

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



SEPTEMBER 23, 2018
HOMECOMING SUNDAY
EIGHTEENTH 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:

“A church is a place where we try to think, speak, and act in God’s way, not in the way of a fear-filled world.”

– *William Sloane Coffin*

For the next three weeks we will be exploring the wisdom found in the book of Proverbs as we launch a series entitled, “Living a Good Life.” We’ll take a look at what it means to maintain a good name and develop a good mind. We’ll cultivate the roots of being a good community, seek out what is a good cause, and encourage a good practice within our lives. We’ll also be asking you to share with us the best piece of wisdom you’ve ever received as we journey together on the way to living a good life. Join Pastor Amy on Sunday, September 30 for a Sermon Talk Back after worship at the front of the Nave.

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 the Festival of Lay Ministries in South hall 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. Breakfast and lunch for purchase will be in Assembly Hall.

A free church tour is offered each Sunday after Worship. Meet in the 1st balcony, no reservation necessary. Tours also take place Wednesday-Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., as church schedule permits, leaving from the Welcome Center / Gift Shop. Reservations recommended. Visit trcnyc.org/visit.

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

✦ CONGREGATIONAL HYMN SING

341 – Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine

142 – All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

138 – Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Amy Butler

INTROIT

Wa wa wa emimimo (Come, O Holy Spirit)
Come, All You People

Yoruba, trans. Solanke, Nigeria
Uyai Mose, Zimbabwe

✦ PROCESSIONAL HYMN 455

All Creatures of Our God and King

Lasst uns erfreuen

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Debra Northern

One: We gather, O God, to give you thanks for your steadfast love
and faithfulness to all generations.

**All: We gather to remember the history of this
church and its years of faithful ministry to the community
and the world.**

One: We gather to celebrate the promise of a future
filled with hope and light as we work alongside our brothers and
sisters for your coming reign.

**All: We gather to prepare ourselves to joyfully serve you in all
places and all times in ministries of justice, peace, mercy
and love. Come let us worship!**

✦ INVOCATION

✦ *All who are able, please stand*

LISTENING

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

ANTHEM

Walk Together, Children

Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan

Walk together children, don't you get weary. Walk together children, don't you get weary. Oh, talk together children, don't you get weary. There's a great camp meeting in the Promised Land. Sing together children, don't you get weary. Sing together children, don't you get weary. Oh, shout together children, don't you get weary. There's a great camp meeting in the Promised Land. Gonna mourn and never tire. Mourn and never tire. Mourn and never tire. There's a great camp meeting in the Promised Land.

WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS

Rev. Kevin Wright & 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.***

PSALTER LESSON

Rev. Dr. Brad Braxton

Psalms 46

(page 517 in the Old Testament)

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Brad Jones

Proverbs 31:10-31

One: A capable wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain.

All: **She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life. She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands.**

One: She is like the ships of the merchant, she brings her food from far away. She rises while it is still night and provides food for her household and tasks for her servant-girls.

All: She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard. She girds herself with strength, and makes her arms strong. She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.

One: Her lamp does not go out at night. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle.

All: She opens her hand to the poor, and reaches out her hands to the needy. She is not afraid for her household when it snows, for all her household are clothed in crimson.

One: She makes herself coverings; her clothing is fine linen and purple. Her husband is known in the city gates, taking his seat among the elders of the land.

All: She makes linen garments and sells them; she supplies the merchant with sashes. Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come.

One: She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. She looks well to the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness.

All: Her children rise up and call her happy; her husband too, and he praises her: "Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all."

One: Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

All: Give her a share in the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the city gates.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

(page 230 in the New Testament)

Danielle Aviles-Griffin

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

All: Thanks be to God.

†HYMN

We Belong Because We're Eager¹

Nettleton



We be - long be - cause we're ea - ger for a
We be - lieve we're called to trav - el through a
We be - come trans - formed em - bra - cing those we
May the grace and love sus - tain - ing our dear



lar - ger, com - mon aim, some com - mit - ment much less
realm where ques - tions thrive. As our cer - tain - ties un -
once had judged as strange. Life to - ge - ther means dis -
chur - ch's stor - ied past grant us cour - age for at -



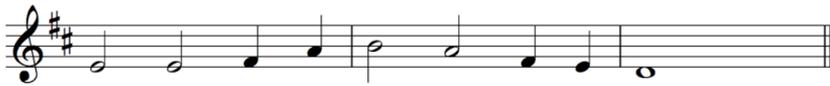
mea - ger than suc - cess of wealth or fame. Here we're
ra - vel faith and won - der come a - live. They ex -
plac - ing fear of oth - ers bring - ing change. Ways of
tain - ing the i - deals that we hold fast, 'til be -



wel - comed and re - la - ted by the pur - pose we all
tend our range of see - ing to the ve - ry core of
pray - ing, be - ing, do - ing that our hearts re - sist at
long - ing and be - liev - ing and be - com - ing are the



share: liv - ing as we were cre -
things where all life is gi - ven
first come in time to be re -
way that we learn the art of



a - ted for a life of trust and care.
be - ing and fresh hope for - e - ver springs.
new - ing quench - ing our pro - found - est thirst.
weav - ing how we live with what we pray.

†GOSPEL LESSON

Rev. Kevin VanHook

Mark 9:30-37

(page 45 in the New Testament)

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

†All who are able, please stand

VOICES OF WISDOM

SERMON

Living a Good Life: A Good Community

Rev. Butler

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

Rev. Dr. Brad Braxton

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

✠PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Rev. Wright

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Psalm 122

C. Hubert Parry

I was glad when they said unto me, we will go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand in thy gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is builded as a city, that is at unity in itself. O pray for the peace of Jerusalem, they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, and plenteousness within thy palaces.

✠*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

Rev. Wright

Today we celebrate the work of all our lay ministries which have a long and fruitful history here at The Riverside Church.

SENDING

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

✦ BENEDICTION

Rev. Butler

✦ RECESSIONAL HYMN 420

God of Grace and God of Glory

Cwm Rhondda

POSTLUDE

Finale, from Symphonie I

Louis Vierne

✦ *All who are able, please stand*

Liturgical Resources for Today:

¹*Commissioned for the 85th Anniversary of The Riverside Church. Thomas H. Troeger, Copyright © 2015 Oxford University Press.*

*Special thanks to our congregational leaders:
Brad Jones and Danielle Aviles-Griffin*

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.

LAY MINISTRIES OF OUR CHURCH

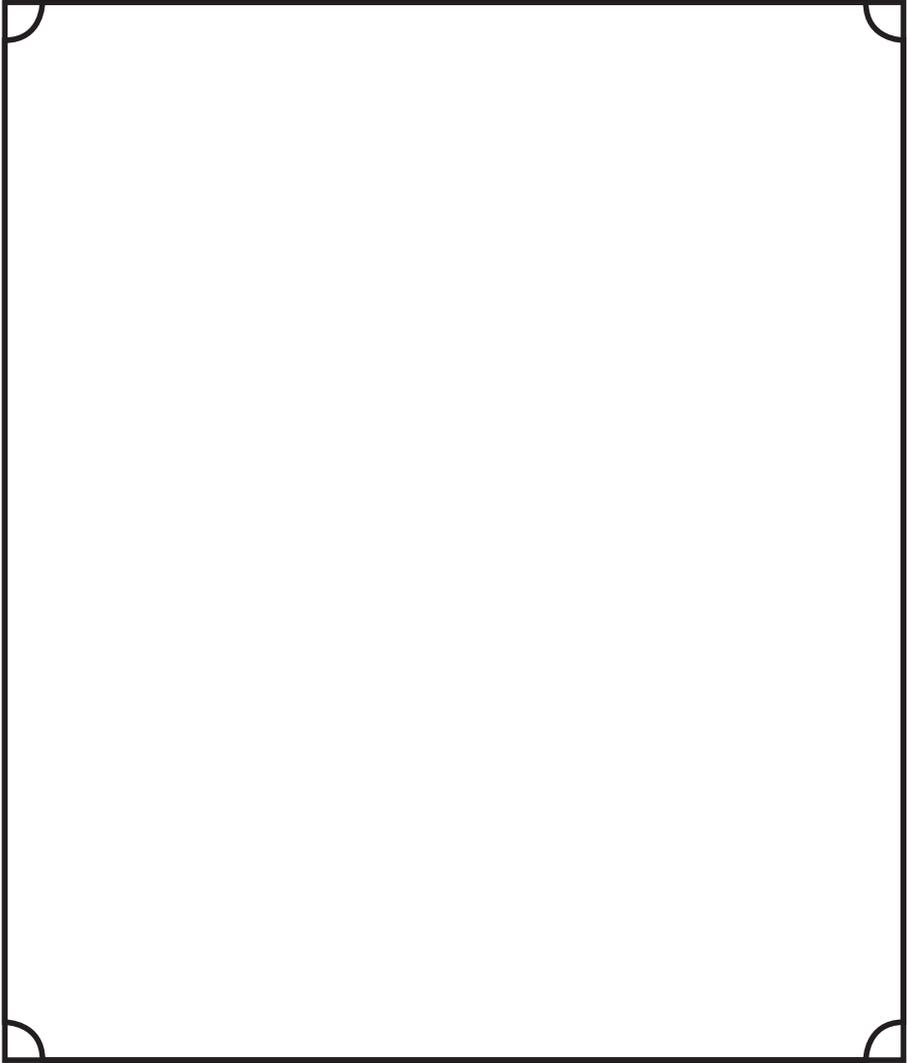
Today we celebrate the work of our lay ministries which have a long and fruitful history here at The Riverside Church. We also invite you to consider where God may be calling you to serve in the coming year.

