

# The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



JUNE 25, 2023  
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

# 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:

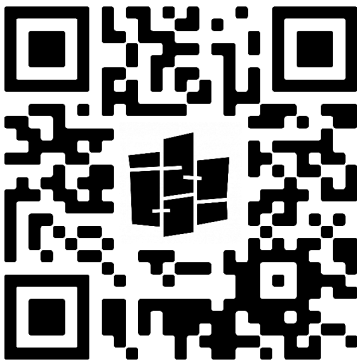
“When you put love out in the world it travels, and it can touch people and reach people in ways that we never expected.” -*Laverne Cox*

## **A question for reflection:**

Where do you see Jesus Christ in Pride?

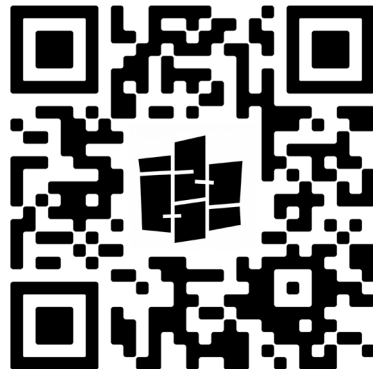
## **What's happening at Riverside?**

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**

Ever-Singing Still

Love is Love is Love is...

*Ellen Dickinson*

*Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra*

*Lynnli Wang, carillonneur*

### **ORGAN**

Improvised Suite for Pride Sunday

*Prelude – Adagio – Toccata*

*Alan Montgomery*

*Alan Montgomery, organist*

### **LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY**

Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer

† *All who are able, please stand*

## ✚CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>

One: God creates all people in God's own image and in God's own likeness.

**All: We praise God that we are fearfully and wonderfully made.**

One: The psalmist invites all creation to praise God.

**All: We will praise God as long as we live.**

One: In prayer and praise, sermon and song

**All: Let us worship our great God together!**

## ✚INVOCATION

### ✚PROCESSIONAL HYMN

#### **Joyful People, Come and Worship!<sup>2</sup>**

*Ode to Joy*

Joyful people, come and worship! Lift your happy hearts in song  
Giving praise for our church family in God's house, where all belong  
Celebrating our uniqueness filled with love and pride today,  
Forth we travel on faith's journey, we, who once had turned away.

And today we lift our voices; of amazing love we sing,  
Giving thanks and praise to Yahweh for the joy that love can bring!  
Praising Jesus and the Spirit, singing of amazing grace,  
Here we see that same sweet Spirit, on each sister's, brother's face.

God, whose mercies know no boundaries heard our cries for liberty;  
Broke the chains of fear that bound us, lifted, loved, and set us free!  
Learning how to love each other, how to live and how to grow,  
Children of God's new creation, onward, upward now we go!

### **PRAYER/SONG OF BLESSING FOR PRIDE MARCHERS**

True Colors

Rev. Mira Sawlani-Joyner

*Billy Steinberg & Tom Kelly*

*Shari Gill, soloist*

*Matt King, piano*

<sup>1</sup>From St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Oklahoma City, OK, More Light Sunday, 2005

<sup>2</sup>Words by Rev. June Norris © 1987. alt. with permission, The Hymnal Project, © 1990 MCC San Francisco.

✚*All who are able, please stand*

## † PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Colleen Birchett

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

## † WORDS OF ASSURANCE

### ANTHEM

#### **For Everyone Born<sup>3</sup>**

*arr. Tom Trenney*

For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread, a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star overhead, and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace: yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy! For young and for old, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a part in the song, the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for young and for old, the right to belong. For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be, to work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for everyone born, the right to be free.

*Suzanne Saba Hughes, cello*

### LISTENING

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

### HEBREW BIBLE LESSON

Victoria Anderson

#### **Isaiah 61:1-11 (KJV)**

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

<sup>3</sup>Words: Shirley Erena Murray. Copyright © 1998 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

Used by permission. Reprinted and podcast under OneLicense.net #A-717132

† *All who are able, please stand*

# ✚HYMN

## Our God is Like an Eagle<sup>4</sup>

Merle's Tune

1. When Is - rael camped in Si - nai, then Mo - ses heard from God:  
 2. Just like a mo - ther ea - gle, who helps her young to fly,  
 3. If God is like an ea - gle who helps her young to fly,  
 4. Our God is not a wo - man, our God is not a man;

"This mes - sage tell my peo - ple, and give them this, my word:  
 I am a mo - ther to you, your needs will I sup - ply;  
 And God is al - so Fa - ther, what then of you and I?  
 Our God is both and nei - ther, our God is I Who Am.

From E - gypt I was with you, and car - ried on my wing,  
 And you are as my chil - dren, the ones who hear my voice,  
 We have no fear of la - bels, we have no fear of roles--  
 From all the roles that bind us our God has set us free.

