

THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK



TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 28, 2024 | 11:00 AM

WELCOME TO THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

Interdenominational · Interracial · International · Open · Welcoming · Affirming

WORSHIP is at the center of the life of The Riverside Church.

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

“The decision to wrestle with God invites discomfort on one side and maturity and transformation on the other side.”

— Rev. Dr. Jennifer L. Carner

A question for reflection:

How might I be wrestling with God or God’s energies, attributes, or actions?

Connect With Us

Visit our Welcome Page to learn more



Give By Your Phone

Text TRCNYCGIVE to 833.833.4035



Cover art by Jamil De Honney.

Inspired by Genesis 32:9-13, 22-30.

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 to prepare our hearts to worship God.

CARILLON

Precious Lord, Take My Hand
Variations on *Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands*

Thomas A. Dorsey, arr. John Courter
Addie de Jong

Charles Semowich, *carillonneur*

ORGAN

Four Spiritual Preludes
I. Oh! What a Beautiful City
II. Go Down, Moses
III. Were You There?
IV. Deep River

David Hurd

Alan Montgomery, *organist*

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Adriene Thorne

CALL TO WORSHIP¹ *standing as able*

One: Lord, you were favorable to your land, you restored our fortunes.

***All:* You forgave our iniquities and pardoned our sins.**

One: Restore us again, O God of our salvation.

***All:* Revive us again, so that your people may rejoice in you!**

One: Show us your steadfast love and grant us your salvation.

***All:* Let us worship and be renewed!**

INVOCATION *remain standing*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 379 *remain standing, sung by all*
My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

SOLID ROCK

¹Based on Psalm 85.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Adriene Thorne

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

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SOLO

Over My Head/My God is So High

arr. Liz Lang & Alan Montgomery

Liz Lang, *soprano*

LISTENING

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

GOSPEL SCRIPTURE READING

Jacqueline Gregg

Luke 18:1-8

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

HYMN 383 *standing as able, sung by all*

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

OLIVET

HEBREW BIBLE SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah Drake, Annie Meredith,

Genesis 32:22-29

Dahlia Rivadeneyra

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

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Total Praise

Richard Smallwood

Lord, I will lift mine eyes to the hills, knowing my help is coming from you. Your peace, you give me in time of the storm. You are the source of my strength. You are the strength of my life. I lift my hands in total praise to you. You are the source of my strength. You are the strength of my life. I lift my hands in total praise to you. You are the source of my strength. You are the strength of my life. I lift my hands in total praise to you.

Damien Sneed, *guest conductor*

SERMON

Wrestling with God

Rev. Dr. Jennifer L. Carner

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. Charlene A. Wingate

We have heard the word of God read and proclaimed. Now let us pray together.

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

**All: 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 *standing as able*

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Rev. Tim Dalton

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Thank You

Walter Hawkins

Tragedies are commonplace. All kinds of diseases, people are slipping away. Economies down, people can't get enough pay. As for me all I can say is thank you, Lord, for all you've done for me.

Folks without homes, living out in the streets, and the drug habit some say they just can't beat. Muggers and robbers, no place seems to be safe, but you've been my protection every step of the way. I want to say, thank you Lord for all you've done for me.

Damien Sneed, *guest conductor*

AT THE PRESENTATION: THE DOXOLOGY *standing as able, sung by all*
The congregation rises row by row as ushers pass to symbolize the offering of our whole selves to God.

All: 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 *remain standing* Rev. Jim Keat

Today we celebrate the ministry of the Sharing & Densford Funds, which offer grants to ministries around the world, so that all people may know safety, have access to education, clean drinking water, and live each day knowing their worth in God's beloved community.

RECESSIONAL HYMN 482 *remain standing, sung by all*

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

BENEDICTION *remain standing*

Rev. Dr. Jennifer L. Carner

POSTLUDE

King of Kings

Ralph Simpson

Alan Montgomery, *organist*

ABOUT OUR GUEST PREACHER

Rev. Dr. Jennifer L. Carner



The Reverend Dr. Jennifer L. Carner is the daughter of Pastor J.W. Carner and Brenda Carner. She served in ministry with her father for several years. Under his leadership, she was licensed to preach and bring authentic transformation to the Kingdom and the world in August of 2000. She was later ordained at Greater Travelers Rest Baptist Church, in 2008. Jennifer has served as the first female Executive/Lead Pastor of The Greater Travelers Rest Baptist Church in Decatur, GA, where Dr. E. Dewey Smith, Jr. is the Senior Pastor. She currently gives leadership to their Hope Global Operations. In addition, she provides preaching

and teaching support to the Senior Pastor.

