

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



APRIL 28, 2019
FORGIVE

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:

“Not forgiving is like drinking rat poison
and then waiting for the rat to die.”

– Anne Lamott

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 Eastertide, a period of 50 days following the resurrection of Jesus Christ until Pentecost. The liturgical color of Eastertide is white, which symbolizes the hope of the resurrection, as well as the purity and newness that comes from victory over sin and death, as signified by the paraments and clergy stoles.

REVIVE US, O LORD

This week we begin an exciting six week series in worship on welcoming revival and newness of life in our personal lives, our life together as a church and as members of the global family. We'll be diving into the Gospel of John as we highlight practices like forgiveness, telling the truth, healing and being witnesses. During these six weeks we'll enjoy music from the Boyd Family Singers, remember the 50th anniversary of the Black Manifesto, celebrate Mother's Day and radically recommit ourselves and our church to being God's "Easter" people in the world.

IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST VISIT:

Complete a Welcome Card and place it in the offering plate as it passes.

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.

PRELUDE

Matt King, piano

WELCOME

Rev. Amy Butler

HYMN SING

379 - My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

276 - Great Is Thy Faithfulness

485 - To God Be the Glory

CALLING ON THE HOLY SPIRIT

Living God

Spirit of the Living God

The Boyd Family Singers

Spirit of the living God,

Fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God,

Fall afresh on me.

One: Breathe on us, Risen Lord,
that we may receive the Holy Spirit.

Rev. Ellen Robison

All: Revive us, O Lord!

One: Liberate us from the chains of fear
that we may be your people in the world.

All: Revive us, O Lord!

One: Transform our hearts, minds and lives,
that we may love as you have loved us.

All: Revive us, O Lord!

One: Take away the sting of death,
that we may sing a song of resurrection.

All: Revive us, O Lord!

PRAYER

MUSIC

We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace

Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan

We shall walk through the valley in peace, for Jesus Himself will be our leader.
We will meet our loved ones there, for Jesus Himself will be our leader.
There will be no more trials there. We shall walk through the valley in peace.

The Riverside Choir

✚GOSPEL READING

Anna Meyer

John 20:19-31

(pg. 115 in New Testament)

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Rev. Butler

Fear and Forgiveness

MUSIC

Amazing Grace

Amazing Grace

The Boyd Family Singers:

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.

Add The Riverside Inspirational Choir:

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

Add The Riverside Choir:

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

Add the Congregation:

*The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be,
as long as life endures.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun.
We've no less days to sing God's praise,
than when we'd first begun.*

TESTIMONY

Rev. Alisha Gordon

✚SHARING THE PEACE

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

✚*All who are able, please stand*

RADICAL COMMITMENT

Rev. Michael Livingston

**God of forgiveness, we come seeking your mercy and grace;
for the brokenness in our lives,
our destruction of your creation,
the injustice of our world,
and our failure to share the Good News.**

**This gift of forgiveness makes us able,
with the power of the Holy Spirit,
to choose to forgive, renew,
and live again in right relationship
with one another and with you.**

Hear our prayer...

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.**

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Rev. Gordon

OFFERING

Words and music: Malcolm Williamsn

The Blood Still Works

The blood still works. It will never, never, never lose its power. The blood still works. I know it works, 'cause it raised me. I know it works, 'cause it saved me. I know it works, 'cause it filled me. I know it works, 'cause it healed me. It will never, never, never lose its power. The blood still works. I know that the blood still works. Oh yes, oh yes the blood still works. Oh yes I know the blood still works. It will never, never, never lose its power. The blood still works.

*The Riverside Inspirational Choir
Nedra Olds-Neal, director, Matt King, piano,
Jonathon Peretz, percussion, Emanuel Gatewood, bass, Tash Neal, guitar*

✦PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

The congregation rises row by row as ushers pass to symbolize the offering of our whole selves to God.

**To God be the glory,
To God be the glory,
To God be the glory,
For the things You have done.**

✦*All who are able, please stand*

+PRAYER OF GRATITUDE AND CELEBRATION

Rev. Gordon

Today we celebrate the ministry of Riverside's Beloved Earth Community, which knows that protecting the earth starts with us; one individual, one group, one congregation at a time. We can be the change that starts us on a path to sustainability.

+SENDING OUT

Rev. Butler

+CLOSING MUSIC

Showalter

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms



What a fel-low-ship, what a joy di-vine, lean-ing on the ev-er
Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er
What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er



last - ing arms; what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine,
last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
last - ing arms; I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near,

Refrain



lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms. Lean - ing, lean - ing,
lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.



safe and se-cure from all a - larms; Lean - ing,



lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

POSTLUDE

Calvin Taylor

Hold On!

*Special thanks to our congregational leader:
Anna Meyer*

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

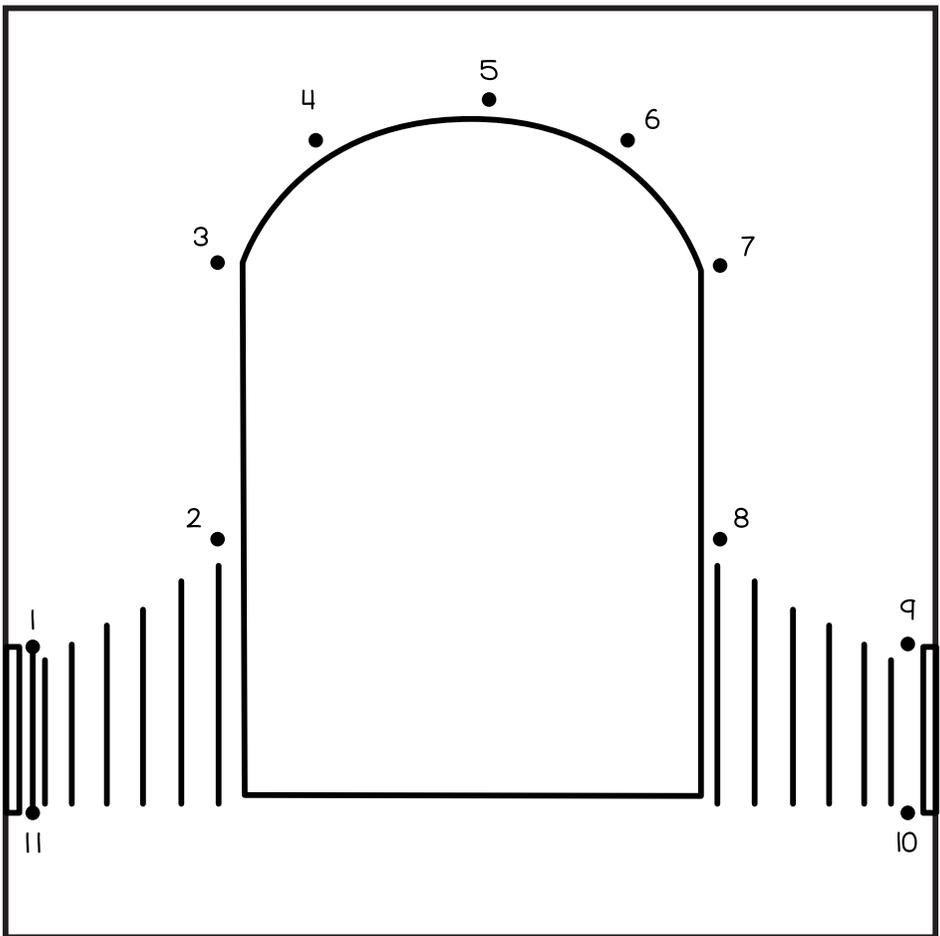
For announcements of programs and events at The Riverside Church, please pick up the Life of the Community newsletter located in the back of the pew or outside the Welcome Center. Visit trcnyc.org/Events for more information and to download a copy.

PARKING - 4/28/2019

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.

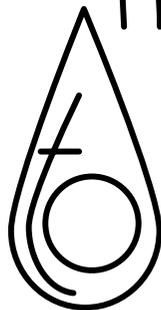
CONNECT the DOTS

"Open to me the gates of righteousness" says the Psalmist, "that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord." Connect the dots to form the "gate," and inside, draw or write some things for which you want to thank God.



BLESSED ARE THOSE
WHO HAVE NOT SEEN

and yet have come

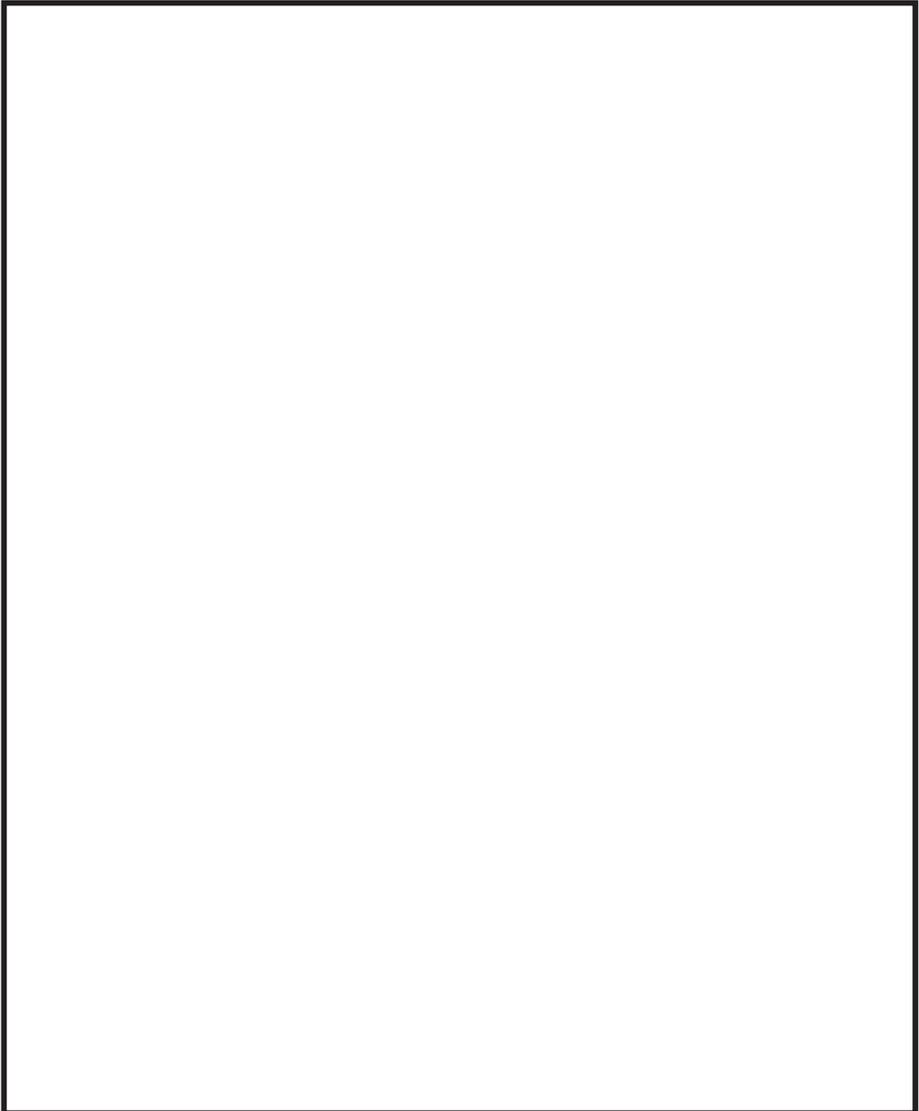


BELIEVE



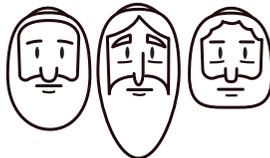
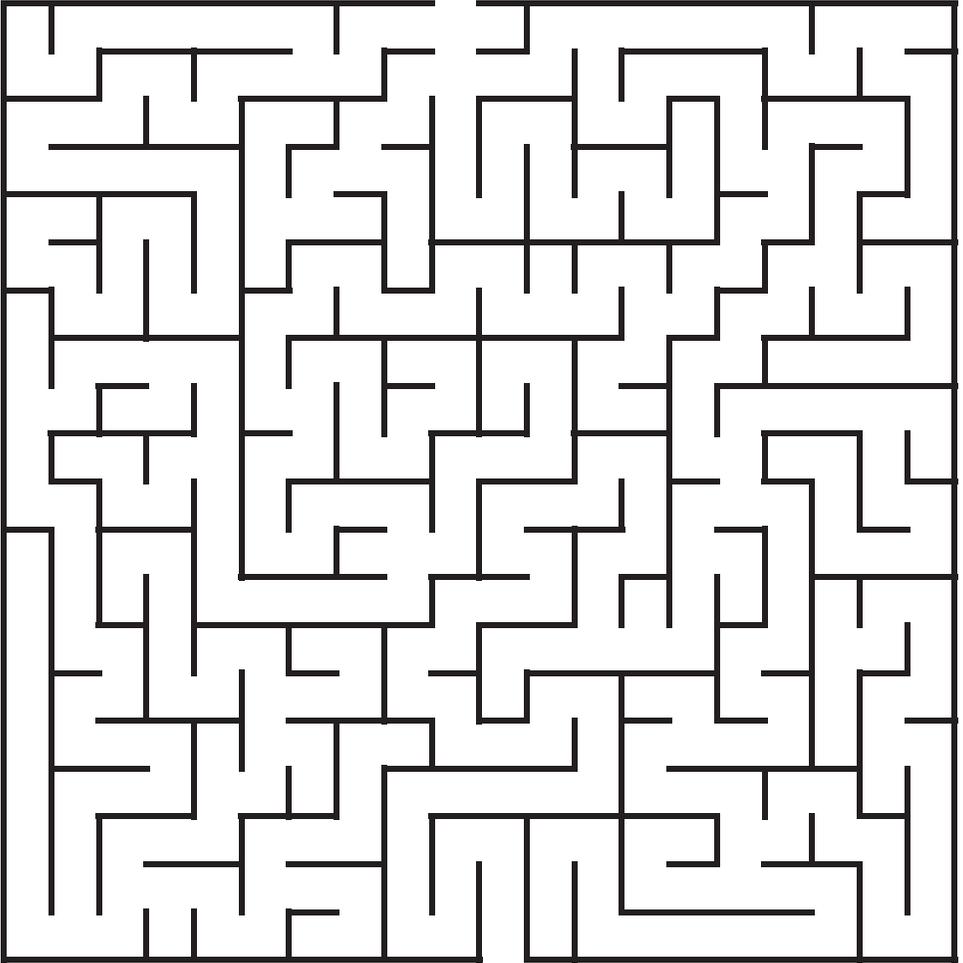
DRAW IT

In John 20, Jesus appears to his disciples for the first time after coming back to life. Imagine you are sitting with them in their locked room when Jesus suddenly appears and says, "Peace be with you." Draw how you think they looked and felt, and how Jesus looked and felt.



SOLVE (the) MAZE

Help Peter find his way to the council where he will share his faith and testimony.



CONNECT WITH US.

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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



trcnyc.org



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