The whole of your great na - tion from sla - very I did bring.  
 I am a mo - ther to you, the peo - ple of my choice."  
 If Go'ds own be - ing blends them we seek the self - same goals.  
 What free - dom does God give us? The free - dom just to be.

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Luke 4:16-21 (KJV)

Mark Yim

One: The Word of God for the People of God.  
 All: **Thanks be to God.**

<sup>4</sup>Words by Laurence G, Bernier (1974)

## SERMON

*"They" Are Here: The Coming Out of Christ*

Rev. Karmen M. Smith

## 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. Lynn Casteel Harper

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.**

## +PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Matilda Bailey

+*All who are able, please stand*

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

### How Firm a Foundation

*arr. Tom Trenney*

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word! What more can be said than to you God hath said, To you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, For I am thy God and will still give thee aid; I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go, The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow; For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless, And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, My grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply; The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes; That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

## ✚ 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. Jim Keat*

*Today we celebrate the ministry of Maranatha, which for over forty years has worked to provide a safe and welcoming haven where lesbian, bisexual, transgender, gay, and queer people can be their whole selves, find healing community, and share their God-given gifts in faith and love.*

✚ *All who are able, please stand*



## + RECESSIONAL HYMN

In Your Heart, O God, You Hold Us<sup>5</sup>

*Pleading Savior*

1. In your heart, O God, you hold us-- ev - 'ry one, from ev - 'ry land.  
2. To be - hold you in each per - son is our first and great - est task;  
3. No dis - tinc - tions, no ex - cep - tions, no di - vi - sions, no more walls.

Ev - 'ry face re - flects your im - age; oh! that we would un - der - stand!  
lov - ing all, as you have loved us, say - ing "yes" to all you ask.  
In your love, O God, you free us-- cruel - ty crum - bles, ha - tred falls.

From the dust you shaped and formed us; by your breath you gave us birth.  
Yet, O God, our vi - sion fal - ters-- ha - tred dulls and dims our sight.  
Free our hearts to love each oth - er, though the world may think it odd.

Gra - cious God, your love is bound - less; ev - 'ry one has sa - cred worth.  
Greed dis - torts and fear dis - fig - ures-- pierce these shad - ows by your light.  
We must love God's peo - ple al - ways if we say that we love God.

## + BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

March in C

*Daniel Ficarra*

*Alan Montgomery, organist*

<sup>5</sup>Words by Chris Shelton, © 2019 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and podcast under OneLicense.net #A-717132

*Special thanks to our congregational leaders Victoria Anderson, Mark Yim, and Matilda Bailey.*

+ All who are able, please stand

# TODAY AT RIVERSIDE

## Sunday, June 25

**Fresh Start** | 8:30 AM | Online

**Pride Breakfast** | 9:00 AM | 9T

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

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

**Virtual Coffee Hour** | 12:30 PM | 318 MLK & Online

**Coffee Hour** | After Worship | South Hall

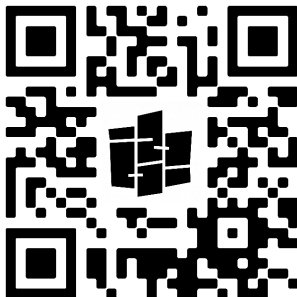
**Business and Professional Women's Group Bake Sale** | After Worship | South Hall Lobby

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

**Riverside Poetry Group** | 1:00 PM | 323 MLK

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

**Sunday Afternoon Carillon Recital** | 3:00 PM | Pride Party, Lynnli Wang, Assistant Carillonneur



Visit [trcnyc.org/LOC](https://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, June 26

