

The Riverside Church

in the City of New York



JUNE 2, 2019
ASCENSION SUNDAY

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 SPIRIT¹

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 on
**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

Luke 24:44-53

(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

RADICAL COMMITMENT

Riverside Pastoral Staff

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

Rev. Butler

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

*Charles Callahan
Dale Wood*

MUSIC

Esto les digo

Kinley Lange

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

Rev. Butler

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

Rev. Jim Keat

OFFERING

Climbing Up the Mountain

Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan

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.

✦ *All who are able, please stand*

✦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

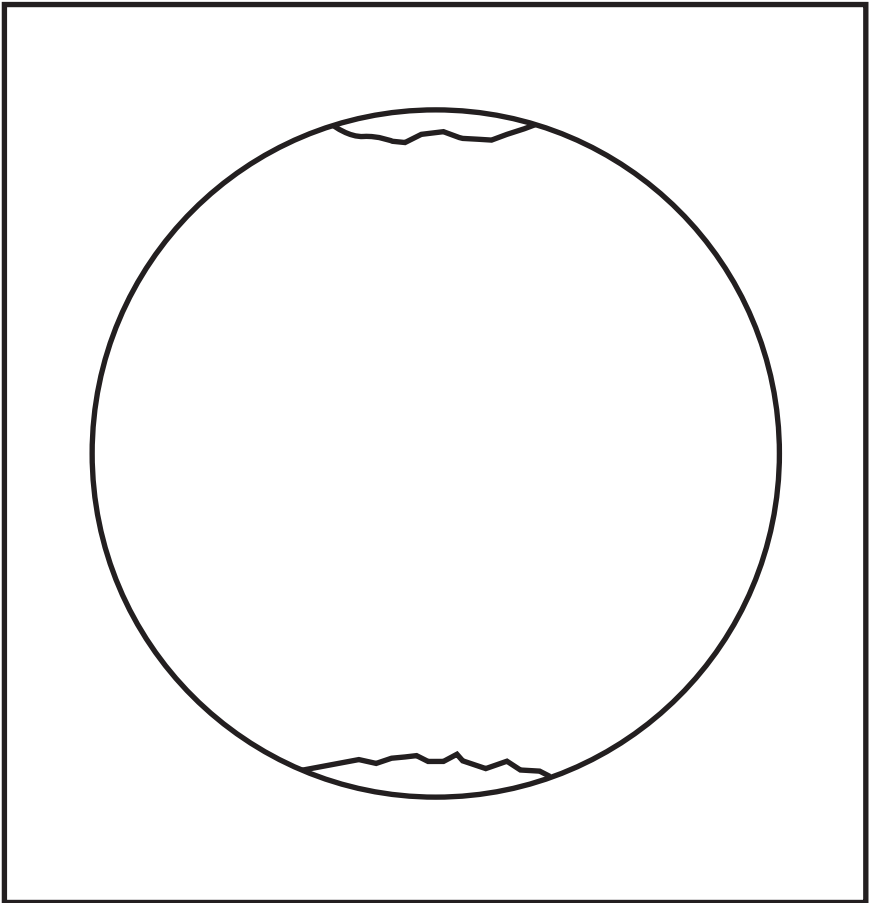
**Congratulations to the recipients of the
James M. Washington Award on May 19, 2019.**

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.



CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Acts 16, Psalm 97, Revelation 22.



