

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



DECEMBER 30, 2018
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

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:

They watch for Christ who are sensitive, eager, apprehensive in mind, who are awake, alive, quick-sighted, zealous in honoring him, who look for him in all that happens, and who would not be surprised, who would not be over-agitated or overwhelmed, if they found that he was coming at once... This then is to watch: to be detached from what is present, and to live in what is unseen; to live in the thought of Christ as he came once, and as he will come again; to desire his second coming, from our affectionate and grateful remembrance of his first.

– John Henry Newman

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 Christmas, as signified by white altar pieces and clergy stoles, symbolizing joy in the light of day.

IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST VISIT:

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

Join us for Coffee Hour in South hall lobby directly after Worship. As you leave the Nave, take a right and follow the hallway past Christ Chapel. Signs and greeters are available to provide direction. Breakfast and lunch for purchase will be in South Hall.

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

Concert Variations on "Angels We Have Heard On High" *Richard von Grabow*
Charles Semowich, guest carillonneur

ORGAN

Greensleeves

Richard Purvis

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Jim Keat

† PROCESSIONAL HYMN 49

Once in Royal David's City

Irby

† CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Minister Christian Peele

One: The year has thinned, the light seems weaker,
The year is tired, and the season running out.

**All: Yet here we are in the place of life,
for this place believes in things beyond time and season.**

One: We might live in the echo of stables and incarnation.
holding onto faith in the year's last days.

**All: Yet what do we do but perform acts of renewal and rebirth,
of baptism and hope, of seeking new life shaped in Jesus Christ.**

One: So let us gather in what the world sees as the cusp of the year,
yet we know as another day in the eternity of love.

**All: And celebrate who we are, and who we are yet to be.
Come let us be together and worship.**

† INVOCATION

† *All who are able, please stand*

LISTENING

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

SOLO

Maria's Lullaby

Max Reger

Mary sits in the rosegrove and rocks her child Jesus, softly through the leaves blows the wind. At her feet sings a colorful little bird: Sleep, child, my sweet, just go to sleep! Lovely is your smile, lovely is your joy in slumber, lay your tired little head against your mother's breast! Sleep, child, my sweet, just go to sleep!

Catherine Tyrrell, soprano

GOSPEL LESSON

Barbara Mellor

Luke 1:39-45

(page 57 in the Old Testament)

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

HOMILY

Rev. Rachel Johnson

In My Heart There Rings a Melody: Part One

HYMN 48

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Es Ist Ein' Ros'

GOSPEL LESSON

Clarence Anderson

Luke 2:8-20

(page 58 in the New Testament)

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

HOMILY

Rev. Keat

In My Heart There Rings a Melody: Part Two

HYMN 29

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Go Tell It

GOSPEL LESSON

Minister Peele

Luke 2:25-35

(page 59 in the New Testament)

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

†*All who are able, please stand*

HOMILY

Rev. Kevin VanHook

In My Heart There Rings a Melody: Part Three

RESPONDING

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

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Keat

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up unto 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.

CHORAL AMEN

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

Minister Peele

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Nativity Carol

John Rutter

Born in a stable so bare, born so long ago; Born 'neath light of star he who loved us so. Far away, silent he lay, born today, your homage pay, Christ is born for aye, born on Christmas Day. Cradled by mother so fair, tender her lullaby; Over her son so dear angel hosts fill the sky. Wise men from distant far land, shepherds from starry hills worship this babe so rare, hearts with his warmth he fills. Love in that stable was born into our hearts to flow; Innocent dreaming babe, make me thy love to know.

†*All who are able, please stand*

✝ 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

Minister Peele

Today we celebrate the ministry of the Theatre of the Oppressed, which uses interactive drama as an educational means of engaging and empowering participants to confront and address oppressive situations that challenge their everyday lives.

SENDING

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

✝ BENEDICTION

Rev. Keat

✝ RECESSIONAL HYMN 28

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

In Dulci Jubilo

POSTLUDE

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (BWV 729)

J. S. Bach

Liturgical Resources for Today:

1reWorship.com

Special thanks to our congregational leaders:

Barbara Mellor and Clarence Anderson

✝ *All who are able, please stand*

CHRISTMAS FLOWER GIFTS 2018-19

Thank you to everyone who made generous contributions this year.
This is a partial list of donors and their honoree messages.

