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:

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

– Hebrews 13:2

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.

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 Passion Hymn (Hymn #98)  
John Courter
Charles Semowich, guest carillonneur

ORGAN
Two Preludes on “Wondrous Love”  
David Johnson
Craig Phillips

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY  
Rev. Amy Butler

PASSING OF THE PEACE
One: The peace of the Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 434
Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples  
Kingsfold

CALL TO WORSHIP  
Rev. Debra Northern
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
Rev. Butler

BAPTISMS BY IMMERSION
Che Rose
Jordana Rose

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR BAPTISM  
Rev. Michael Livingston
Harrison Bagdonas
Julian Barnes
Ndeye Sow
Jude Tienabeso

All who are able, please stand
PRAYER FOR THE CANDIDATES  
Rev. Livingston

A MOMENT FOR LENT  
Rev. Butler

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 Mercy¹

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

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

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON
Genesis 18:16-19; 19:1-14a; 24-29; Ezekiel 16:48-50  
(page 14 & 782 in the Old Testament)  
Rev. Jim Keat  
Rev. Alisha Gordon

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

RESPONSIVE PSALM 126²  
French carol melody

EPISTLE LESSON
Philippians 3:10-14  
(page 198, in the New Testament)  
One:  The Word of God for the People of God.
All:  Thanks be to God.

†All who are able, please stand
†HYMN 85
What Wondrous Love Is This

†GOSPEL LESSON
John 12:1-8
(page 106 in the New Testament)
One: This is the Gospel of Christ.
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON
The Worst Sin of All
Rev. Butler

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

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE
Rev. Bruce Lamb

OFFERTORY ANTHEM
Ah, Jesus, Lord, Thy Love to Me
Southern folk tune, arr. David Johnson
Ah, Jesus, Lord, thy love to me no thought can reach, no tongue declare; O bind my thankful heart to thee, and reign without a rival there. Thine wholly, thine alone I’d live, myself to thee entirely give. O grant that nothing in my soul may dwell, but thy pure love alone; Ah, may thy love possess me whole, my joy, my treasure, and my crown. All coldness from my heart remove: May ev’ry act, word, thought, be love. O Lord, how gracious is thy way! All fear before thy presence flies; care, anguish, sorrow, melt away, where’er thy healing hands arise. O Jesus, nothing may I see, and nothing seek, desire, but thee.

†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. Lamb
Today we celebrate the work of the Sojourners Ministry, which works with people currently held in detention centers in the U.S., while petitioning for asylum and providing support to those recently released.

†All who are able, please stand
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Following each petition, please join in the following responses:

One:    God of love,
All:     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.

CHORAL AMEN

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One:    The Lord be with you.
All:     And with your spirit.
One:    Lift up your hearts.
All:    We lift them up unto the Lord.
One:    Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All:    It is right to give God thanks and praise.

SANCTUS

All who are able, please stand.
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

CALL TO SUPPER
One: The body of Christ, broken for you.
All: Thanks be to God for the bread of life!
One: The blood of Christ, poured out for you.
All: Thanks be to God for the cup of blessing!

A gluten-free option for communion bread is available upon request from a communion server.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

ORGAN
Meditation
Herzliebster Jesu

Herbert Brewer
Robert Hebble

CHOIR
The Lamb of God
Maurice Duruflé
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant them rest. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant them eternal rest.

HYMN 515
Now To Your Table Spread
Love Unknown

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION
Compassionate God, you have met us in the bread and cup at this your table. As we go from this place may we receive strength to walk with all your children in peace, and witness to the truth of your reconciliation and love. Amen.

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

BENEDICTION

RECESSIONAL HYMN 84
In the Cross of Christ I Glory

All who are able, please stand
POSTLUDE
Fugue in B minor (BWV 544)  

J. S. Bach

Special thanks to our congregational leaders:
Courtney Klamar, Jenny Boylan, and Jabari St. Louis, crucifer

Liturgical Resources for Today:
1 CCLI Song Number 2989578
2 Music: Copyright © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House; Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-717132
3 From “Requiem”, Op. 9
Loving God 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

And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors

and lead Us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil
Lord, teach us to Pray.
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 trcny.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 trcny.org/Events for more information and to download a copy.

PARKING - 4/7/2019
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

THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK