see it.

If only we're brave enough to be it.”

-Amanda Gorman

A question for reflection:

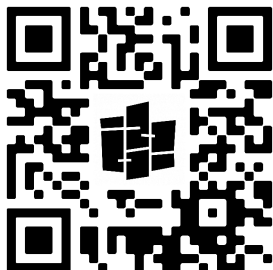
Where are you seeing light this Christmas morning?

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.

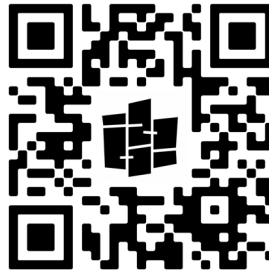
Whats happening at Riverside?

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

Novena Natale (Nativity Suite)

Pifferata (Little Flute)

Gregge e L'Angelo (The Flock and the Angel)

Il Presepio (The Manger)

Nino Rota

O Come, All Ye Faithful *arr. Beverly Buchanan*

Lynnli Wang, Assistant Carillonneur

ORGAN

Prelude on Greensleeves

Carol Rhapsody

Richard Purvis

Alan Montgomery, organist

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Adriene Thorne

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,

All: Come, with open arms, peace and love from everywhere.

One: Bring your good tidings of great joy for all to share.

All: For unto us a child is born, a gift from God is here.

One: Wonderful Counselor, Prince of Peace, behold the Light of the World.

All: O Come, let us adore Him. Let us worship Christ the Lord!

†INVOCATION

†*All who are able, please stand*

✠ **OPENING HYMN 41**
O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fideles

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer

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

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM

Midwinter

arr. Bob Chilcott

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow. In the bleak midwinter, long ago. Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign. In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ. Angels and archangels may have gathered there, cherubim and seraphim thronged the air; but his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved with a kiss. What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise one, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

LISTENING

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

PSALTER LESSON

Rev. Jim Keat

Psalms 95:6-7

(pg. 550 in the Old Testament)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

HYMN 24

Away in a Manger

Cradle Song

✠ *All who are able, please stand*

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:8-20

(pg. 59 in the New Testament)

Minister Nordia Bennett

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Making the World Bright

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. Bruce Lamb

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.

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.

† *All who are able, please stand*

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

Rev. Meisenheimer

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

See Amid the Winter's Snow

John Goss

See amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below,
See the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years.
Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Lo, within a manger lies He who built the starry skies;
He, who throned in height sublime sits amid the cherubim.

Say, ye holy shepherds, say what your joyful news today;
Wherefore have ye left your sheep on the lonely mountain steep?

“As we watched at dead of night, Lo, we saw a wondrous light;
Angels singing peace on earth told us of the Saviour's birth”.

Sacred infant, all divine, what a tender love was Thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss down to such a world as this.

Teach, O teach us, Holy Child, by Thy face so meek and mild,
Teach us to resemble Thee, in Thy sweet humility!

† *All who are able, please stand*

†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

Minister Bennett

Today we celebrate our Building and Grounds Personnell who work diligently to ensure that Riversidy Church is a beautiful and hospitable space for all.

SENDING

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

†CLOSING HYMN 28

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

In Dulci Jubilo

†BENEDICTION

Rev. Thorne

POSTLUDE

Toccata on "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

David Willcocks

Christopher Creaghan, organist

†*All who are able, please stand*

TODAY AT RIVERSIDE

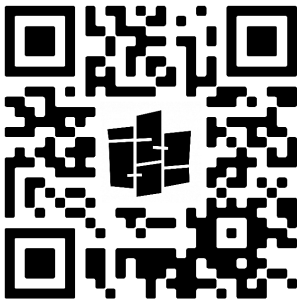
Sunday, December 25

Fresh Start | 8:30 AM | Zoom

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

Coffee Hour | After Worship | South Hall Lobby

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 26

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

Tuesday, December 27

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

Wednesday, December 28

Morning Prayer 8:00 AM | Online

Thursday, December 29

Morning Prayer 8:00 AM | Online

Friday, December 30

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

COMING SOON

Saturday, December 31

Watch Night Worship | 11:00 pm | Nave & Online

Sunday, January 1

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

Christmas Honorees

Contributions were made to support Riverside's Flower Ministry and to honor these loved ones in all of our lives.

Joanne McLaughlin Toran In loving memory of the McLaughlin family

Desiree Baxter to the glory of God and in loving memory of R. Allen Baxter, Sr.

Nana and Papa Sherlock in honor of Alexandra Pascarelli Happy 10th Birthday,
dear Granddaughter!

Nana and Papa Sherlock in honor of Sara Pascarelli Happy 7th birthday, dear
Granddaughter!

