

February 16, 2020

“Wrestling with The Future”

Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Hosted by: Education Commision

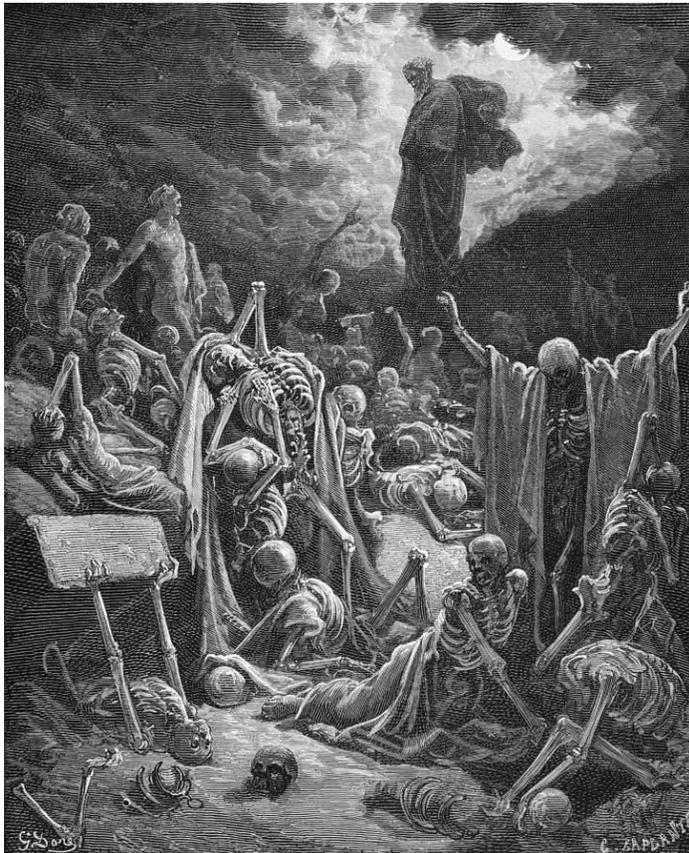
Teacher: Rev. Dr. Andrea C. White and Riverside Youth

Today we welcome back Rev. Dr. Andrea C. White, Associate Professor of Theology & Culture at Union Theological Seminary. Dr. White joined the faculty of Union Theological Seminary in the fall of 2015. Prior to her appointment, she served on the faculty at Emory University's Candler School of Theology, Graduate Division of Religion, and Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Dr. White specializes in constructive Christian theology, especially womanist theology and postmodern religious thought with research interests in theologies of otherness, doctrine of God, theological anthropology, and the relationship between philosophy and theology. She is a recipient of the Lilly Theological Research Faculty Fellowship from The Association of Theological Schools and The Louisville Institute Book Grant for Minority Scholars, both awarded for her research culminating in the forthcoming monograph *The Scandal of Flesh: Black Women's Bodies and God Politics*.

Thank you Riverside Youth participants: Mara Landers, Chloe Landers, Stephen Pierre Paul

Schedule

- 9:30am** - Welcome, Opening Prayer and Song
- 9:35-9:55am** - Teaching by Rev. Dr. Andrea White and Youth
- 9:55-10:20am** - Small Group Sharing/Discussion
- 10:20-10:30am** - Brief Large Group Sharing/Discussion
- 10:30am** - Closing Prayer and song



Today's Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Ezekiel has a vision in which the spirit of the LORD sets him down in a valley strewn with dry bones. He remarks on both the large volume of the bones and on their dryness. Addressing him as the Son of Man, the LORD asks Ezekiel if such very dry bones could ever live again. Ezekiel answers that surely the LORD himself knows. Then the LORD commands Ezekiel to prophesy the word of the LORD to these dry bones. Speaking the words the LORD puts in his mouth, Ezekiel tells the dry bones that the LORD will give them breath, and

bring them back to life. Just as he prophesied, the bones start rattling and rise up. They reassemble themselves and grow new sinews and skin. But they lack breath.

So the LORD commands Ezekiel to prophesy breath. As soon as he does, their bodies begin breathing. They take to their feet and form a great army. Then the LORD tells Ezekiel that these bones are the house of Israel, exiled, hopeless and cutoff. Just as he has prophesied to these dry bones and brought them back to life, Ezekiel is to prophesy to the Israelites so that the word of their LORD can bring them back to life and put them back on their own land (Ezekiel 37:14). Through this demonstration, they will then know the LORD again.

Discussion Questions:

1. What does faith look like when we're standing in a valley of dry bones?

2. How are we the church open to the risk of the future?

3. If we are called to bear witness to the rising of dead bones, what stories will we tell?

Notes

For weekly discussion questions, survey and lessons each week go to
trcnyc.org/wrestlingwithGod

OR



Wrestling With God QR Code

Wrestling With God is sponsored by the Education Commission

Upcoming:

FEBRUARY 23: – WRESTLING WITH CORRUPTION

Reading: The Temptation of Jesus – Luke 4:14-30 | Teacher: MSJ and Rev. Kevin Van Hook

MARCH 1: – WRESTLING WITH COURAGE

Readings: Esther | Teacher: Parish Care and Rev. Michael Livingston

MARCH 8 – WRESTLING WITH RESURRECTION

Readings: Mark 15:25-16:8, Luke 24:13-35 | Teacher: Worship Commission

This lesson we will use Lectio Divina to reflect and study scripture

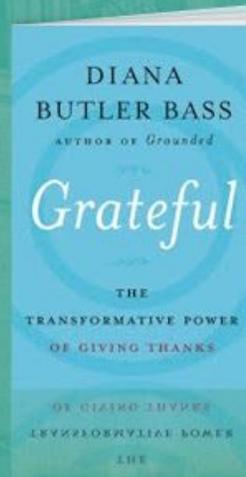
Riverside Faith Formation Ministry

GOD AND GRATITUDE

with best-selling author *Dr. Diana Butler Bass*

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

12:30 p.m. | Assembly Hall



THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK