The Riverside Church
in the City of New York

JUNE 24, 2018
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
PRIDE SUNDAY
Sabbath as Refocusing

For the next three weeks in worship we will be exploring Sabbath and the results of Sabbath keeping: refocusing, restoration and radical witness. Each week you will find traditional and contemporary wisdom around the gift of Sabbath and its multifaceted impact on the lives of God’s children.

We also invite you to participate in a Sabbath Practice each week that will enrich your experience and culminate in a Shabbat meal with our Jewish siblings on Friday, July 6 in Assembly Hall. For more information on the Shabbat meal and the Sabbath series visit www.trcnyc.org/sabbath.

“The meaning of the Sabbath is to celebrate time rather than space. Six days a week we live under the tyranny of things of space; on the Sabbath we try to become attuned to holiness in time.”

- Rabbi Abraham Heschel

Sabbath Practice

Meister Eckhart, the Christian mystic, asserted that if the only prayer we ever prayed our whole life was “Thank you,” that would be enough. Gratefulness cultivates a visceral experience of having enough. When we are mindful of what we have, and give thanks for the many gifts we have overlooked or forgotten, our sense of wealth cannot help but expand, and we soon achieve a sense of sufficiency we so desire. Practice thanksgiving before meals, upon rising, when going to sleep. Friends, family, food, color, fragrance, the earth, life itself - these are all the gifts, perfectly gratuitous. How can we not give thanks? During the Sabbath time we are less concerned with what is missing, focusing instead on sharing our gratefulness for what has already been given.

- from Sabbath by Wayne Muller
GATHERING
We gather as a community and prepare our hearts to worship God

CARILLON
Meditation: Gavotte Pastorale
Leon Henry
Dionisio Lind, Carillonneur

ORGAN
Meditation
Alfred Hollins

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY
Rev. Amy Butler

CALL TO WORSHIP
One: This is the day that the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
All: This is a day for peace and proclamation, for rest and refocusing, for worship and restoration.

One: The sabbath day is a holy day, consecrated by the Creator as a gift to creation. We are commanded to honor and preserve it.
All: The sabbath day is a holy day, wherein we realize that all days are God's days; a day of rest, wherein we realize that all work is God's work; a day of peace, wherein we can realize that God is our maker and our mender, too.

One: Together, let us keep the sabbath.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN
Community of Christ
Leoni

All who are able, please stand
SABBATH RITUAL
Psalm 98
(in Hebrew and English)
Cherry Baylor-Butler
Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

SHALOM ALEICHEM³
Please join in singing verses 1 and 4 at the direction of the cantor.

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION³
Rev. Bertram Johnson
Lord of the Sabbath, hear our prayer.
It is hard for us to stop working, and learn to rest.
We confess that our busyness often substitutes for our holiness.
Forgive us, Lord, and help us to be still enough to know you.
Help us to understand that your sabbath is a time of refocusing.
A time to change our focus or priorities or direction in heart, mind and soul.
In this time of worship, we honor you, we rest in you,
and we refocus our lives on you.
Through Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God.
Hear now the confessions of our hearts. (silent prayer) Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE
SOLO
Matthew Krenz, tenor

Deep river, my home is over Jordan, deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground. Oh don’t you want to go to that gospel feast, that promised land where all is peace? Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.

†All who are able, please stand
PSALTER
Psalm 4

(page 490 in the Old Testament)
One: The Word of God for the People of God.
All: Thanks be to God.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON
Job 38:1-11
(page 484 in the Old Testament)
One: The Word of God for the People of God.
All: Thanks be to God.

HYMN 368
I've Got Peace Like a River

GOSPEL LESSON
Mark 4:35-41
(page 39 in the New Testament)
One: This is the Gospel of Christ.
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON
Sabbath as Refocusing
Midrash is the homiletic commentary on Biblical texts.

SILENT MEDITATION
A time for reflection, prayer and contemplation.

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

PASTORAL PRAYER
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.

† All who are able, please stand
PASSING OF THE PEACE
One: The peace of the Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE
Rev. Harper

OFFERTORY SOLO
O, Divine Redeemer! Charles Gounod

Ah! Turn me not away, receive me though unworthy; Hear thou my cry, behold, Lord, my distress! Answer me from thy throne, haste thee, Lord, to mine aid, thy pity shew in my deep anguish! Let not the sword of vengeance smite me, Though righteous thine anger, O Lord! Shield me in danger, O regard me! On Thee, Lord, alone will I call. O Divine Redeemer! I pray thee, grant me pardon, and remember not, remember not my sins! Forgive me, O Divine Redeemer! Night gathers round my soul; fearful, I cry to thee; come to mine aid, O Lord! Haste Thee, Lord, haste to help me! Hear my cry! Save me Lord in Thy mercy; come and save me O Lord! Save, in the day of retribution. From Death shield thou me, O my God! Divine Redeemer, have mercy! Help me, my Saviour!

Matthew Krenz, tenor

AT THE PRESENTATION: THE DOXOLOGY
Rev. Harper

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;

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION
Rev. Harper

Today we celebrate the ministry of Maranatha, which for forty years has worked to provide a safe and welcoming haven where lesbian, bisexual, transgender, gay, and queer identified people can be their whole selves, find healing community, and share their God-given gifts in faith and love.

BLESSING OF THE PRIDE PARADE MARCHERS
Rev. Johnson

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

BENEDICTION
Jeff Chu

All who are able, please stand
In the Midst of New Dimensions

Through the flood of starving people, warring factions
As we stand a world divided by our own self-
Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to with-

changing ways, Who will lead the pilgrim peoples
and despair, Who will lift the olive branches?
seeking schemes, Grant that we, your global village,
draw in pain, May your blazing phoenix spirit

wandering in their separate ways?
Who might light the flame of care?
might envision wider dreams.
rectify the church again.

Refrain

God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now and ever,

now and ever, now and evermore.

POSTLUDE
Promenade

All who are able, please stand
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.

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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.

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Liturgical Resources for Today:

1 The Center for Christian Ethics, Baylor University
3 Ibid.
4 Text and music: ©1985, Julian B. Rush. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-717132

Special thanks to our congregational leaders:
Ted Vivian, Marjorie Corbman, Kevin Bentley Cherry Baylor-Butler & Rebecca Stevens-Walter

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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.
In 1 Samuel 17, we learn the story of David and Goliath. David is a young boy, and Goliath is a big, scary warrior. Everyone thought David wouldn’t stand a chance! But David knows God is with him, and wins the battle.

Use your imagination to draw what you think this story looked like.

Jesus and his disciples are trying to cross in their boat to the other side of the lake. Help them find their way through the storm!
Come to the Name of the Lord.
1 Samuel 17:32-49
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.
For full staff directory visit trcnyc.org/directory

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 - 6/24/2018
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.