

RIVERSIDE CHURCH



Areopogus in front of the Acropolis

**CHRIST-CENTERED
MULTI-CULTURAL, ECUMENICAL, INCLUSIVE**

7th Street & Maine Avenue SW, Washington DC

RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

May 17, 2020

10:00 AM

Gates of Prayer

Please practice silence and contemplative prayer, as we prepare our hearts to come before the LORD.

Silence is the mother of speech. ~Brother Thomas Merton

[If you are unsure what to pray, pray this: Lord Jesus Christ, Light of the world, enlighten me.]

Call to Worship

Psalm 66: 8-20

Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard,

who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.

For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs;

you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will pay you my vows,

those that my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatlings, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats.

Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me.

I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue.

If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer.

Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me.

Welcome and Announcements

The Gate of Peace

*Invocation for Peace

Music

*The Peace of Christ

May God grant us courage to change the things need changing,

the peace to accept the things we cannot change,

and wisdom to know the difference.

Gates of Offering and Thanksgiving

Scripture Lesson 1

Acts 17:22-31

Selected and read by Deacon LeRoy Potts

22. Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every

- way.
23. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.
24. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands,
25. nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things.
26. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live,
27. so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him--though indeed he is not far from each one of us.
28. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.'
29. Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals.
30. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent,
31. because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Gates of Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

*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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
 And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory, forever. Amen.*

The Gate of Proclamation

Scripture Lesson 2

1 Peter 3:13-22

13. Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good?
14. But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated,
15. but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you;

16. yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame.
17. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil.
18. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit,
19. in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison,
20. who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.
21. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you--not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,
22. who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Sermon

Hope's Fall

Rev. Nicolas Mumejian

Gate of Consecration

***Benediction**

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Welcome to Riverside Baptist Church, where our one law is love of God and neighbor. Justice and peace matter to us. So we celebrate racial diversity, gender equality, and inclusion of all persons no matter their sexual orientation. We draw the circle of God's love large here. You're included. Christ is the center here. No one more and nothing less.

With the continued recommendation from the CDC and local authorities Riverside's building will remain closed until further notice. Please do not hesitate to contact our staff should you need anything.

While the building is closed, we gather online to worship. We will keep you updated through the newsletter and the website on the status of the building.

Every Sunday at 11 AM we gather online via Zoom to fellowship and pray. Information is available on the website at <https://riversidedc.org/online-community-services/> Please join us!

Bible Study will resume this Wednesday, May 20th, at 6:00 P.M. with the book of James, led by Rev. Nick via Zoom. Please read chapter 1 of James. Information is available on the website at <https://riversidedc.org/online-community-services/>

Visitors– please go [here](#) to let us know that you were online with us today.

Pray For: Our deepest Christian sympathy to the family and friends of Louis Pitts on her passing; Our deepest Christian sympathy to Teena Siggers and her family in the loss of her brother, Timothy Paul Siggers; Annie Abbott; Brenda Rozier Clark; Anthony Maimer's sister, Davi Stuhlsatz; Denise Bennett's sister, Dyanne Smith; Tanya Bethel's mother, Ruby McCrary; Eleanor Troutman; Pamela Maimer's sister, Monica Thomas; Allen Dobbins Sr., and his wife Nell, Courtney and Allen Jr; Bob Nelson; Laurel Eierman's mother, Marcia Tringali; Tanya Bethel; Gale Miller's mother, Marian Miller; Karl Maxwell; Edith Booker; Pamela Maimer's mother, Clara Jefferson; Emma Wright's sister Sallie Williams; Lillie Ransom's sister Teriea and her husband, Jerry; Sheba Greene's daughter Donna; Dr. Bledsoe's mother, Peggy Bledsoe

STAFF

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Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 8am – 1pm