African Fellowship
Barber Training Program
Beloved Earth Community
Black Lives Matter
Board of Ushers
Budget & Planning Committee
Business & Professional Women's Club
Career Day Committee
Church Council
Coming Home
Communion Ministry
Deaf Ministry
Ecclesia Ministry
Education Commission
Executive Committee
Flower Guild
Greeters Ministry
Handbell Choir
Knitters and Crocheters
Latinos at Riverside
Live Justice Now Campaign
Maranatha

Membership
Membership, Care & Parish Life Commission
Memorial Society
Men's Class
Millennial Scholarship Committee
Mission & Social Justice Commission
Movies@Riverside
Music Ministry
Nominating Committee
Ordination Committee
Personnel & Salary Committee
Poor People's Campaign
Prison Ministry
QTRC: Young Adult LGBTQ Fellowship
Riverside Book Club
Riverside Youth String Ensemble
Senior Minister Committee
Sharing & Densford Funds
Social Services
Sojourners
South Africa Support Group
Space for Grace
Spiritual Life Retreat
Stephen Ministry
Theatre of the Oppressed
Tower League
Welcome Center/Gift Shop
Worship Commission
Young Adult Advisory Board



DRAW IT



In Mark 9, Jesus invites a kid to sit on his lap – a kid just like you – and tells the disciples that when they treat children well, they're also treating Jesus well. That's how important kids are to Jesus! He identifies himself with you, and believes kids know God in a very special way. Draw a picture of yourself sitting on Jesus' lap.

WORD SEARCH

Try to find the words from James 3 in the word search below. Words may go diagonal, up OR down and forward OR backward.

B H P I Y B Z R T N D E T P D
W N H D O M P N U R C R N U O
P D E R X Z Z V A W U K Z R G
X Y A C B B T W E T B O N E G
U C R L K P O L H W H X K K O
O R T F L R B I I X G F P Q O
M E C Z K A D S I O E A E O D
N M S S E N E L T N E G R R J
V E O C F K Q I V U H C P O U
L F A Y I G U Y F U A J H M D
L E W R L R U U U R E H N J E
P U D C F Y J A E D W K H U M
J U N D E R S T A N D I N G K
Q T S Q S K B H K G E U I Z S
S W X X B O T G T I M B U S I

WISE

UNDERSTANDING

GENTLENESS

WORKS

LIFE

HEART

ENVY

TRUTH

PURE

PEACEABLE

MERCY

FRUIT

GOOD

ASK

SUBMIT

DRAW

NEAR

GOD

Whoever wants
to be FIRST
must be LAST of a
and SERVANT
of ALL





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.

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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 - 9/23/2018

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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