

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



AUGUST 20, 2017

ELEVENTH 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 yourself for Worship, we invite you to reflect quietly on these words:

“I have in my possession a copy of a letter from Mahatma Gandhi to Muriel Lester. The letter says in part: “Speak the truth, without fear and without exception, and see everyone whose work is related to your purpose. You are in God’s work, so you need not fear man’s scorn. If they listen to your requests and grant them, you will be satisfied. If they reject them, then you must make their rejection your strength.” The acceptance of this alternative is to be simply, directly truthful, whatever may be the cost in life, limb, or security... There must always be the confidence that the effect of truthfulness can be realized in the mind of the oppressor as well as the oppressed. There is no substitute for such a faith.”

– Howard Thurman, *Jesus and the Disinherited*

Our art installation, “Shades of Ordinary Time” highlights the liturgical season after Pentecost until the beginning of Advent. The color green symbolizes growth and new life. Imagine the top of the Nave opening to allow the leaves to stream down into the church as God’s creation comes inside. It is a time of flourishing and delighting in every shade of green found in nature as we celebrate the diversity of God’s people gathered to worship at The Riverside Church.

THE LITURGICAL YEAR

The Riverside Church follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together. We are currently in the Season after Pentecost, also known as Ordinary Time. It is signified by the green paraments and clergy stoles that represent new life and growth. Ordinary Time is observed from Pentecost until the beginning of Advent.

IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST VISIT:

Complete a Welcome Card and place it in the offering plate as it passes.

Join us for Fellowship Hour in South Hall Lobby directly after Worship. As you leave the Nave, take a right and follow the hallway past Christ Chapel. Signs and greeters are available to provide direction. You’ll find fair trade coffee from Javesca Coffee, a children’s play area, a greeting area to learn about membership at Riverside, and indoor seating.

A church tour is offered each Sunday after Worship free of charge. Meet in the 1st balcony. Tours also take place on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. leaving from the Gift Shop. No reservations are necessary.

Assistive hearing devices and large print bulletins are available upon request from an usher.

GATHERING

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

CARILLON

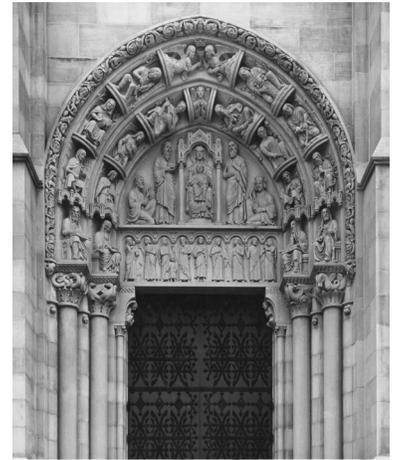
Meditation: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty *Joachim Neander*
David Maker, Guest Carillonneur

ORGAN

Cantabile (Symphonie VIII) *Charles-Marie Widor*
Christopher Creaghan, Associate Organist

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Bertram Johnson



†PROCESSIONAL HYMN 263

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise *St. Denio*

†CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 33

Ms. Mandy Meisenheimer

One: The Lord looks down from heaven;
and sees every human being.

**All: God is the one who made all our hearts,
the one who knows everything we do.**

One: We put our hope in the Lord,
our help and our shield.

**All: Our heart rejoices in God
because we trust God's holy name.
Lord, let your faithful love surround us
as we wait for you in this hour of worship.**

The Call to Worship is a summons to the whole community of God's people gathered together to join in the worship of God. Often drawn from Scripture, the collective call with responses engages the entire worshipping body.

†INVOCATION

LISTENING

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

†All who are able, please stand

SOLO

There is a Balm in Gilead

Spiritual, arr. Mark Hayes

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole; there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sinsick soul. Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain; but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. If you can preach like Peter, if you can pray like Paul, go home and tell your neighbor, "He died to save us all."

Mitchell Widmer, Baritone

Exegesis, from the Greek "to lead out" is a critical explanation or interpretation of a text. Some of the forms of critical analysis may include: historical, literary, and contextual disciplines.

