

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



On the Way with Jesus

SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

FIFTEENTH 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:

“Forgiving and being reconciled to our enemies or our loved ones are not about pretending that things are other than they are. It is not about patting one another on the back and turning a blind eye to the wrong. True reconciliation exposes the awfulness, the abuse, the hurt, the truth. It could even sometimes make things worse. It is a risky undertaking but in the end it is worthwhile, because in the end only an honest confrontation with reality can bring real healing. Superficial reconciliation can bring only superficial healing.”

– *Archbishop Desmond Tutu*

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.

We are currently in our four-week series, **On the Way With Jesus**, in which we are looking at Matthew’s Gospel as Jesus journeys toward Jerusalem. Along the way, Jesus interacts with his disciples, teaching them and us how to live in community and be the Church.

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: My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Leen 't Hart

Dionisio Lind, Carillonneur

ORGAN PRELUDE

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Amy Butler

+PROCESSIONAL HYMN 488

The God of Abraham Praise

Leoni

+CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Rev. Bertram Johnson

One: In the light of this day we have gathered;

**All: We are a community that is one,
bringing our questions and our joy.**

One: In the song and silence we will listen –

All: What is it that God would have us hear this day?

One: In our praise and our prayers we will remember

**All: That God's glory shines around us and within.
Come, let us worship God.**

+INVOCATION

+*All who are able, please stand*

LISTENING

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

SOLO

Ain't Got Time to Die

Spiritual, arr. Hall Johnson

Lord, I keep so busy praisin' my Jesus, ain't got time... 'Cause when I'm healin' the sick, 'Cause it takes all o' my time to praise my Lord. If I don't praise Him de rocks gonna cry out "Glory an' honor." Lord, I keep so busy workin' for the Kingdom, ain't got time to die. 'Cause when I'm feedin' the poor, I'm workin' for the Kingdom... ain't got time to die. Lord, I keep so busy servin' my Master, ain't got time to die. 'Cause when I'm givin' my all, I'm servin' my Master... Ain't got time to die.

Irwin Reese, tenor

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mr. Isaac Myers

Genesis 50:15-21

(page 48 in the Old Testament)

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

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON

Ms. Chiara Fuller

Romans 14:1-12

(page 163 in the New Testament)

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

People: Thanks be to God.

†HYMN 223

O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer

Stuttgart

†GOSPEL LESSON

Rev. Kevin Vandiver

Matthew 18:21-35

(page 20 in the New Testament)

Leader: This is the Gospel of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

†*All who are able, please stand*

Ridiculous...Required

RESPONDING

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

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Butler

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.

✚PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Rev. Ellen Robison

OFFERTORY SOLO

His Eye is On the Sparrow

Charles Gabriel

Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come, why should my heart be lonely and long for heav'n and home, when Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is He: His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me; His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me. "Let not your heart be troubled," His tender word I hear, and resting on His goodness, I lose my doubts and fears; Tho' by the path He leadeth but one step I may see: His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me; His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

✚*All who are able, please stand*

✚ 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.**

✚ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

Rev. Robison

FAREWELL TO REV. VANDIVER

Rev. Butler and Rev. Kevin Wright

SENDING

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

✚ BENEDICTION

Rev. Livingston

✚ RECESSIONAL HYMN 184

How Blest Are Those

Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

*Special thanks to our congregational leaders:
Mr. Isaac Myers and Ms. Chiara Fuller*

Liturgical Resources for Today:

¹<https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/call-to-worship/>

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.

✚ *All who are able, please stand*

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

COLOR THIS WEEK’S PICTURES



How many times did Jesus say we need to forgive others? - "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times" (Matthew 18:22)

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 sminister@trcnc.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
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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.



trcnc.org

PARKING - 9/17/2017

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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