

RIVER ROAD CHURCH, BAPTIST

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 12, 2020

*Today we worship via the internet. As you gather around your phone, computer, or tablet,
we encourage you to pause for a moment to become aware of God's presence.
Quiet your mind, listen to the voluntary, and prepare to worship God.*

Voluntary

Prelude in D minor, BWV 539/1

J.S. Bach

Welcome, Invocation, and Our Lord's Prayer

Rev. Anna Perry Miller

**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, and 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.**

*Hymn

Praise the Lord, God's Glories Show

LLANFAIR

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|---|--|
| 1. Praise the Lord! God's glories show, Alleluia!
saints within God's courts below, Alleluia!
angels round the throne above, Alleluia!
All who see and share God's love. Alleluia! | 2. Earth to heaven exalt the strain, Alleluia!
Send it, heaven, to earth again, Alleluia!
Age to age, God's mercies trace, Alleluia!
Praise God's providence and grace! Alleluia! |
| 3. Strings and voices, hands and hearts, Alleluia!
in the concert, bear your parts, Alleluia!
All that breathes, your Lord adore, Alleluia!
singing praise forevermore, Alleluia! | |

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 55:10-13

Hilary Blanchard

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

The Word of the Lord;
Thanks be to God.

** please stand as you are able*

*Gospel Lesson

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

The Gospel of our Lord;
Praise be to you, O Christ.

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Anna Perry Miller

Solo

Gebet (Prayer)

Hugo Wolf

*Herr! schicke, was du willst,
Ein Liebes oder Leides;
Ich bin vergnügt, dass beides
Aus deinen Händen quillt.*

Lord! send what you will,
Pleasure or pain;
I am content that both
Flow from your hands.

*Wollest mit Freuden
Und wollest mit Leiden
Mich nicht überschütten!
Doch in der Mitten
Liegt holdes Bescheiden.*

Do not, I beseech you,
Overwhelm me
With joy or suffering!
But in the middle
Lies blessed moderation.

Michelle Harman-Gulick, soprano

Offertory Sentences

Rev. Anna Perry Miller

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Mission Moment

Alkulana is Family

Solo

Eternal Life (Prayer of St. Francis)

Olive Dungan

Lord make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. O divine master grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Michelle Harman-Gulick, soprano

*Hymn

We Plow the Fields and Scatter

LANCASHIRE

1. We plow the fields and scatter
the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered
by God's almighty hand.
He sends the snow in winter,
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine,
and soft refreshing rain.
2. He only is the Maker
of all things near and far;
he paints the wayside flower,
he lights the evening star;
the wind and waves obey him,
by him the birds are fed;
much more to us, his children,
he gives our daily bread.
3. We thank you, then, Creator,
for all things bright and good:
the seed-time and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food;
no gifts have we to offer
for all your love imparts,
but that which you desire now:
our humble, thankful hearts!

*Benediction

Voluntary

Fugue in D minor, BWV 539/2

J.S. Bach

Chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of all teachers who continue to virtually teach our children, by Betsy and Steve Lowery.

We are grateful for your continued generosity to God through our church ministry. You may give securely online at www.rrcb.org/give-online or by mailing a check. Thank you for your faithfulness. This QR code will take you to our giving page.

**The Alkulana Family: Camp Alkulana Offering***June 17-July 12, 2020*

Camp Alkulana's 106th summer of ministry will be different than any other. The COVID-19 pandemic is changing their summer plans, but it will not change our mission—we will continue to support their efforts to offer programming for Richmond's low-income, at-risk children and youth. Your gifts to the 2020 Camp Alkulana Offering will help keep this ministry and its impact strong even during these challenging times! We trust that, through God's guidance and critical support from the faith community, they will continue to be *The Alkulana Family*. Visit rrcb.org/alkulana for details on Camp Alkulana's summer ministry and how to give online.

Now is the time to pray for the success of Camp Alkulana in the summer of 2020 and to give to the Camp Alkulana Offering. You may make donations online (select "Alkulana" for the fund) or mail a check to the church office with "Camp Alkulana Offering" in the memo.

Moon Pies with Ministers

Tuesday, July 14, 8PM on Zoom

Your pastoral staff wants to visit with you! Grab your favorite guilty pleasure (or not-so-guilty) treat and get ready to have an evening chat with a minister and some of your fellow church members. This week we'll be joined by Anna Miller. Sign up at rrcb.org/moonpies for the Zoom link.

Participate in our Virtual Summer Vesper Services

Sign Up Deadline: Sunday, July 12, 2020

All ages and families can participate by submitting a recorded piece.

In late summer we will enjoy several services that include the leadership of folks all across our church family. If you were able to come and experience these special times last summer, you know it was meaningful to hear loved ones talk about how God works in their lives, offer their gifts of music and reading, and include people of all ages. We hope to have similar opportunities this summer, through online presentation. The Board of Christian Education & Spiritual Formation would love to have you participate.

We are looking for volunteers to light candles, read scripture, tell stories, and share art. Please take a moment and pray about how God might use you to encourage others by sharing your talent or story. The offerings will be joined together to create short services of reflection and worship that will provide encouragement for those who enjoy them.

Find more information and sign up through Sign Up Genius on our website rrcb.org/vespers on the Be The Church page rrcb.org/connect.