

# The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



MARCH 18, 2018  
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

# WELCOME TO THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

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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:

“They tried to bury us. They didn’t know we were seeds.”

– *Dinos Christianopoulos*

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## 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 Lent, a period of forty days leading to Easter marked by repentance and reflection on everything in our lives that separates us from God. The liturgical color of Lent is purple as signified by the paraments, wall hangings, and clergy stoles (excepting communion Sundays when clergy wear white stoles).

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## 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

*Dionisio Lind, Carillonneur*

### ORGAN

Prelude in B Minor (BWV 544)

*J. S. Bach*

### LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Amy Butler

### ✚ PROCESSIONAL HYMN 379

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

*Solid Rock*

### ✚ CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Bertram Johnson

One: The Lord is making a new covenant with us, the people of God.

**All: Here in this place, Christ writes the law of love on our hearts.**

One: We are children of the living God, traveling through this world.

**All: Together, let us worship the Lord of Love!**

### ✚ INVOCATION

✚ *All who are able, please stand*

## LISTENING

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

### ANTHEM

#### Going To Heaven To Meet the King

*Mattie Moss-Clark*

I'm gonna walk, I'm gonna talk, I'm gonna sing for the heavenly King. I want to be there when they march around the wall. I want to be there when the general roll is called. They tell me that the half has never been told. But the Holy Ghost took control. Gonna walk for the Father, sing for the Son, shout for the Holy Ghost, Three in One. I'm on my way to heaven to meet the King. Just listen, listen and let me tell you how I view the promised land. So many have been tested and tried. But you've got to be born again. Your name and my name it won't be called until we get to heaven and be in one accord. Get right. Get back. I'm on my way to heaven to meet the King.

*The Riverside Inspirational Choir*

*Nedra Olds-Neal, director*

*Shari Gill, soprano*

*Matt King, piano*

### RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Rev. Butler & Anita Bryant

**We welcome you with joy and friendship into the common life of The Riverside Church. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's love and grace and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

**"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"**

*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.  
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.*

### A MOMENT FOR LENT

Rev. Rachel Johnson

### RESPONSIVE PSALM

#### Psalm 51

Book of Common Prayer

C. Johnson

Cre - ate in me a

3  
clean heart, O God.

*Jessica Marsten, cantor*

†All who are able, please stand

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>1</sup>

Loving God, we confess that we love our lives just as they are.  
We struggle with even the idea of change.  
We wrestle with the thought of doing things differently.  
But we know that the life we cling to is only half a life.  
Only you, O Lord, can give us abundant life.  
Forgive us for holding onto the wrong things.

Teach us by your Spirit to let go of our agendas and assumptions.  
Help us to let go of our self-righteousness and false notions of power.  
Give us the strength and courage to try new things.  
Encourage us – and even push us – to let go of ourselves  
so we can fully embrace you, Holy God.  
Hear now the confessions of our hearts.

*(time of silence)*

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

### ✦ PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

### ✦ HYMN

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

*Land of Rest*

*Abide with us, that through this life of doubts and hope and pain,  
an Easter of unending joy we may at last attain!*

## HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Aida Montero

Jeremiah 31:31-34

*(page 735 in the Old Testament)*

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE LESSON

Bryant Harris

Hebrews 5:5-10

*(page 220 in the New Testament)*

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

### ✦ HYMN 370

Just As I Am, Without One Plea

*Woodworth*

✦ *All who are able, please stand*

† GOSPEL LESSON

Rev. B. Johnson

John 12:20-33

*(page 106 in the New Testament)*

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Butler

Unintended Consequences

*RESPONDING*

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

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Michael Livingston

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.**

CHORAL AMEN

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Rev. B. Johnson

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

I Must Tell Jesus

*arr. Mattie L. Robertson*

I must tell Jesus all of my trials; I cannot bear these burdens alone. In my distress he kindly will help me; he ever loves and cares for his own.

I must tell Jesus! I must tell Jesus! I cannot bear my burdens alone.

I must tell Jesus! I must tell Jesus! Jesus can help me, Jesus alone. I

must tell Jesus all of my troubles; He is a kind, compassionate friend.

If I but ask him, he will deliver; make of my troubles quickly an end.