**Morning Prayer** | 8:00 AM | Online

### Tuesday, June 27

**Morning Prayer** | 8:00 AM | Online

**Summer Organ Series: Christopher Creaghan** | 7:00 PM | Nave

### Wednesday, June 28

**Morning Prayer** | 8:00 AM | Online

**Grace Notes** | 7:00 PM | Online

### Thursday, June 29

**Morning Prayer** | 8:00 AM | Online

### Friday, June 30

**Morning Prayer** | 8:00 AM | Online

## COMING SOON

### Tuesday, July 11

**Summer Organ Series: Brett Valliant·Movie Night** | 7:00 PM | Nave

### Tuesday, July 18

**Summer Organ Series: Clara Gerdes** | 7:00 PM | Nave

### Tuesday, July 25

**Summer Organ Series: Nathaniel Gumbs** | 7:00 PM | Nave

### Tuesday, August 1

**Summer Organ Series: Alan Montgomery** | 7:00 PM | Nave

### Sunday, September 17

**Homecoming** | 11:00 AM | Nave & Online

**Pastoral Installation for Senior Minister Rev. Adriene Thorne** | 4:00 PM | Nave

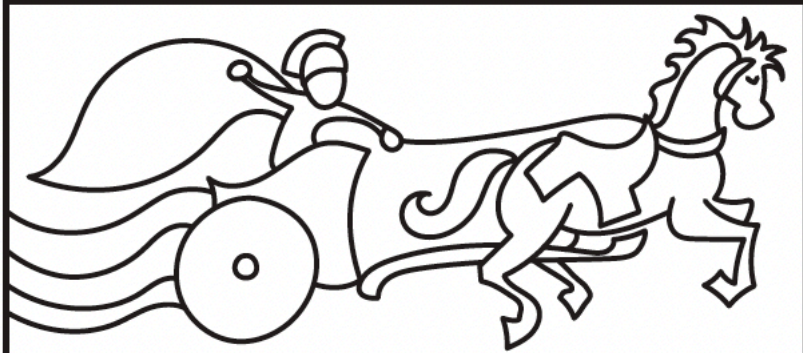


**Rev. Karmen Michael Smith**

Born and raised in small-town Texas, Rev. Karmen is a Black queer theologian, cultural critic, and Lizzie Mae's grandson. Karmen is the author of *Holy Queer: The Coming Out of Christ* and an advocate for Black and LGBTQ+ communities. He is also the founder and pastor at Poor Culture, an inclusive and affirming digital Black church experience. Karmen serves as Director of the Center for Community Engagement & Social Justice (CCESJ), at Union Theological Seminary, to advance the causes of social justice.

# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13, Psalm 20, 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 4:17,  
Mark 4:26-34.



Some take pride in chariots

(((OUR PRIDE)))

is in the IVNAME of the

LORD

# CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on 1 Samuel 8:4-11, 16-20, 11:14-15, Psalm 138, Mark 3:20-35.





## **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](http://trcnyc.org/email). If you're not receiving them, add [communications@trcnyc.org](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://trcnyc.org/CarillonRecitals) for the complete schedule and programs.

## **SUMMER CHOIR AT RIVERSIDE**

Do you sing? Read music? Love choral music? If so, we invite you to sing with members of the Riverside Choir this summer! Rehearsals are on Sunday morning and you can join us for however many Sundays you wish. To apply please email Associate Organist Alan Montgomery with a brief cell phone recording of you singing one verse of your favorite hymn (don't worry about a perfect performance), and a brief description of your musical experience, and he will get back to you. We look forward to hearing from you!

## **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.

**Rev. Adriene Thorne**

Senior Minister

*To reach Rev. Thorne, please contact Kathrin Gabriel-Jones, Executive Assistant at [kgabriel-jones@trcnyc.org](mailto:kgabriel-jones@trcnyc.org)*

---

### Pastoral Staff

**Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper**

Minister of Older Adults

[lharp@trcnyc.org](mailto:lharp@trcnyc.org)

**Rev. Jim Keat**

Digital Minister

[jkeat@trcnyc.org](mailto:jkeat@trcnyc.org)

**Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer**

Interim Minister for Intergenerational  
Christian Education and Formation

[ameisenheimer@trcnyc.org](mailto:ameisenheimer@trcnyc.org)

**Rev. Dr. Debra Northern**

Minister of Parish Care

[dnorthern@trcnyc.org](mailto:dnorthern@trcnyc.org)

**Rev. Mira Sawlani-Joyner**

Minister of Justice, Advocacy and Change

[msjoyner@trcnyc.org](mailto:msjoyner@trcnyc.org)

**Rev. Dr. Lisa M. Weaver**

Worship Consultant

[lweaver@trcnyc.org](mailto:lweaver@trcnyc.org)

### Program and Administration Team

**Minister Nordia Bennett**

Interim Director of Children, Youth, and Families

[nbennett@trcnyc.org](mailto:nbennett@trcnyc.org)

**Meighan Corbett**

Director of Stewardship & Development

[mcorbett@trcnyc.org](mailto:mcorbett@trcnyc.org)

**Natalie Fein**

Chief Operating Officer

[nfein@trcnyc.org](mailto:nfein@trcnyc.org)

**Natalie Graves Tucker**

Director of Communications and Media

[ngtucker@trcnyc.org](mailto:ngtucker@trcnyc.org)

**Christopher Creaghan**

Director of Music & Organist

[ccreaghan@trcnyc.org](mailto:ccreaghan@trcnyc.org)

**Alan Montgomery**

Associate Organist

[amontgomery@trcnyc.org](mailto:amontgomery@trcnyc.org)

### CONTACT US:

To contact the church with general questions, call 212-870-6700 or email [communications@trcnyc.org](mailto:communications@trcnyc.org).

*For full staff directory visit [trcnyc.org/directory](http://trcnyc.org/directory)*



[trcnyc.org](http://trcnyc.org)



**THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH**  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK