

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



JULY 30, 2023
NINTH 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:

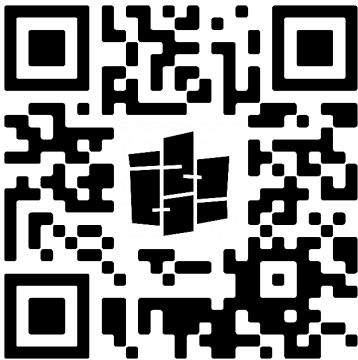
“Divine charity does not need to be defended. Its countless deeds speak for themselves. . . Social action, and its admirable accomplishments, is the modern form of charity and one of the faces of social justice. They constitute a categorical imperative for all... Because poverty does not wait.” -Paulette Nardal, *Beyond Negritude: Essays from Woman in the City*

A question for reflection:

As a person of faith, how would you work to end poverty?

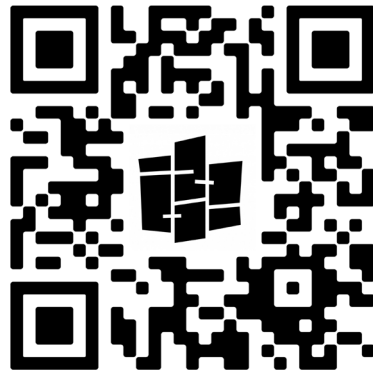
What's happening at Riverside?

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

Haru No Umi (Sea in Spring)
How Great Thou Art

Michio Miyaghi, arr. Hisako Konno
Anonymous, arr. Milford Myhre

Lynnli Wang, Assistant, carillonneur

ORGAN

Intermezzo from *Sonata No. 4*
Preludes on *St. Columba and Garten*

Josef Rheinberger
Charles Villiers Stanford

Alan Montgomery, organist

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

+ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Welcome to the banquet of hope where everyone is invited.

All: We come because we are accepted in an eternal circle of prayer.

One: Welcome to a joyous gathering of tenderness.

All: We come to a place where every seat is honored with love.

One: God calls us to fellowship and share our stories

All: Let us respond to God's call by worshipping together in love.

+ INVOCATION

+ *All who are able, please stand.*

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN
Come Now Almighty God

Italian Hymn



1. Come now, Al - might - y God, help us your
2. Come now, In - car - nate Word, by heaven and
3. Come, Ho - ly Com - fort - er, your sa - cred
4. To you, great One in Three, e - ter - nal



name to laud; our songs we raise:
earth a - dored; our prayer at - tend:
wit - ness bear in this glad hour.
prais - es be for ev - er - more.



Rul - er all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous,
Come, and your peo - ple bless, and give your word suc-cess;
Your grace to us im-part, now rule in ev - ery heart,
Your sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,



come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days!
grant us your ho - li-ness, Sav - ior and Friend!
nev - er from us de-part, Spir - it of power!
and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Debra Northern

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

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SOLO

A Simple Song

Leonard Bernstein

Christopher Judd, baritone

†*All who are able, please stand.*

LISTENING

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

HEBREW BIBLE READING

Christian Rojas

Isaiah 25:4-9

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

All: Thanks be to God.

† HYMN 389

O Jesus, I Have Promised

Nyland

GOSPEL READING

Rev. Dr. Colleen Birchett

Luke 14:16-24

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Enough to Go Around in Times Like These”

Dr. Aliou C. Niang

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. Charelene Wingate

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.*

✚ PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Minister Nordia Bennett

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Tree of Life

K. Lee Scott

There in God's garden stands the Tree of Wisdom, whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations; Tree of all knowledge, Tree of all compassion, Tree of all beauty. Its name is Jesus, name that says "Our Savior!" There on its branches see the scars of suffering; see where the tendrils of our human selfhood feed on its lifeblood. Thorns not its own are tangled in its foliage; our greed has starved it, our despite has choked it. Yet, look! It lives! Its grief has not destroyed it nor fire consumed it. See how its branches reach to us in welcome; hear what the voice says, "Come to me, ye weary! Give me your sickness, give me all your sorrow, I will give blessing." This is my ending, this my resurrection; into your hands, Lord, I commit my spirit. This have I searched for; now I can possess it. This ground is holy. All heaven is singing "Thanks to Christ, whose Passion offers in mercy, healing strength and pardon. Peoples and nations, take it, take it freely!" Amen! My Savior!

✚ 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. Amanda Meisenheimer

Today we celebrate the work of the Sojourners Ministry, which works with people currently held in detention centers in the U.S., while petitioning for asylum and providing support to those recently released.

✚ RECESSIONAL HYMN 298

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

In Babilone

BENEDICTION

Dr. Aliou C. Niang

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune

Frederick Swann¹

Alan Montgomery, organist

Special thanks to our congregational leader Christian Rojas

¹Today's postlude is in tribute to Frederick Swann (July 30, 1931 - November 13, 2022). From 1953-1982 he served at Riverside Church in succession as an assistant organist, Organist, and Director of Music. Today would have been his 92nd birthday.

✚ *All who are able, please stand.*



Professor Aliou Cissé Niang, Associate Professor of Biblical Interpretation—New Testament at Union Theological Seminary, earned his B.A. in Religious Studies at Williams Baptist College (Walnut Ridge, AR), a Masters in Theology at Logsdon School of Theology (Abilene, TX), and a Ph.D. in Biblical Interpretation–New Testament at Brite Divinity School (Fort Worth, TX). Before joining Union Theological Seminary in August 2011, he was an associate professor of New Testament at Memphis Theological Seminary in Memphis, TN, and served as Biblical Theologian in Residence at the First Baptist Church of Memphis, TN. He speaks and lectures in academic and ecumenical settings providing seminars and workshops on biblical topics.