† *All who are able, please stand*

## † 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

*Today we celebrate the work of our Membership Ministry, which is dedicated to accompanying our church members and prospective members on their spiritual journeys.*

### SENDING

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

## † BENEDICTION

Rev. Butler

## † RECESSIONAL HYMN 421

The Church of Christ in Every Age

*Wareham*

## POSTLUDE

Fugue in B Minor (BWV 544)

*J. S. Bach*

Liturgical Resources for Today:

<sup>1</sup><http://worshipcloset.com>

*Special thanks to our congregational leaders:*

*Aida Montero and Bryant Harris*

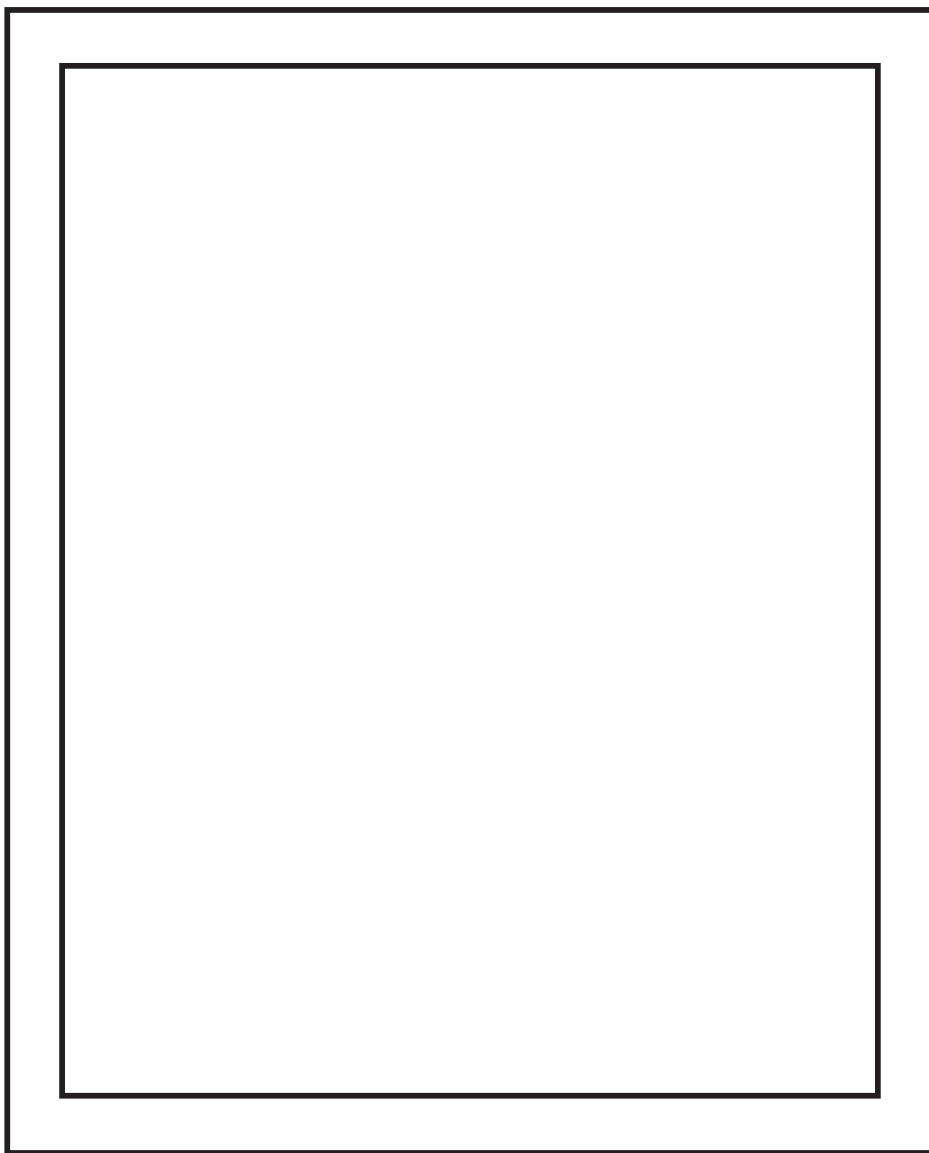
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### LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY

**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](http://www.trcnyc.org).



# DRAW IT

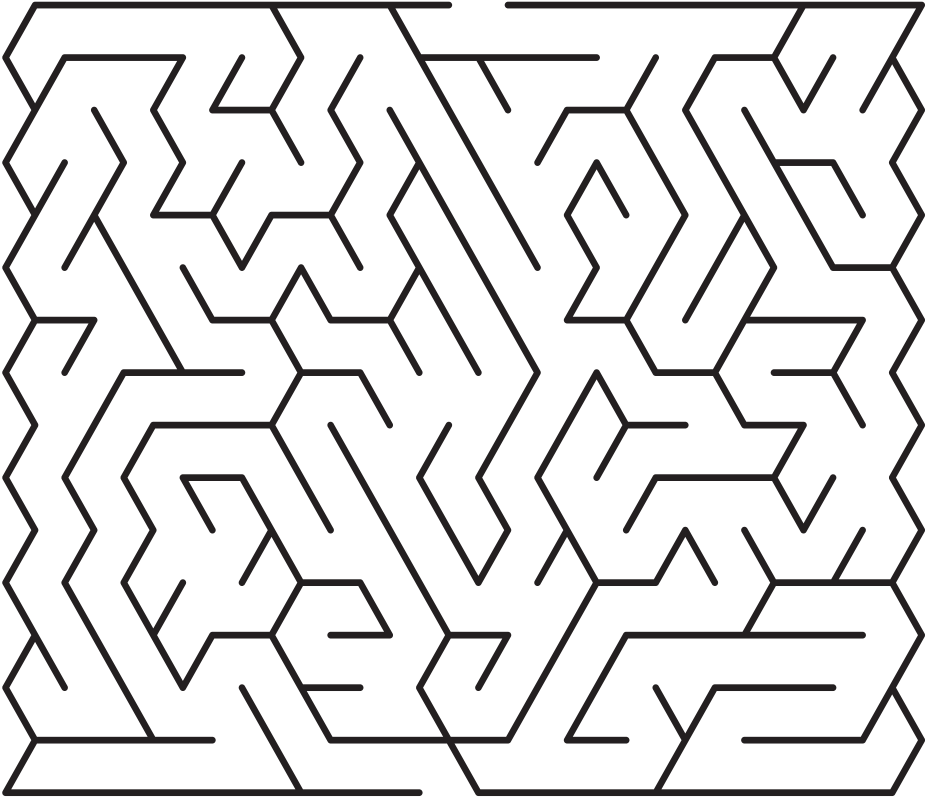


In Jeremiah 31, God says that everyone will know God, and that God's truth and hope will be in their hearts. Draw a picture of this kind of heart, and write inside the heart some things you know about God.



# SOLVE (the) MAZE

In John 12, many people are asking to see Jesus. Help the people make their way to where Jesus is, where they can learn and listen.



END



I WILL PUT  
MY ARMS  
WITHIN  
THEM,

I WILL BE THE  
THEY SHALL BE

AND I WILL  
WRITE IT  
ON THE  
HEARTS.

YOUR GOD, AND  
MY PEOPLE.

## TALK WITH THE PREACHER

Read Pastor Amy's blog online at [talkwiththepreacher.org](http://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](mailto:srminister@trcnyc.org) or call 212-870-6775 to arrange an appointment.

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## CONNECT WITH RIVERSIDE'S PASTORAL & PROGRAM STAFF

### Senior Minister's Office

#### Rev. Dr. Amy Butler

Senior Minister - [abutler@trcnyc.org](mailto:abutler@trcnyc.org)

#### Rev. Michael Livingston

Senior Executive Minister -

[mlivingston@trcnyc.org](mailto:mlivingston@trcnyc.org)

#### Rev. Dr. James Forbes

Senior Minister Emeritus

### Communications

#### Rev. Rachel Johnson

Executive Minister of Communications -

[rjohnson@trcnyc.org](mailto:rjohnson@trcnyc.org)

#### Rev. Jim Keat

Associate Minister of Digital Strategy & Online Engagement - [jkeat@trcnyc.org](mailto:jkeat@trcnyc.org)

### Faith Formation

#### Rev. Kevin Wright

Executive Minister of Programs -

[kwright@trcnyc.org](mailto:kwright@trcnyc.org)

#### Amanda Meisenheimer, MDiv

Associate Minister of Children and Families -

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#### Rev. Bruce Lamb

Interim Associate Minister of Youth and Young

Adults - [blamb@trcnyc.org](mailto:blamb@trcnyc.org)

### Music

#### Christopher Johnson

Director of Music and Organist -

[cjohnson@trcnyc.org](mailto:cjohnson@trcnyc.org)

#### Christopher Creaghan

Associate Organist -

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### Parish Care

#### Rev. Debra Northern

Minister of Parish Care - [dnorthern@trcnyc.org](mailto:dnorthern@trcnyc.org)

#### Rev. Lynn Casteel-Harper

Associate for Parish Care - [lharp@trcnyc.org](mailto:lharp@trcnyc.org)

### Social Justice

#### Rev. Bertram Johnson

Minister of Justice, Advocacy & Change -

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#### Jade DeSaussure

Program Manager for Social Justice -

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### Stewardship & Development

#### Min. Christian Peele

Executive Minister of Institutional

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#### Farley Lord, MTS

Associate Minister of Stewardship &

Development - [flord@trcnyc.org](mailto:flord@trcnyc.org)

#### Rev. Dustin Pickett

Associate Minister of Stewardship &

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### Worship & the Arts

#### Rev. Ellen Robison

Minister of Worship & the Arts -

[erobison@trcnyc.org](mailto:erobison@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)

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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.



[trcnyc.org](http://trcnyc.org)

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## PARKING - 3/18/2018

**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 \$5.00.



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