EXEGESIS

Mr. Derrick Jordan

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ms. Meisenheimer

Genesis 45:1-15

(page 42 in the Old Testament)

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

People: Thanks be to God.

The Revised Common Lectionary is a three-year cycle of Scripture readings developed by the ecumenical Consultation on Common Texts for use each Sunday and on other festivals centered on the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Each Sunday's readings include an Old Testament (Hebrew), Psalm, Gospel and Epistle reading.

EPISTLE LESSON

Ms. Kara Dago-Clark

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

(page 160 in the New Testament)

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

People: Thanks be to God.

†HYMN 510

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

Quebec

†GOSPEL LESSON

Mr. Kurt Adams

Matthew 15:10-20

(page 17 in the New Testament)

Leader: This is the Gospel of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Ms. Christian Peele

Without Weeping

RESPONDING

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

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Rachel Johnson

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: 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.

The Lord's Prayer is a Christian prayer that has its origins in Scripture and according to tradition was taught by Jesus to his disciples. It appears in two forms in the New Testament: the shorter version in Luke 11:2-4, the longer version, part of the Sermon on the Mount, in Matthew 6:9-13. In both contexts it is offered as a model of how to pray. The Lord's Prayer contains three common elements: praise, petition, and a yearning for the coming Reign of God. It consists of an introductory address, seven petitions and a doxology.

✚PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Rev. B. Johnson

OFFERTORY SOLO

I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked

Geoffrey O'Hara

I walked today where Jesus walked, in days of long ago; I wandered down each path he knew, with reverent step and slow. Those little lanes, they have not changed, a sweet peace fills the air. I walked today where Jesus walked, and felt his presence there. My pathway led through Bethlehem, Ah! memories ever sweet; the little hills of Galilee, that knew his childish feet; the Mount of Olives: hallowed scenes that Jesus knew before; I saw the mighty Jordan roll as in the days of yore. I knelt today where Jesus knelt, where all alone he prayed; the Garden of Gethsemane, my heart felt unafraid. I picked my heavy burden up, and with him at my side, I climbed the Hill of Calvary, where on the cross he died! I walked today where Jesus walked, and felt him close to me.

Mitchell Widmer, Baritone



†AT THE PRESENTATION: THE DOXOLOGY

The congregation rises row by row as ushers pass to symbolize 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.**

The Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication expresses our gratitude to God for what God has done and continues to do in the life of the world. We offer ourselves to God through our gifts for the furtherance of God's Reign.

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION Rev. B. Johnson

SENDING

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

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Ms. Peele

†BENEDICTION

†RECESSIONAL HYMN 422

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

Beach Spring

POSTLUDE

Promenade

Gordon Young

*Special thanks to our congregational leaders:
Ms. Kara Dago-Clark and Mr. Kurt Adams*