Professor Niang's latest book is titled *A Poetics of Postcolonial Biblical Criticism: God, Human-Nature Relationship, and Negritude*. His teaching and research explore themes and issues in Biblical and Postcolonial Theologies. He believes it takes a village to create a leader and turns his classroom into a microvillage—a learning community where students learn to appreciate their diverse and yet unified experiences of God. His teaching pedagogy reflects his exercise of the wisdom of his West African Diola elders as he seeks to create and foster a learning environment where students would freely yet responsibly engage in the ongoing critical quest for healthy ways to shape the social and spiritual dimensions of their journeys of faith. He is passionate about translating academic work to the Church.

TODAY AT RIVERSIDE

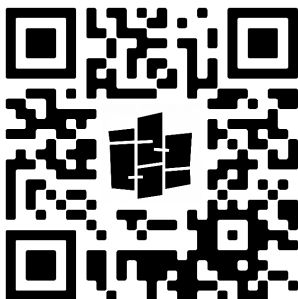
Sunday, July 30

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

Coffee Hour | After Worship | South Hall Lobby

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

Sunday Afternoon Carillon Recital | 3:00 PM | “Fun in the Sun,” Lynnli Wang, Assistant Carillonneur



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, July 31

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

Freedom School Continues | 8:30 AM

Tuesday, August 1

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial Carillon Recital with Lynnli Wang | 6:30 PM | Nave

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

Wednesday, August 2

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

Thursday, August 3

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

Personnel & Salary Committee Meeting | 6:00 PM | Online

Friday, August 4

Morning Prayer | 8:00 AM | Online

COMING SOON

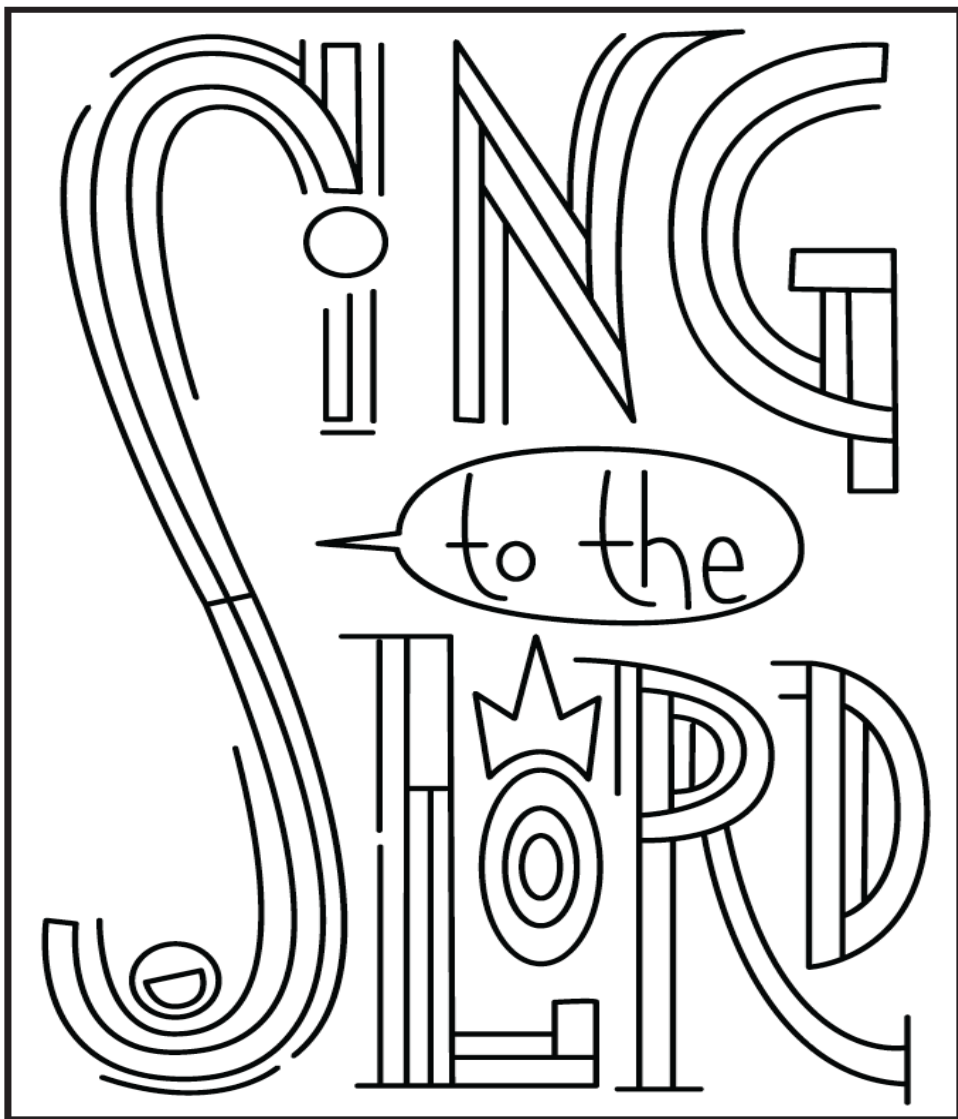
Sunday, September 17

Homecoming | 11:00 AM | Nave & Online

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

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on 2 Kings 5:1-14, Psalm 30, Luke 10:1-11, 16-20.



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 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

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CONTACT US:

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For full staff directory visit trcnyc.org/directory



trcnyc.org



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