UNSCRAMBLE IT

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

I M A E H T P A L H A D A N H E T

-----, -----
G A M E O E T H S T I R F D N A

-----, -----
T E H T S A L E H T

-----.
B I N G G G I N E A D N H E T N E D

 DOODLE AREA

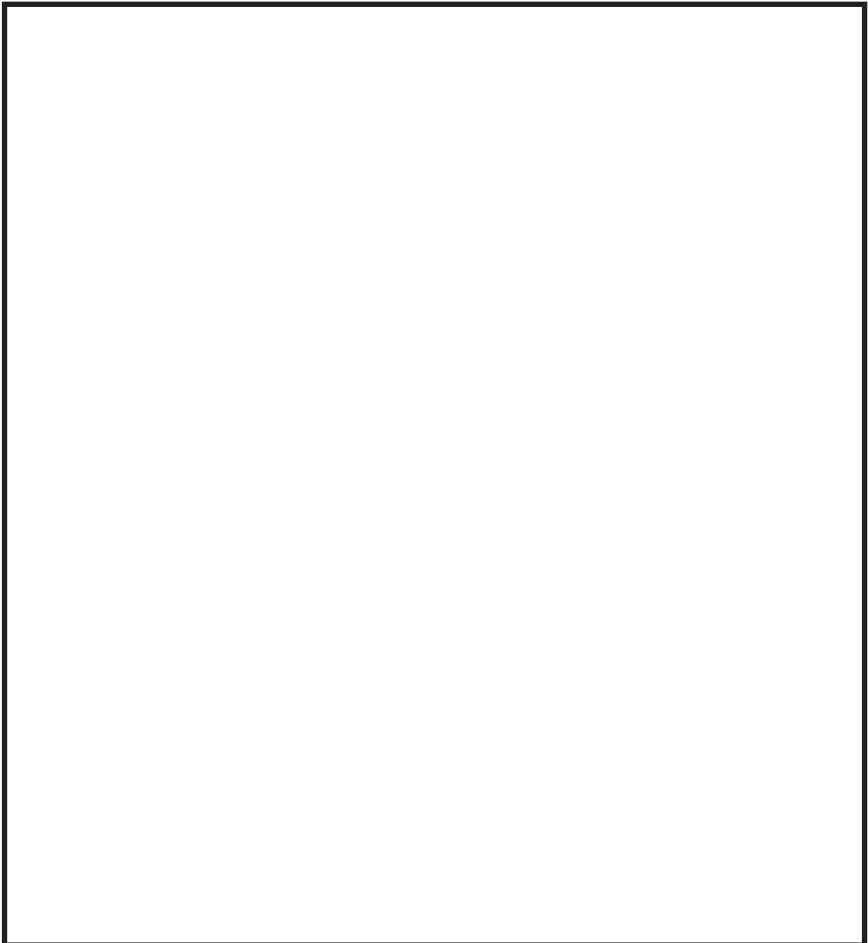
Draw something that you love...





DRAW IT

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 trcnyc.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 trcnyc.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.

Senior Minister's Office & Executive Leadership Team

Rev. Dr. Amy Butler

Senior Minister
abutler@trcnyc.org

Rich Glassey

Executive Director of Operations
rglassy@trcnyc.org

Rev. Alisha Gordon

Executive Minister of Programs
agordon@trcnyc.org

Rev. Rachel Johnson

Executive Minister of Communications
rjohnson@trcnyc.org

Rev. Michael Livingston

Senior Executive Minister
mlivingston@trcnyc.org

Rev. Christian Peele

Executive Minister of Institutional Advancement
cpeele@trcnyc.org

Pastoral and Program Staff

David Black

Community Organizer for Justice,
Advocacy, & Change
dblack@trcnyc.org

Christopher Creaghan

Associate Organist
ccreaghan@trcnyc.org

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

Associate Minister of Older Adults
lharper@trcnyc.org

Kaitlin Cook

Director of Stewardship & Development
kcook@trcnyc.org

Christopher Johnson

Director of Music and Organist
cjohnson@trcnyc.org

Rev. Jim Keat

Minister of Design & Digital Strategy
jkeat@trcnyc.org

Rev. Bruce Lamb

Minister of Faith Formation
blamb@trcnyc.org

Farley Lord

Minister of Stewardship & Development
flord@trcnyc.org

Amanda Meisenheimer

Associate Minister of Children & Families
mmeisenheimer@trcnyc.org

Rev. Debra Northern

Minister of Parish Care
dnorthern@trcnyc.org

Rev. Kevin VanHook

Minister of Justice, Advocacy, & Change
kvanhook@trcnyc.org

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



trcnyc.org



THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK