GOD
AND US
stories of sin and loss

MARCH 17, 2019
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
**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 think the last thing you want in life is to live with regret.”

-Rob Halford

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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 hanging, and clergy stoles (excepting communion Sundays when clergy wear white stoles).

**GOD & US: STORIES OF SIN AND LOSS**

During the season of Lent we will explore some of the stories of sin and loss from the book of Genesis. In these stories we begin to understand more fully the relationship between God and Us, and the many ways in which we suffer a loss of connection with the divine through sinful choices we make. Stories of sin and loss are stories of the human experience. In telling them we can find ourselves and we can be found by God, who always welcomes us back into relationship with the Divine.

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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 Coffee Hour** 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 South 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
Variations on The Lord's Prayer
N. Vallet, arr. Heleen van der Weel
Charles Semowich, guest carillonneur

ORGAN
Prelude in f minor (BWV 534)
J. S. Bach

ANTHEM
We are the Church
Cherub Choir
Sharon Pritchard, director

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY
Rev. Amy Butler

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN 303
There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy
Nettleton

All who are able, please stand
CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister Derrick Jordan

One: Guide us on our Lenten journey, O God;
All: give us the courage to venture into the challenging places of heart and spirit.

One: Support us on our Lenten journey, O God;
All: strengthen us that we might learn and grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.

One: Join us with others on our Lenten journey, O God;
All: in faithful solidarity, we will search out dark forces of oppression and defeat them in the light of Christ.

One: Be with us at the end of our Lenten journey, O God;
All: that at the foot of the cross we might look up and understand the gift of your love.

INVOCATION

Minister Jordan

ANTHEM

Somebody’s Knockin’

African American Spiritual, arr. Ken Berg

Somebody’s knockin’ at your door. Oh, sinner, why don’t you answer? Somebody’s knockin’ at your door. Somebody’s prayin’ for your soul. Oh, sinner, why don’t you answer? Somebody’s prayin’ for your soul. Somebody’s liftin’ up their voice. Oh, sinner, why don’t you listen? Somebody’s liftin’ up their voice. Somebody’s knockin’ at your door. Oh, sinner, why don’t you answer? Somebody’s knockin’ at your door!

The Rising Voices Choir
Matthew Hommez, director
Yuliya Basis, accompanist

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Rev. Michael Livingston
& 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. Butler

All who are able, please stand
PRAYER OF CONFESSION
The minister offers words of confession, to which the congregation responds as follows:

One:  Lord have mercy.
All:  Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy:

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One:  The peace of the Lord be with you.
All:  And also with you.

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

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper
Genesis 6-9 (selected verses)

One:  The Word of God for the People of God.
All:  Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM 63²

Richard Proulx

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Jessica Marsten, cantor

EPISTLE LESSON

Tafari Duncan
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
(page 172, 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  
(*page 76 in the New Testament*)  
One: This is the Gospel of Christ.  
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON  
The Love Boat?

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.

CHORAL AMEN

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE  
Rev. Harper

OFFERTORY ANTHEM  
Lord Jesus, Think on Me  
*Raymond H. Haan*

Lord Jesus, think on me and purge away my sin; From earth-born passions set me free and make me pure within. Lord Jesus, think on me with many a care oppressed; Let me thy loving servant be and taste thy promised rest. Lord Jesus, think on me amid the battle’s strife; In all my pain and misery

All who are able, please stand
be thou my health and life. Lord Jesus, think on me nor let me go astray; Through darkness and perplexity point thou the heavenly way. Lord Jesus, think on me when floods the tempest high; When on doth rush the enemy, O Savior, be thou nigh! Lord Jesus, think on me that, when the flood is past, I may the eternal brightness see and share thy joy at last. Amen.

**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;

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION**

Today we celebrate the ministry of our Matthew 5:4 Grief Support Group, which offers a safe, caring community for those grieving the loss of a spouse or partner.

**SENDING**

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

**BENEDICTION**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN 389**

O Jesus, I Have Promised

**POSTLUDE**

Fugue in f minor (BWV 534)

Special thanks to our congregational leaders:
Tafari Duncan and Barbara Mellor

Liturgical Resources for Today:
1 CCLI Song Number 2989578
2 Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-717132

†All who are able, please stand
I am well pleased.
ABOUT RIVERSIDE
The Riverside Church is an interdenominational, interracial, international, open, welcoming, and affirming church and congregation. The church is a member of the American Baptist Churches, U.S.A. and the United Church of Christ. Riverside cooperates with the Council of Churches in the City of New York and with the New York State, National, and World Council of Churches. Rev. Dr. Amy Butler is the seventh senior minister of the church and the first woman to serve in this position at the church. Whoever you are: You are safe here. You are loved here. You are invited into full participation in our life together.

Rev. Dr. Amy Butler, Senior Minister
Rev. Dr. James Forbes, Senior Minister Emeritus

TALK WITH THE PREACHER
Read transcripts of Pastor Amy’s sermons online at trcnyc.org/sermons. Follow Pastor Amy on Twitter at @PastorAmyTRC.

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY
For announcements of programs and events at The Riverside Church, please pick up the Life of the Community newsletter located in the back of the pew or outside the Welcome Center. Visit trcnyc.org/Events for more information and to download a copy.

PARKING - 3/17/2019
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.
CONNECT WITH US.

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For full staff directory visit trcnyc.org/directory

trcnyc.org