Dorothy Garvin in memory of John & Curline, Thelma Garvin Much love from the
Ones you left behind: John, Carol, Dorothy, Yvonne and grandchildren

Karen Diggs in memory of the Beloved Diggs Family members who have transi-
tioned. You may have left this world, but you are forever in my heart. Thank you for
loving me

Bobbie Maniece-Harrison in memory of my parents: John & Susie Maniece and
friends: Dr. Robert LaPrince, Dr. John L.S.Holloman, and Constance Guice-Mills

Jennie Tasheff in honor of Roberta Patterson. Robbie loves Riverside!

Reesa Vaughtner in honor of James McGraw. loving Husband Father, Brother-in-law

Laura Miraz in honor of beloved parents, Alicia and Alberto Miraz

Kate Fischer in memory of Ruth and Robert Williams, Kate and Liza remember you
with love.

Clarence C. Anderson and Emily B. Anderson in memory of their parents Albert
Anderson, Bertha Anderson and Curtis Butler and Justine Butler

Christopher Kennedy in memory of G. Jeffery French. Jeff, you are with us always
and forever

Aida Montero, in loving Memory of my parents, Eustoquia and Francisco
Rodriguez who planted the seed of my spiritual journey

Valeria Spann, in loving memory of my dear mother, Bessie B. Goodloe, and
friends Felice Dodson, Janet Carter, Harriette Henderson, Catherine Van Buren,
Shirley Woods, Annie B.
Flanders, Phyllis Smith and stepmother, Lillian Dunn Thomas

John and Esaias Johnson in loving memory of Phyllis E. Johnson

Lorraine Burchall in loving Memory of my sister Ruth Burchall-Sanseviro and of
my Riverside mentor, Cathryn Glover

Patricia Clark in honor of Rosalie Clark thanks for all the happy Christmas
memories, Mom

Evelyn Davis in memory of my parents, Lillie Elizabeth and Ashley Davis, and
my brothers, William and Daniel Davis

Mildred Roxborough in memory of beloved queen mother, Mattye T Bond

Reesa Vaughter in honor of loving mother, Gladys Elam Vaughter

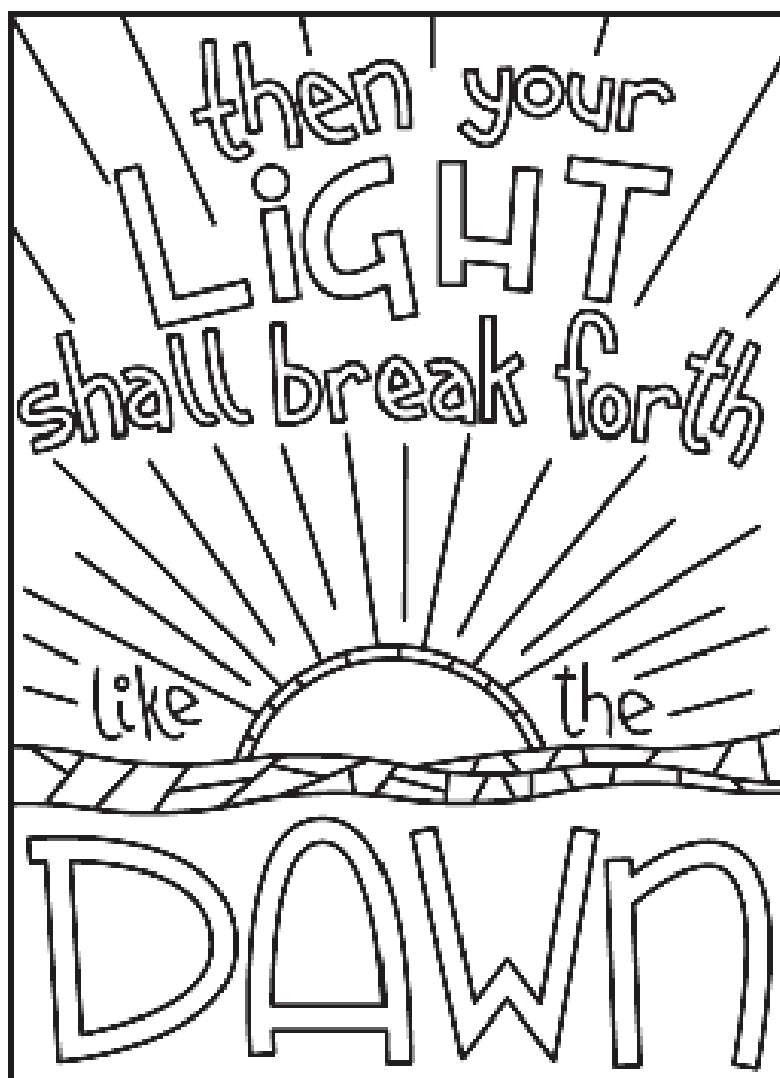
Nancy Clark in memory of Sheldon E. Clark. Rest in God's care from your loving
wife, son, and daughter: Josephine, Steven, and Nancy

Nancy Clark in memory of Brian E. Clark. Rest in God's care from your loving
mother, brother, and sister: Josephine, Steven, & Nancy

Nancy Clark in memory of Lesley Andrea Small Rest in God's care from your
loving Auntie and cousins: Josephine, Steven, & Nancy

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Leviticus 24:19-22, 1 Corinthians 2:14-16, Matthew 5:14-16



WORD SEARCH

Try to find the words from 1 Corinthians 1 in the word search below. Words may go diagonal, up OR down and forward OR backward.

P V G O X I R Q A M S A V E D
M E S S A G E I N A M U H X D
K P Y J M U H H Z O I E K V J
I D U J X A T O T F F N S L B
J R E S A E O G D G T S L M S
X Z I M I W R X C E N G O D B
S T U G J S B L V Q R E H U U
H R S V H I T E V T H X R M T
R S Q A Z T I E R W S E P T E
G S I N O L E I R N L I F E S
U O P L E B G O D G V Z R R H
S R W B O E Z C U Z I V M H L
A C E O O O E W I S E W F A C
A O A E D P F R L P T Z O W S
J U K N M H J M P O W E R L I

MESSAGE

CROSS

POWER

GOD

WISE

FOOLISH

BELIEVE

STRENGTH

WEAK

BROTHER

SISTER

LIFE

RIGHTEOUS

HUMAN

BOAST

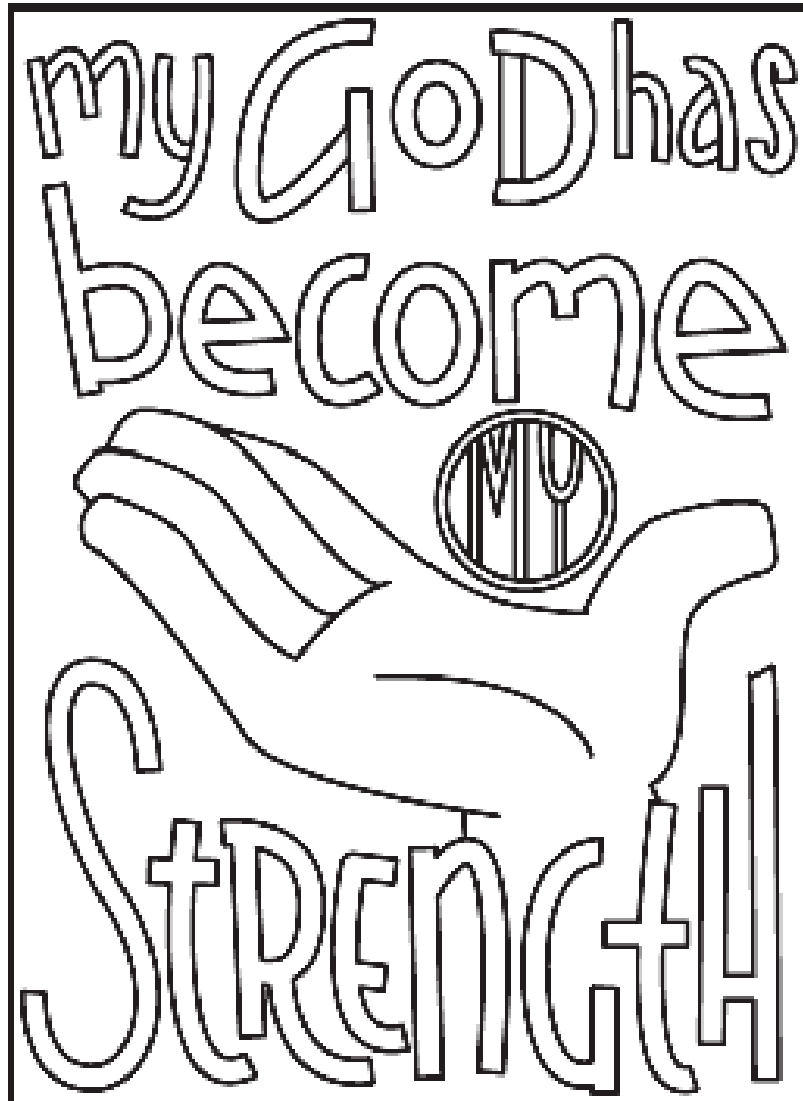
LOW

SAVED

CHRIST

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Isaiah 40:1-11, Psalm 134:1-8, 100 and the story of Job in 1994/5



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/loc for more information.

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 - 12/25/2022

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
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trcnyc.org



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