Jennifer has a passion for Homiletics, Communications Theory, and higher learning. She has obtained her Ph.D. from Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis, IN, in African American Preaching and Sacred Rhetoric. Dr. Jen's dissertation centered on the history of African American preaching.

Jennifer published her first book entitled, *31 Days of Winning, a Devotional Journal*. She describes her first published work in this way: "Preachers, influencers, and creatives are human. Faith and spirituality do not exempt us from heartbreak. *31 Days of Winning* is a compilation of the words that helped me find the will to show up in my own life. It is my prayer that these words will help others the way that they helped me."

Dr. Jen has been inducted into the esteemed Morehouse Board of Ministers and Laity for her commitment to preaching, teaching, and ministry through a Christocentric and liberationist lens. She seeks to encourage everyone around her. She continues to live out the words of the first song she learned to sing, "I'm just a nobody trying to tell everybody about somebody who can save anybody."

TODAY AT RIVERSIDE

SUNDAY, JULY 28

Open Bible Study Series with Rev. Dr. Andrea C. White	20T & Online	9:30 AM
ParentConnect	318 MLK & Online	9:30 AM
Ecclesia Ministry	Assembly Hall Kitchen	10:00 AM
Preschool Worship	717 MLK	10:30 AM
Revival: Sunday Morning Worship	Nave & Online	11:00 AM
Sermon Talkback	Nave & Online	After Service
Coffee Hour	South Hall Lobby	After Service
Lunch (<i>available for purchase</i>)	South Hall	After Service
Harmony in Motion	311 MLK	1:00 PM
Planning for a Good Goodbye	20T & Online	1:30 PM
Sunday Afternoon Carillon Recital: Big Bang		3:00 PM

THIS WEEK AT RIVERSIDE

MONDAY, JULY 29

Morning Prayer	Online	8:00 AM
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TUESDAY, JULY 30

Morning Prayer	Online	8:00 AM
Summer Organ Series: Alan Montgomery	Nave & Online	7:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31

Morning Prayer	Online	8:00 AM
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THURSDAY, AUGUST 1

Morning Prayer	Online	8:00 AM
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FRIDAY, AUGUST 2

Morning Prayer	Online	8:00 AM
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COMING SOON

Planning for a Good Goodbye

Sunday, August 4

1:30 PM

Summer Organ Series: Eddie Zheng

Tuesday, August 6

7:00 PM

RIVERSIDE SUMMER REVIVAL

For four Sundays, in the spirit of old-time church revivals, we will feature guest preachers and special music during our morning worship services.

Rev. Dr. Allison M. Henderson-Brooks | Sunday, July 21

Rev. Dr. Jennifer L. Carner | Sunday, July 28

Rev. Leah D. Jackson, Esq. | Sunday, August 4

Rev. Dr. Mycal X. Brickhouse | Sunday, August 11



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.

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 A. Forbes, Jr., 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. Be sure to 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 stay connected to all the videos, podcasts, and events from The Riverside Church.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON CARILLON RECITALS

Recitals take place most weeks at 3:00 PM and can be best heard outdoors listening from Sakura Park, north of The Riverside Church at 122nd Street. Visit trcnyc.org/carillonrecitals for the complete schedule and programs.

SUNDAY MORNING PARKING

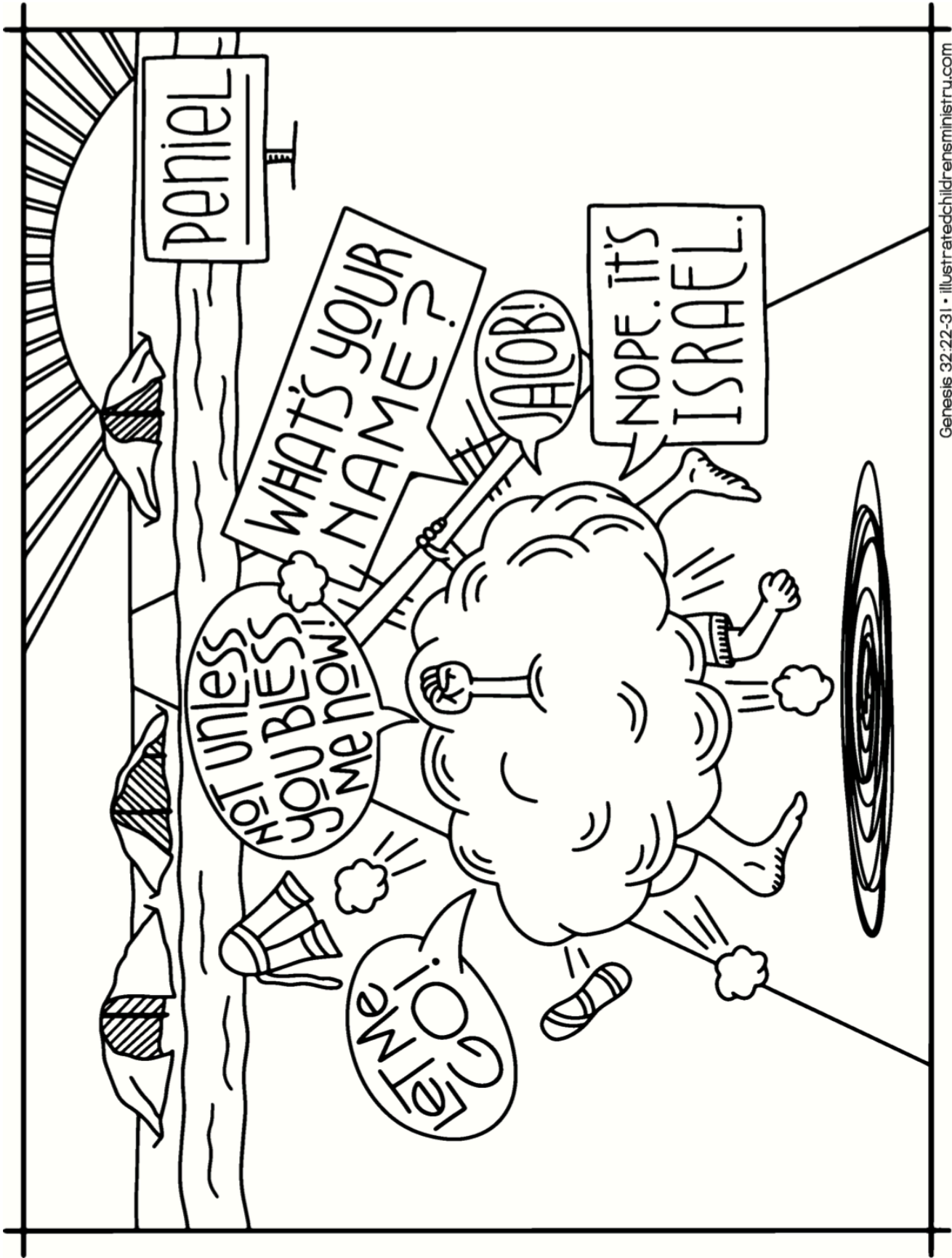
Visit the Security Desk on the Claremont Level to pick up a \$5 parking coupon. Bring this bulletin and your parking ticket to the attendant on the upper level to receive this discounted rate, pay, and pick up your car. This discounted rate applies to Sundays only.

VOLUNTEER AT RIVERSIDE

Riverside offers a variety of volunteer opportunities, from ushering to providing support in our social services programs, and so much more! Discover the joy of giving back, and make a lasting difference in the lives of those we serve. Visit trcnyc.org/volunteer for more information.

SUMMER CHOIR

Can you read music? Come sing with members of the Riverside Choir this summer! Rehearsals are held on Sunday mornings at 9:30, and you are welcome to join us for as many Sundays as you like, starting on June 9. To volunteer, please email a recording of you singing one verse of your favorite hymn, along with a brief description of your musical experience, to Alan Montgomery, Interim Director of Music, at amontgomery@trcnyc.org. We look forward to hearing from you!





PASTORAL TEAM & MINISTERIAL STAFF



Rev. Adriene Thorne
Senior Minister



Rev. Dr. Colleen Birchett
Ministerial Staff



Rev. Tim Dalton
*Minister for
Congregational Care
and Older Adults*



Min. Derrick Jordan
Ministerial Staff



Rev. Jim Keat
*Minister of Digital
Worship and Education*



Rev. Mira Sawlani-Joyner
*Minister of Justice,
Advocacy, and Change*



Min. Heelee Joo Velez
*Associate Director of
Education and Faith
Formation (Children
and Families)*



Rev. Dr. Lisa Weaver
Executive Minister



Rev. Charlene Wingate
Ministerial Staff



Rev. Jabe Ziino
*Associate Director of
Education and Faith
Formation (Youth and
Young Adults)*

PROGRAM AND SUPPORT STAFF

Natalie Fein

Chief Operating Officer

Talia Johnson

Manager of Member Services

Alan Montgomery

Interim Director of Music

Natalie Graves Tucker

Director of Communications and Development

THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH
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