

# The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



APRIL 25, 2021  
FOURTH 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 yourself for Worship, we invite you to reflect quietly on these words:

“Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.”

-1 Corinthians 13:4-7

---

## 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 Eastertide, a period of 50 days following the resurrection of Jesus Christ until Pentecost. The liturgical color of Eastertide is white, which symbolizes the hope of the resurrection, as well as the purity and newness that comes from victory over sin and death, as signified by the paraments and clergy stoles.

---



## GATHERING

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

### CARILLON

Prelude and Fugue on  
Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

*Ronald Barnes*

*Charles Semowich, carillonneur*

### HANDBELLS

Wondrous Love  
Chorale Prelude on "Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

*arr. Jason W. Krug*

*arr. Jason W. Krug*

*The Riverside Ringers*

*Daniel Potter, director*

### LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Michael Livingson

### CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>

Rev. Phil Tom

One: The Lord is our shepherd, our provider of all.

**All: Beside still waters, God leads us to lay in green pastures.**

One: God leads us in the right paths and restores our souls.

**All: Through our darkest valleys we fear no evil for God is with us.**

One: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives.

**All: Come! Let us worship in the house of the Lord together!**

### INVOCATION

#### OPENING HYMN 473

#### For the Beauty of the Earth

*Dix*

For the beauty of the earth,  
For the glory of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth  
Over and around us lies.

*Refrain:*

Lord of all, to Thee we raise,  
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour  
Of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
Sun and moon, and stars of light. (Refrain)

For the joy of ear and eye,  
For the heart and mind's delight,

For the mystic harmony  
Linking sense to sound and sight. (Refrain)

For the joy of human love,  
Brother, sister, parent, child,  
Friends on earth and friends above,  
For all gentle thoughts and mild. (Refrain)

For Thy Church, that evermore  
Lifteth holy hands above,  
Offering up on every shore  
Her pure sacrifice of love. (Refrain)

### *LISTENING*

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

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

One: Lord have mercy.

**All: Christ have mercy.**

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

### **NEW TESTAMENT LESSON**

Chloe Landers

1 John 3:16-24

*(page 240 in the New Testament)*

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **HANDBELLS**

Be Thou My Vision

*Irish folk tune, arr. Jason W. Krug*

### **SERMON**

Rev. Debra Northern

What's Love Got To Do with It?

### *RESPONDING*

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

### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

Rev. Tom

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, who art in heaven,**

**Hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come,**

**Thy 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.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Harper

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

## INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Christian Rojas

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

**My Shepherd Will Supply My Need**

*Virgil Thomson*

My shepherd will supply my need, Jehovah is his name; In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream. He brings my wand'ring spirit back when I forsake his ways; He leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace. When I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay; A word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away. Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread, My cup with blessings overflows, thine oil anoints my head. The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days: O may thy house be mine abode, and all my work be praise! There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come; No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.

## THE DOXOLOGY

**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. Harper

*Today we celebrate the work of the Stephen Ministry, which equips and empowers lay members to provide Christ-centered care to people in need of encouragement and support.*

## CLOSING HYMN 387

**Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us**

*Bradbury*

**Savior, like a shepherd lead us,**

**Much we need Thy tender care;**

**In Thy pleasant pastures feed us,**

**For our use Thy folds prepare:**

**Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,**

Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

Thou hast promised to receive us,  
Poor and sinful though we be;  
Thou hast mercy to relieve us,  
Grace to cleanse, and power to free:  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Early let us turn to Thee.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Early let us turn to Thee.

Early let us seek Thy favor;  
Early let us do Thy will;  
Blessèd Lord and only Savior,  
Eith Thy love our bosoms fill:  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Thou hast loved us, love us still;  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Thou hast loved us, love us still.

*SENDING*

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

**BENEDICTION**

Rev. Northern

**POSTLUDE**

Postlude in C Major

*Henry Smart*

---

Liturgical Resources for Today:

<sup>1</sup>*Inspired by Psalm 23*

*Special thanks to our congregational leaders: Chloe Landers & Christian Rojas*

## **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. Michael Livingston, Interim Senior Minister  
Rev. Dr. James Forbes, Senior Minister Emeritus

## **RIVERSIDE EMAIL LIST**

Are you receiving our weekly emails? Check your junk folder, add us to your “safe sender list,” or visit [\*\*trcnyc.org/Email\*\*](http://trcnyc.org/Email) to sign up. We want to make sure that you know all the latest news and events at The Riverside Church!

## **LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY**

For announcements of programs and events at The Riverside Church, please visit [\*\*trcnyc.org/Events\*\*](http://trcnyc.org/Events) for more information and to download a copy.

## **WORSHIP ONLINE & ALL WEEK LONG**

If you need more Riverside worship throughout the week, visit [\*\*trcnyc.org/online\*\*](http://trcnyc.org/online) to watch the Sunday morning Livestream, videos of the sermon and the choirs, and more. Be sure to watch The Word Made Fresh, our weekly video Bible Study, and catch up on Be Still and Go, our devotional podcast.

# CONNECT WITH US.

---

**Rev. Michael Livingston**  
Interim Senior Minister  
mlivingston@trcnyc.org

---

## Pastoral and Program Staff

**Meighan Corbett**  
Director of Stewardship & Development  
mcorbett@trcnyc.org

**Christopher Creaghan**  
Associate Organist  
ccreaghan@trcnyc.org

**Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper**  
Minister of Older Adults  
lharper@trcnyc.org

**Rich Glassey**  
Executive Director of Operations  
rglassey@trcnyc.org

**Christopher Johnson**  
Director of Music and Organist  
cjohnson@trcnyc.org

**Rev. Jim Keat**  
Digital Minister  
jkeat@trcnyc.org

**Rev. Bruce Lamb**  
Minister of Faith Formation  
blamb@trcnyc.org

**Amanda Meisenheimer**  
Minister of Children & Families  
mmeisenheimer@trcnyc.org

**Rev. Debra Northern**  
Minister of Parish Care  
dnorthern@trcnyc.org

**Carrie Quarquesso**  
Coordinator for Worship & Arts  
cquarquesso@trcnyc.org

**Rev. Kevin VanHook**  
Minister of Justice, Advocacy, & Change  
kvanhook@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