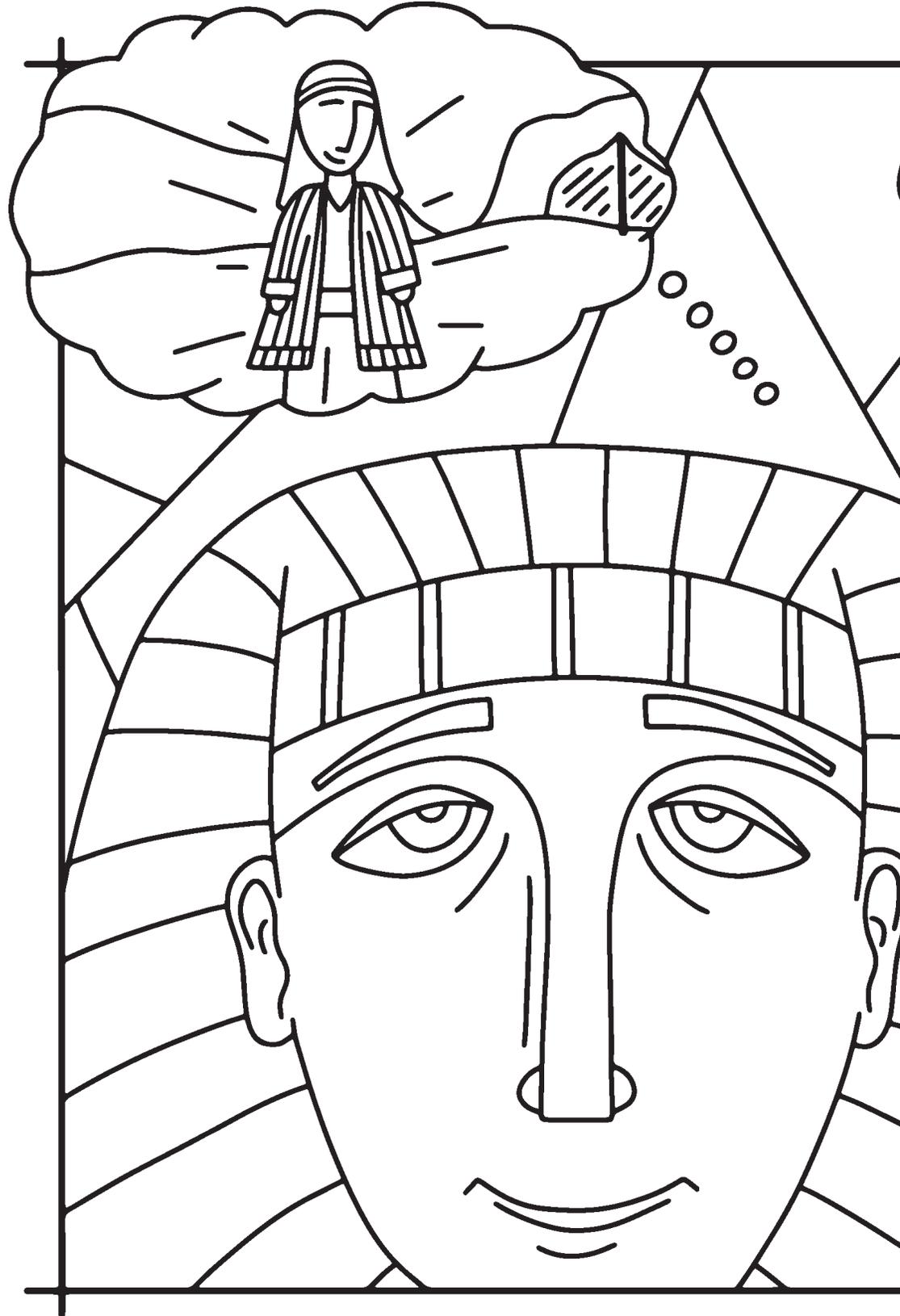
*Also a special thanks to the actors:
Dana Ferguson Moss, Victoria Anderson, Susanna Booth, and Eric Owens*

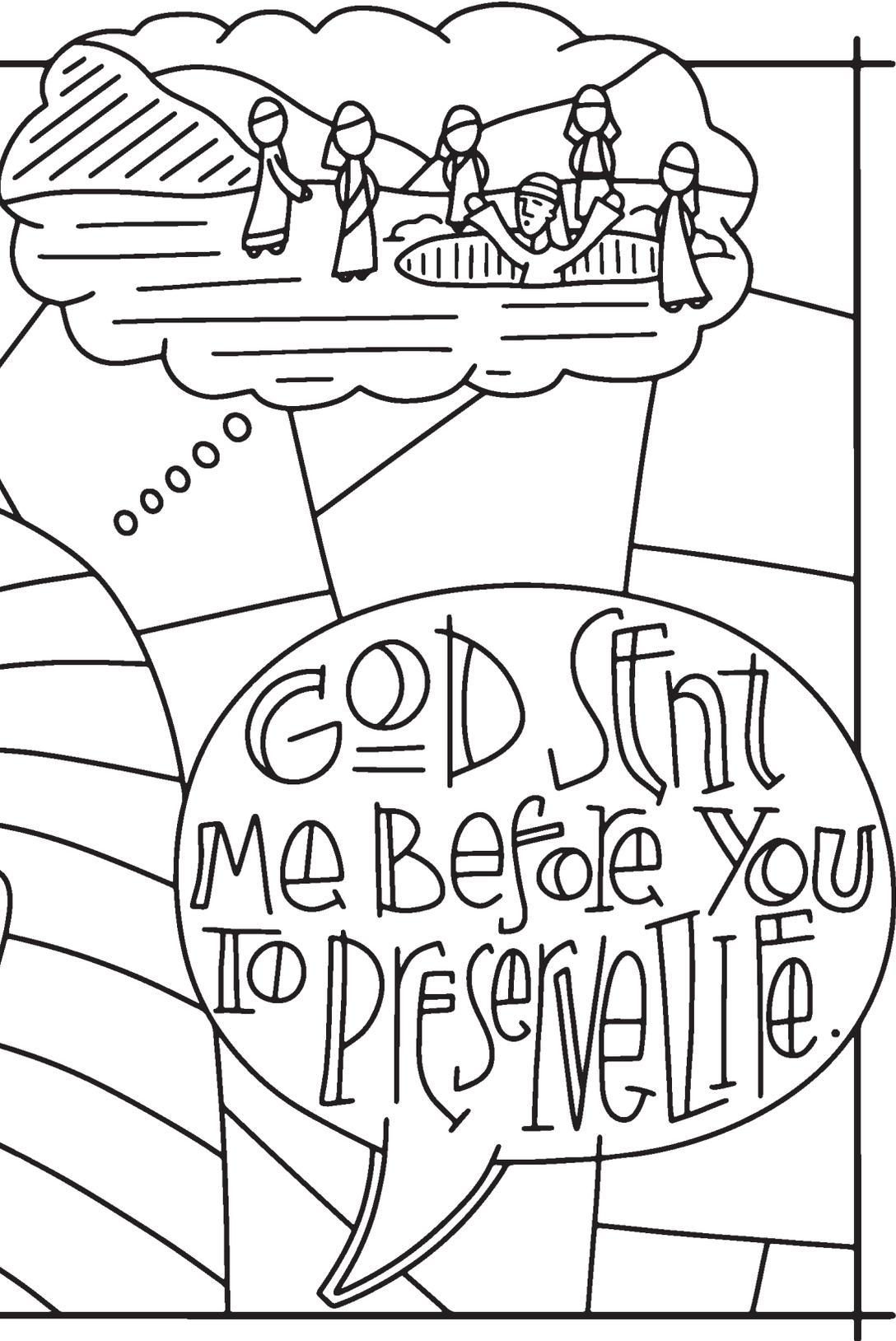
LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY

For announcements of programs and events in the church, please pick up the *Life of Our Community* bulletin located in the back of the pew or outside the Welcome Center. Or visit our website www.trcnyc.org.

A Teaching Moment – please enjoy these activities for our “younger” family members as we worship together this summer.

COLOR THIS WEEK’S PICTURES





GOD SENT
ME BEFORE YOU
TO PRESENT LIFE.

FINISH THE DRAWING

Finish the drawings of Joseph and Joseph's brothers when they saw each other again for the first time in Egypt. What emotions are on their faces?



'HOW GOOD'
'AND PLEASANT'
TO LIVE IN UNITY



TALK WITH THE PREACHER

Read Pastor Amy's blog online at talkwiththepreacher.org.

Printed copies are also available in the Welcome Center/Gift Shop.

Pastor Amy is available for conversations with members by appointment.

Please email srminister@trcnyc.org or call 212-870-6775 to arrange an appointment.

CONNECT WITH RIVERSIDE'S PASTORAL & PROGRAM STAFF

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Contact Us:

To contact the church with general
questions, call 212-870-6700 or email
communications@trcnyc.org.

The Riverside Church is a member of the American Baptist Churches, U.S.A. and the United Church of Christ and cooperates with the Council of Churches in the City of New York, and with the New York State, National, and World Council of Churches.



trcnyc.org

PARKING - 8/20/2017

Parking is available in the garage below the building. Present this bulletin to the attendant before 6:00 p.m. for a reduced rate of \$4.00 cash or \$5.00 credit card.



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