

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

SEPTEMBER 8, 2019
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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:

“There is something in every one of you that waits and listens for the sound of the genuine in yourself. It is the only true guide you will ever have. And if you cannot hear it, you will all of your life spend your days on the ends of strings that somebody else pulls.”

-Howard Thurman

THE LITURGICAL YEAR

The Riverside Church follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together. We are currently in the Season after Pentecost, also known as Ordinary Time. It is signified by the green paraments and clergy stoles that represent new life and growth. Ordinary Time is observed from Pentecost until the beginning of Advent.

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

Suite for Carillon

Camil van Hulse

Toccata

Alfred V. Fedak

ORGAN

O God of Love

John Corigliano

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Amanda Meisenheimer

✚PROCESSIONAL HYMN

God, the Sculptor of the Mountains¹

Jennings-Houston

God the sculptor of the mountains,
God the nui-sance to the Pharaoh,
God the dresser of the vineyard,
God the un-expect-ed in-fant,

God the mil-ler of the sand,
God the cleav-er of the sea,
God the plant-er of the wheat,
God the calm, de-ter-mined youth,

God the jewel-er of the heav-ens,
God the pil-lar of the dark-ness,
God the reap-er of the har-vest,
God the ta-ble turn-ing pro-phet,

God the pot-ter of the land:
God the bea-con of the free:
God the source of all we eat:
God the re-sur-rect-ed Truth:

You are womb of all cre-a-tion,
You are gate of all de-liv'-rance,
You are host at ev'-ry ta-ble,
You are pre-sent ev'-ry mo-ment,

we are form-less; shape us now.
we are sight-less; lead us now.
we are hun-gry; feed us now.
we are sear-ching; meet us now.

✚All who are able, please stand

+CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister Charlene Wingate

One: As the cool wind blows through the trees around us

All: Lord we feel your Spirit

One: As we seek to live lives full of overflowing love and compassion

All: Lord we need your Spirit

One: Humbling ourselves before you, and seeking forgiveness

All: Lord we need your grace

One: Navigating the complexities and often divisive nature of our social construct

All: Lord we need your strength

One: Discerning your Word, and the many gifts and abilities you've given us

All: Lord we need your grace

One: All gathered here as a beautiful and diverse community

All: Lord we need your grace

+INVOCATION

LISTENING

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

SOLO

Watchful's Song (Nocturne)

R. Vaughan Williams

Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit, into thy hands, O Lord. Except the Lord keep the house those watching wake but in vain. The Lord hath poured out upon you the spirit of deep peace: the whole earth is at rest and is quiet. Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit, into thy hands, O Lord. I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help. My help cometh even from the Lord who hath made heaven and earth. God will not suffer thy foot to be moved. He that keepeth thee shall not sleep. Behold, she that keepeth thee shall neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord in heav'n is my keeper, and shall preserve thee from all evil: yea, it is even God that shall keep thy soul from this time forth forevermore: from this time forth forevermore. Into thy hands I commend my spirit, into thy hands, O Lord.

Jack Cotterell, tenor

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Minister Derrick Jordan

Jeremiah 18:1-11

(pg. 720 in the Old Testament)

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

+*All who are able, please stand*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Amanda Meisenheimer

Philemon 1:21

(pg. 215 & 216 in the New Testament)

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

+HYMN 372

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

I Want to be a Christian

+GOSPEL LESSON

Josephine Clark

Luke 14:25-33

(pg. 78 in the New Testament)

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Debra Northern

The High Cost of Discipleship

RESPONDING

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

PASTORAL PRAYER

Amanda Meisenheimer

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to 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.

+PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

+*All who are able, please stand*

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Minister Jordan

OFFERTORY SOLO

Be Thou Faithful Unto Death *Felix Mendelssohn*
Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. Be not afraid,
My help is nigh.²

+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;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

Today we celebrate the ministry of Riverside's Tower League, which is a supportive, caring community of older adults that promotes the wellbeing of mind, body, and spirit as we age.

Minister Wingate

SENDING

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

+BENEDICTION

Rev. Northern

+RECESSIONAL HYMN 393

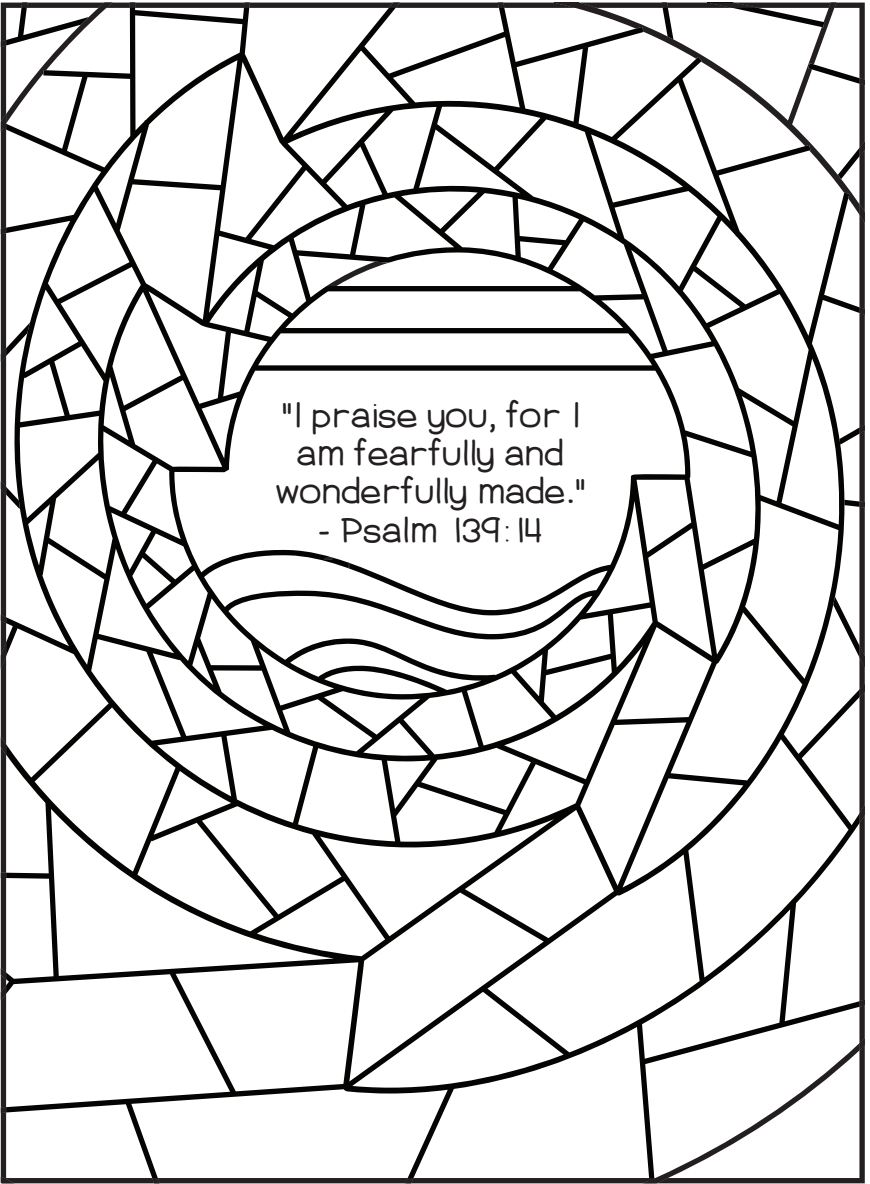
Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said *Bourbon*

POSTLUDE

Shall We Not Sing to Our God? *Sigfrid Karg-Elert*

Liturgical Resources for Today:
¹Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-717132
²From "St. Paul"

*Special thanks to our congregational leader:
Josephine Clark*



I AM STILL
WITH YOU





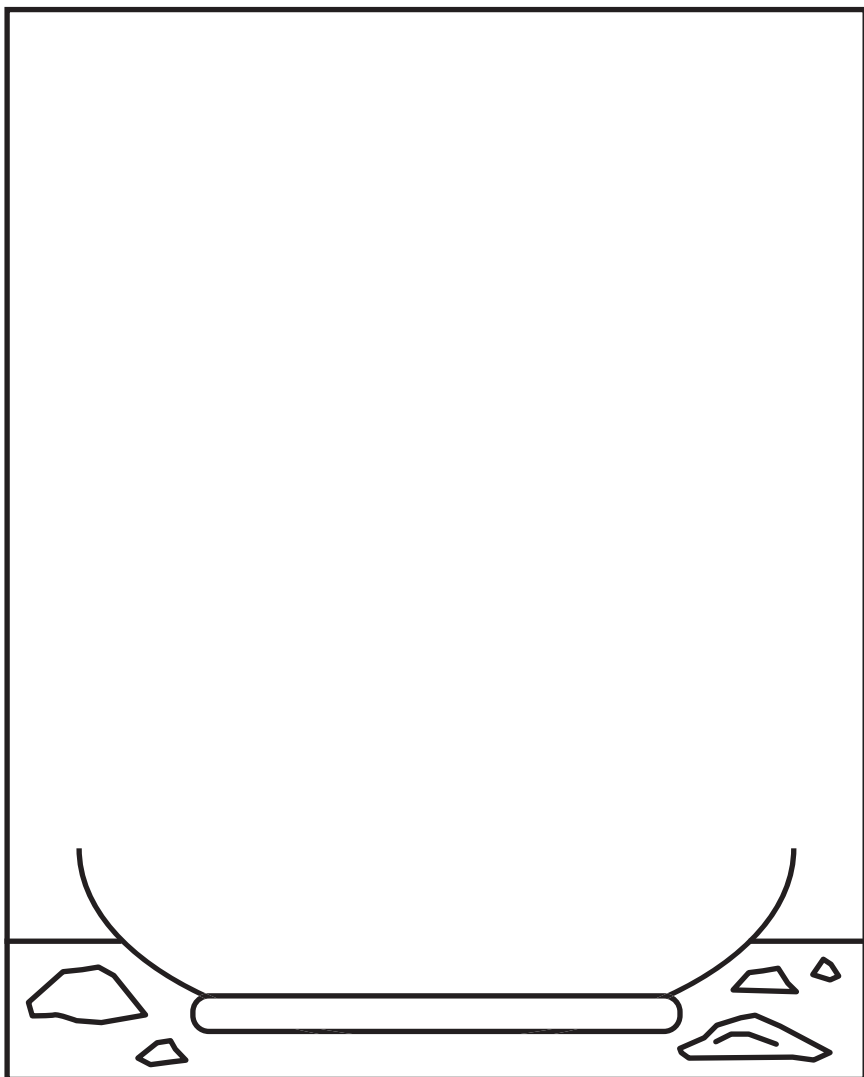
DRAW IT

In Paul's letter to Philemon, he asks Philemon to do something hard - show love in a situation that was difficult to show love. **Draw a picture of where you could show love, even if it's hard.**

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for drawing a picture.

FINISH the DRAWING

In Jeremiah 18, God tells the prophet Jeremiah to go watch a potter working on a new clay pot. Finish the drawing of the pot. Inside the pot, write or draw some things or people that have shaped who you are (parents, the city where you live...).



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. Whoever you are: You are safe here. You are loved here. You are invited into full participation in our life together.

Rev. Michael Livingston, Interim Senior Minister
Rev. Dr. James Forbes, Senior Minister Emeritus

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 - 9/8/2019

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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