

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



APRIL 23, 2023
EARTH DAY SUNDAY
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.

As you prepare your heart and mind for worship, consider this quote and question:

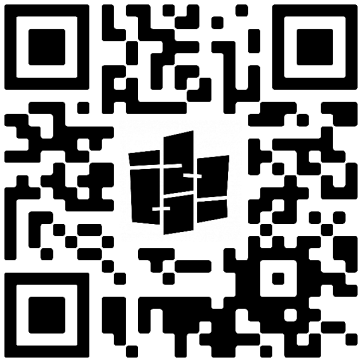
“The deadly impacts of climate change are here, now. Religious communities can no longer put this issue on the back burner, or conclude that holding the right opinion on this issue is enough. Those who contributed least to the crisis are already suffering devastating impacts. What is needed is clear: an immediate end to new fossil fuel projects, a fair phase-out of existing production, and a just transition to a truly sustainable, equitable future. And a massive, moral movement to make this real..” -Rev. Fletcher Harper

A question for reflection:

What would enable you to become more active for climate justice?

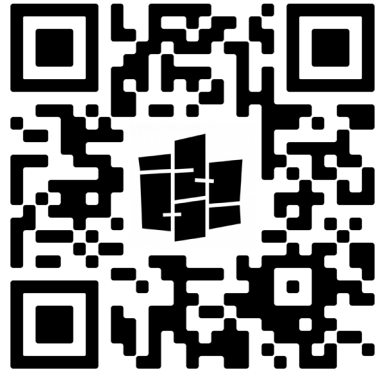
What's happening at Riverside?

You can find a printed calendar listed in the back of your bulletin!



Give by your phone

Text TRCNYCGIVE to 833.833.4035.



*Riverside worship services are filmed, recorded, and broadcast online.
If you do not want to appear in any videos or photos we invite you to sit in the balcony.*



GATHERING

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

CARILLON

For the Beauty of the Earth
The Spacious Firmament
O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing!

arr. Beverly Buchanan
arr. Beverly Buchanan
arr. Richard Giszczak

Lynnli Wang, Assistant Carillonneur

ORGAN

Clair de Lune

Louis Vierne

Christopher Creaghan, organist

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Adriene Thorne

† CALL TO WORSHIP¹

One: Our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the Earth!

All: You have set your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouths of babes and infants we hear the wonders of your name.

One: When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established,

All: Who are we that you are mindful of us?

One: O Masterful Creator, we are grateful for your intricate loving care.

All: How majestic is your name in all the Earth! Let us worship!

† INVOCATION

¹Adapted from Psalm 8

† *All who are able, please stand*

† **PROCESSIONAL HYMN 455**
All Creatures of Our God and King

Lasst uns erfreuen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

David King

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM

Everlasting Arms

Luke Winslow-King

You can lean on me brother. I believe you've carried too long. It's such a long, long way back home.
You can lean on me sister. I believe you've carried too long. It's such a long, long way back home.
We're just leaning on the everlasting arms. I've been leaning on the everlasting arms. It's such a long,
long way back home. You can lean on me stranger. Oh, my dear sister am I not a brother to you? I
know, make it through.

Matt King, piano
Shari Gill, vocal
Tash Neal, guitar, vocal
Jonathan Peretz, drums

LISTENING

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

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Doug Miller

Acts 10:1-17, 34-48

(pg. 128 in the *New Testament*)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

† *All who are able, please stand*

†HYMN 473

For the Beauty of the Earth

Dix

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 9:36-38

(pg. 10 in the New Testament)

Claudia Canasto

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Destroying the Planet is Against our Religion

Rev. Fletcher Harper

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

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. Dr. Debra Northern

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

Rev. Dr. Northern

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Rev. Kei Okada

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

All Things Bright and Beautiful

John Rutter

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all. Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings. The purple-headed mountain, the river running by, that brightens up the sky. The cold wind in the weather, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the garden - God made them every one. God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.

†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. Dr. Northern

Today we celebrate the ministry of Riverside's Beloved Earth Community, which knows that protecting the earth starts with us; one individual, one group, one congregation at a time. We can be the change that starts us on a path to sustainability.

†*All who are able, please stand*

† RECESSIONAL HYMN 288

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Ellacombe

BENEDICTION

Rev. Thorne

POSTLUDE

Sun Dance

Bob Chilcott

Alan Montgomery, organist

*Special thanks to our congregational leaders David King, Doug Miller, Claudia Canasto,
and Rev. Kei Okada,*

† *All who are able, please stand*



The Rev. Fletcher Harper is GreenFaith's Executive Director.

A pioneer of the global religious environmental movement, he helps spearhead the faith-based fossil fuel divestment movement, organizes faith turnouts at major climate mobilizations, and is a co-founder of Shine, an international campaign that supports women and community-led renewable energy access initiatives in Africa and India. He is the author of *GreenFaith: Mobilizing God's People to Protect the Earth*.

Omega Dance Company joins us for worship today!

Co-directors: Martha Chapman, Rebecca Reuter

Associate Director: Vanity David

Associate Director at large: Katie Woehr

omegadancecompany.org

Omega is a professional sacred dance company comprised of professional dancers and educators of diverse backgrounds, ministering to communities of faith throughout the New York City metropolitan area, offering dance in worship, workshops and concerts with spiritual or social justice themes. Omega believes in the power of dance and movement to reveal the sacred; our mission is to share this power. Find us on Facebook or Instagram

Dancers: Martha Chapman, Vanity David, Kaoru Ikeda

Choreography: Martha Chapman and the dancers.

TODAY AT RIVERSIDE

Sunday, April 23

Fresh Start | 8:30 AM | Online

Seekers Book Study Small Group | 9:00 AM | 323 MLK & Online

Open Bible Study | 9:30 AM | 330 MLK

Beginner Biblical Hebrew I | 9:30 AM | 314 MLK & Online

Open Bible Study | 9:30 AM | 330 MLK & Online

Church Nursery Open | 10:30 AM

Limitless- Children & Youth Service | 10:30 AM | 9T

Sunday Morning Worship | 11:00 AM Prelude begins at 10:30 AM | Nave & Online

Sermon Talk Back | 12:30 PM | Nave and Online (There will be no Virtual Coffee Hour today.)

Coffee Hour | After Worship | Assembly Hall

Young Adults Monthly Fellowship Brunch | 12:00 PM | 9T

Theatre of the Oppressed | 1:00 PM | Multipurpose Room

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

Faith in Full Color: Faith Passage Confirmation | 1:00 PM | Youth Room

Riverside Poetry Group | 1:00 PM | 323 MLK

Holy Land Forum | 1:30 PM | South Hall

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, April 24

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

Tai Chi Class | 3:00 PM | Cloister Lounge

Tuesday, April 25

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

Wednesday, April 26

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

Beginner Biblical Hebrew II | 5:00 PM | Online

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

Grace Notes | 7:00 PM | Online

Thursday, April 27

Morning Prayer 8:00 AM | Online

Tower League | 12:00 PM | Assembly Hall

Riverside Writing Group: Writing Spiritual Memoir and Justice | 6:30 PM | Online

Friday, April 28

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

An Evening with Senator Rev. Dr. Raphael Warnock | 5:00 PM | Union Theological Seminary

