GOD AND US
stories of sin and loss

MARCH 31, 2019
FOURTH 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:

Compassion is the love that recognizes and goes forth to identify with the preciousness of all that is lost and broken within ourselves and others.

– James Finley

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.

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
Final Chorus from St. Matthew Passion  
J. S. Bach, arr. J. Courter
Charles Semowich, guest carillonneur

ORGAN
From God I Will Not Flee (BWV 658)  
Johann Sebastian Bach
Adagio, from Symphonie III, Opus 28  
Louis Vierne

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY
Rev. Amy Butler

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN 285
God, You Spin the Whirling Planets  
Austrian Hymn

†CALL TO WORSHIP
Dr. Hsien-Yu Wang

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 name the forces of oppression
         and work together for equality and justice for everyone.

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
Dr. Wang

ANTHEM
Psalm 23  
Eddie James, arr. Bradley Knight and Joy Gardner
The Lord is my shepherd and I shall not want: who makes me to lie down in
green pastures, and leads me beside still waters, who restores my soul, and
leads me in paths of righteousness for His namesake. Yeah though I walk
through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil, fear no evil, for
Thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me. Thou preparest a
table before me in the presence of mine enemies. Thou anointest my head
with oil, my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all
of the days of my life. And I'm gonna dwell in the house of the Lord forever!

The Riverside Inspirational Choir

Ramona Dunlap, soprano  
Jonathon Peretz, percussion

Matt King, piano  
Emanuel ‘Chulo’ Gatewood, bass guitar
Nedra Olds-Neal, director

†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.

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
The Story of Hagar and Sarah

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

RESPONSIVE PSALM 32

EPISTLE LESSON
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
(page 181, in the New Testament)
One: The Word of God for the People of God.
All: Thanks be to God.
HYMN 347
Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive
Detroit

GOSPEL LESSON
Luke 15:11b-32
Karen McVoy
(page 78 in the New Testament)
One: This is the Gospel of Christ.
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON
Rev. Butler
All That Is Lost

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. 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. Peele

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;

+PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION  Rev. Peele

Today we celebrate the work of our Business and Professional Women’s Group, which encourages fellowship among business and professional women, while educating the Riverside community about issues unique to women. The B’s & P’s offer cultural, social, and service opportunities to promote spiritual growth and renewal for the church and community.

SENDING

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

+BENEDICTION  Rev. Butler

+RECESSIONAL HYMN

Help Us Accept Each Other  Merle’s Tune

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; Teach us, O God, your lessons, as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith. Teach living situations to do the truth in love; To hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread, bring present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe we us to care for people, for all, not just for some, to practice your acceptance, until we know by heart the us new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on; re-

are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.
love them as we find them or as they may become.
table of for give ness and laugh ter’s heal ing art.
new us with your Spirit; God, free us, make us one!

+All who are able, please stand
POSTLUDE
Postlude on “Martyrs”  
Scottish Psalter, arr. Harvey Grace

Our Altar

During the season of Lent we have been displaying Lenten symbols on our altar. The first week saw the ashes and dried palm fronds from our Ash Wednesday service. The second Sunday we added rocks and reed baskets representing the barren wilderness in which Jesus was tempted. The third week we remembered Maundy Thursday with the chalice and paten used for Holy Communion. This week we are adding the wooden cross of crucifixion as we journey closer to Holy Week.

Special thanks to our congregational leaders:
Mathieu Rollack, Karen McVoy

Liturgical Resources for Today:
1CCLI Song Number 2989578
2Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-717132
And all ate and were filled.
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 - 3/31/2019
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