The Riverside Church
in the City of New York

JUNE 2, 2019
ASCENSION SUNDAY

REVIVE US, O LORD
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:

“You wanna go where everybody knows your name.”

-- from the TV show ‘Cheers’

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
We are currently in 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

G. F. Handel

Sarabande
The Riverside Youth String Ensemble
Kristina Giles, director

If I Be Lifted Up
Israel Boyd, vocalist

WELCOME

Rev. Amy Butler

SHARING THE PEACE

One: Peace be with you.
All: And also with you.

SINGING

Standing on the Promises

Standing on the promises of Christ my king,
through eternal ages let his praises ring;
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
standing on the promises of God.

CHORUS
Standing, standing,
standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing,
I’m standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God I shall prevail,
standing on the promises of God.

CHORUS

Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord,
bound to him eternally by love’s strong cord,
overcoming daily with the Spirit’s sword,
standing on the promises of God.

CHORUS

Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
listening every moment to the Spirit’s call,
resting in my Savior as my all in all,
standing on the promises of God.

CHORUS

All who are able, please stand
CALLING ON THE HOLY SPIRIT

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

One: O God, you are the gathering one
All: who calls us into community with each other to love and work, to support and heal

One: You are the gathering one
All: who calls us into community with all people to bring justice and hope, restoration and truth

One: You are the gathering one
All: who calls us into community with the whole creation. to live in harmony, to cherish and renew.
Let us worship the God who makes us one.

PRAYER

GOSPEL LESSON

Kevin Bentley

(pg. 100 in New Testament)
One: This is the Gospel of Christ.
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMONIC SELECTION

Gospel Medley
Isaac Raz, piano

MESSAGE

Rev. Alisha Gordon

A Bethany Kind of Place

TESTIMONY

Rev. Rachel Johnson

Riverside Pastoral Staff

RADICAL COMMITMENT
Following each petition, please join in the responses:
One: Revive us, O Lord.
All: and fill us with your love.

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.

All who are able, please stand
INVITATION TO THE TABLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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 DURING COMMUNION

ORGAN
Let Us Break Bread Together
Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

MUSIC
Esto les digo
I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them. (Sung in Spanish)

Catherine Tyrrell, soprano

PRAYER AFTER 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

SHARING OUR GIFTS

OFFERING
Climbing Up the Mountain

Climbin’ up the mountain, children, I didn’t come here for to stay, ‘cause if I never see you again, I’ll meet you at the judgement day. Well, Daniel went in the lion’s den, he did begin to pray. And the angel of the Lord locked the lion’s jaws, oh wasn’t that a mighty good day. The children in the fiery furnace, they did begin to pray. And the angel of the Lord smote the fire out, oh wasn’t that a mighty good day. Sure was a mighty good day for Daniel in the lion’s den, a mighty good day when the angels locked the lion’s jaws, a mighty good day for children in the fiery furnace, a mighty good day when Joshua fought at Jericho, a mighty good day when Moses went to Egypt land, a mighty good day when Pharaoh set his people free.
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.

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE AND CELEBRATION  Rev. Bruce Lamb
Today we celebrate the work of the Freedom School, which partners with the Children’s Defense Fund to provide an enriching summer experience of literacy and social justice for sixty children from our community.

SENDING OUT  Rev. Gordon

CLOSING MUSIC
Hallelujah! Thine the Glory

We praise thee, O God, for the Son of thy love,
For Jesus who died and is now gone above

CHORUS
Hallelujah, thine the glory!
Hallelujah, Amen!
Hallelujah, thine the glory!
Revive us again.

We praise thee, O God, for thy Spirit of light,
Who has shown us our Savior and scattered our night.

CHORUS
All glory and praise to the Lamb that was slain,
Who has borne all our sins and has cleansed ev’ry stain.

CHORUS
Revive us again -- fill each heart with thy love;
May each soul be rekindled with fire from above.

CHORUS

Congratulations to the recipients of the James M. Washington Award on May 19, 2019.
Patricia Clark
Emogene Stamper

Special thanks to our congregational leaders:
Hsien-yu Wang, Kevin Bentley, Will Peterson
FINISH THE DRAWING

Psalm 97 describes how God is ruler over all parts of creation - coasts, lightning, clouds, mountains, fire, and more! Finish the drawing of the globe, and inside it, write or draw some things over which God rules.
Psalm 97 describes how God is ruler over all parts of creation - coasts, lightning, clouds, mountains, fire, and more!

Finish the drawing of the globe, and inside it, write or draw some things over which God rules.

I HAVE MADE YOUR NAME KNOWN TO THEM

Acts 16 tells the story of when Paul and Silas were sent to prison for following God. Even in jail, they were praising God and singing hymns. All of a sudden, a great earthquake happened and all the chains fell off their feet and the doors were opened. Paul, Silas and the other prisoners were free!

Imagine you were in jail with Paul and Silas when this happened!

Draw a picture of what you see.

Unscramble the words to see who does God say God is in Revelation 22?

I MA EHT PALHA DAN HET

GAMEO ETH STIRF DNA

TEH TSAL EHT

BINGGGINE ADN HET NED

DOODLE AREA

Draw something that you love...
Acts 16 tells the story of when Paul and Silas were sent to prison for following God. Even in jail, they were praising God and singing hymns. All of a sudden, a great earthquake happened and all the chains fell off their feet and the doors were opened. Paul, Silas and the other prisoners were free! Imagine you were in jail with Paul and Silas when this happened! **Draw a picture of what you see.**
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 - 6/02/2019
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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**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

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trcnyc.org