A complete list of all donors and honoree messages
will appear in this space on December 30.

Contributions for flowers have been given by:

Suzanne C. Carothers

In memory of Mrs. Julia D. Carothers, Mrs. Lillian B. Alexander, Mrs. Effie Rodgers,
Mrs. Shirley E. Massey, Mrs. Vivian Collins, Mr. Donald Grigsby, Mr. B.B. DeLaine,
Dr. Ina King and Mr. Harold McQuilla.

Christopher Creaghan

In memory of my father Dominic Creaghan.

Ernest Jones

In memory of my nieces, LaGreta Williams, Carmen Jones and my nephew,
Louis Collier, Jr.

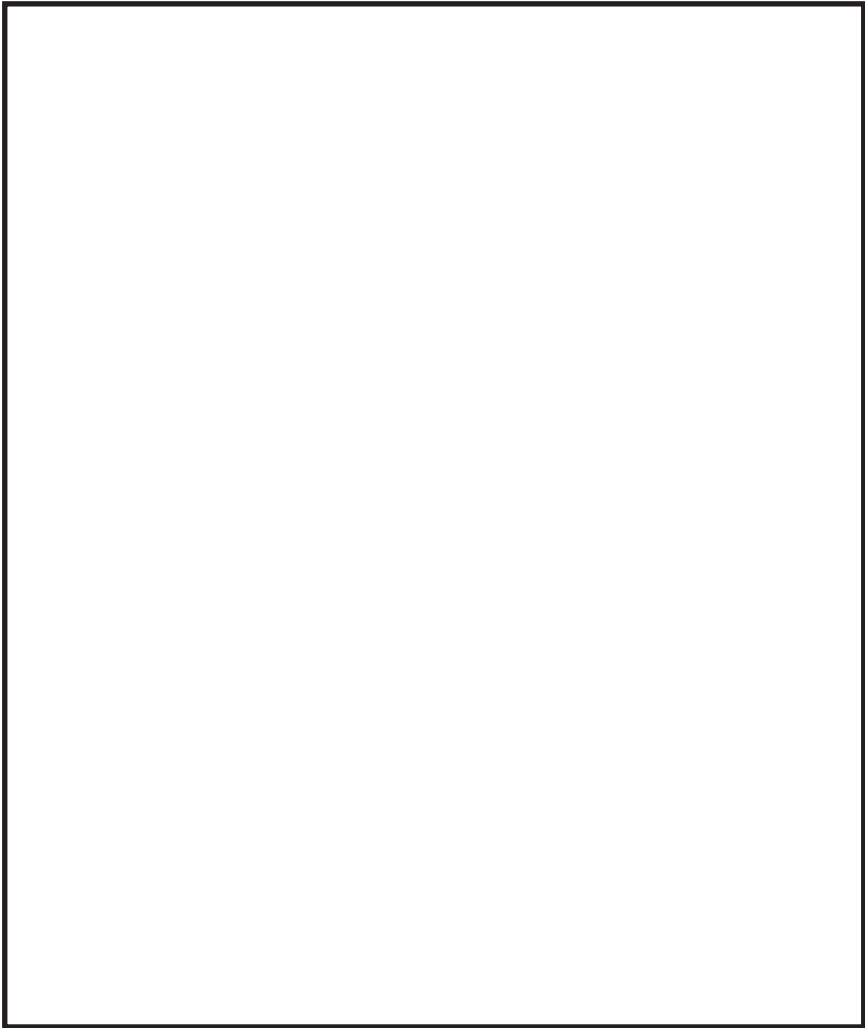
Aida Montero

In loving memory of Joseph Montero, beloved papa, father, and husband.
The light of your life keeps shining on us as we follow your examples of love.



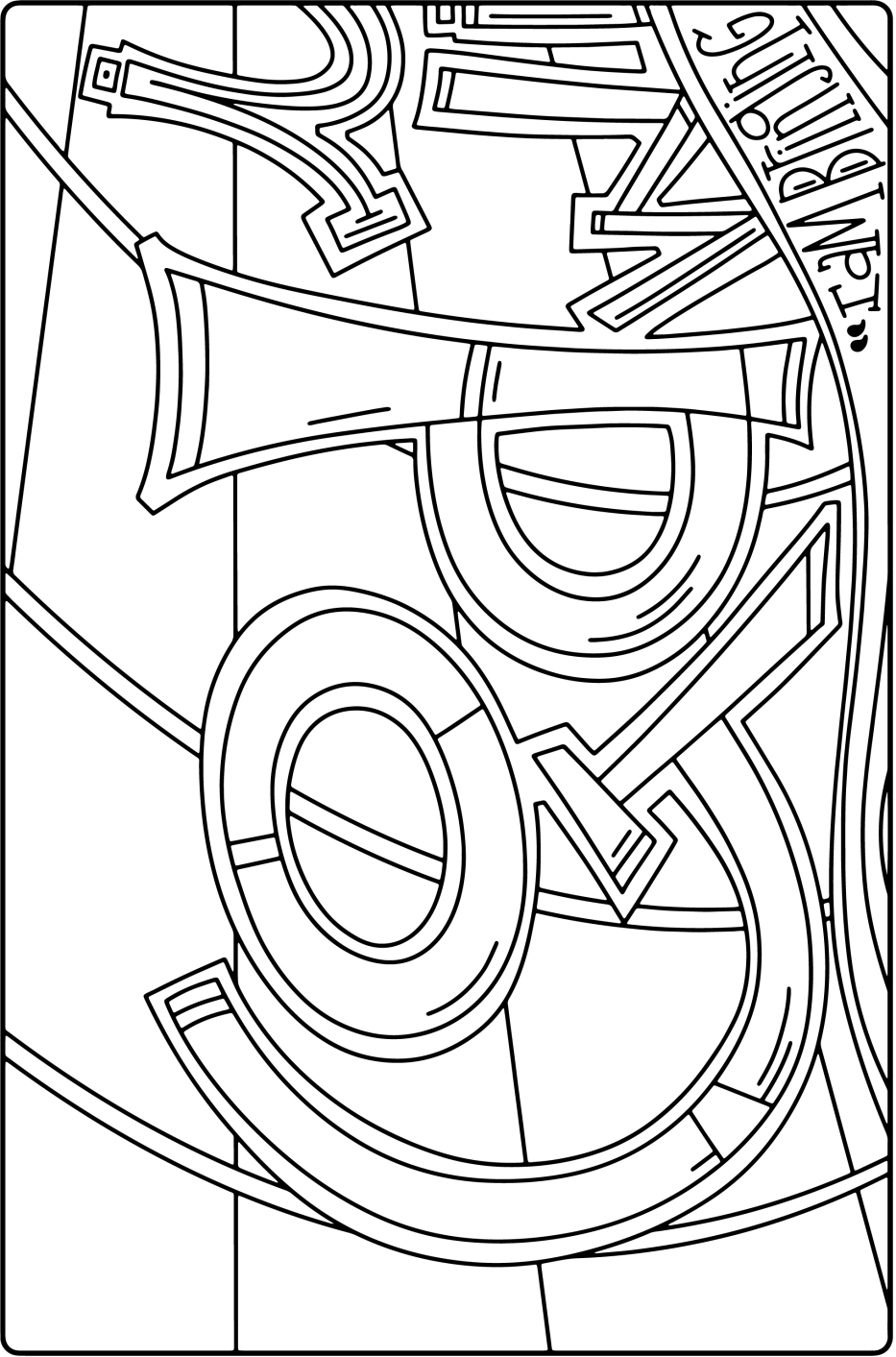


DRAW IT



In Luke 2, Jesus' parents are shocked to discover he was in the temple teaching all the rabbis and other adults. Jesus was only a twelve-year-old boy! **Draw** how you imagine this looked, and what Jesus was teaching about.





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.

Pastor Amy is available for conversations with members.
Email SrMinister@trcnyc.org or call 212-870-6775 to arrange an appointment.

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 - 12/30/2018

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
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communications@trcnyc.org.

For full staff directory visit trcnyc.org/directory



trcnyc.org



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