Saturday, April 29

Family Zoo Outing at Prospect Park Zoo in Brooklyn | 10:00 AM

COMING SOON

Sunday, April 30

Lay Leader Candidate Forum | 1:00 PM | South Hall & Online

Sunday, May 7

Older Adults Sunday | 11:00 AM | Nave & Online

Sunday, May 21

Annual Meeting | After Worship | South Hall

Sunday, June 4

Queering the Bible Workshop | 1:00 PM | Assembly Hall

Stacey Robinson's One Man Show | 3:00 PM | Assembly Hall

Sunday, June 18

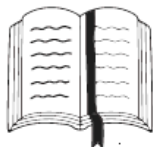
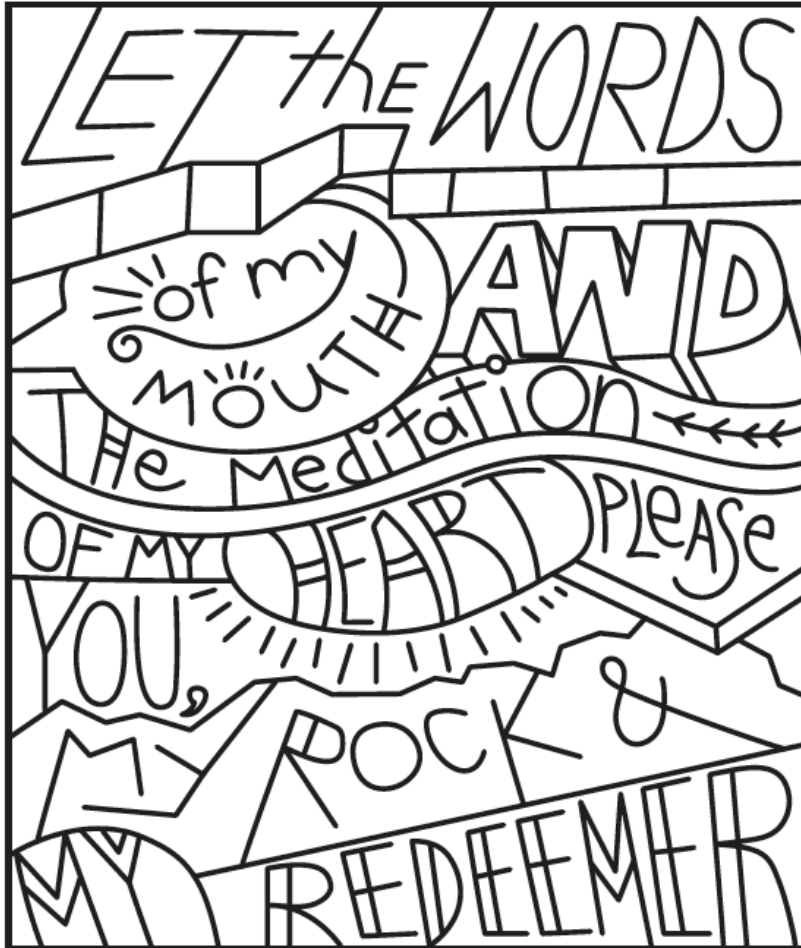
Juneteenth Lunch and Learn | 1:00 PM | Assembly Hall

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Genesis 9:8-17, Psalm 25: 1-10, 1 Peter 3: 18-22, Mark 1:9-15.



COLOR IN THE WORDS



illustrated
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Suggested for use on March 4, 2018 based on the RCL.
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CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Exodus 20: 1-17, Psalm 119, 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25, John 2: 13-22.



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

RIVERSIDE EMAIL LIST

Get the latest news and events at The Riverside Church from our weekly emails. Sign up at trcnyc.org/email. If you're not receiving them, add communications@trcnyc.org to your "Safe Sender list."

MEMBERSHIP AT RIVERSIDE

Membership is about responding to God's call on your life to step up and belong to this community as you pursue the passion God has set in your heart. By joining The Riverside Church you are taking the next step to partner with us as we seek to cultivate a community of justice, peace, and love that transforms the world. Visit trcnyc.org/membership to find out more.

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

These recitals take place most weeks at 3:00 PM 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

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 AM-12:30 PM during worship staffed by trained nursery workers. For location please see an usher or security guard.

SUNDAY MORNING PARKING

Visit the Security Desk on the Claremont Level to pick up a \$5 parking coupon. Bring this coupon and your parking ticket to the attendant to receive this discounted rate.

CONNECT WITH US.

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For full staff directory visit trcnyc.org/directory



trcnyc.org



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