Wellesley Village Church

Congregational † United Church of Christ

We Are an Open & Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ. Whoever you are, wherever you are on the journey of life and faith, we are delighted you are here!

Sunday, March 1, 2020 10:00 am



The Lenten Journey: Preparing the Way.

Called to new life through the waters of baptism, we follow Jesus into the wilderness of our own hearts. Give us courage for the journey and reveal to us the true purpose of our life, as we sojourn towards the good news of Easter. Spirit lead us.

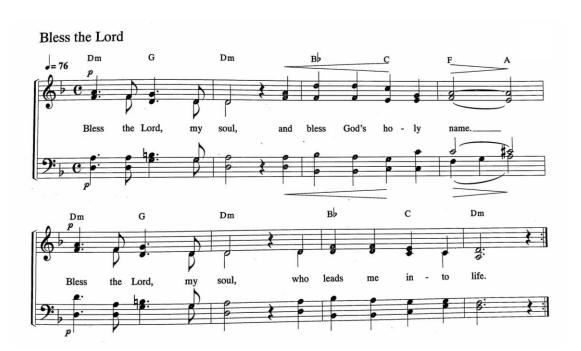
We extend to all a welcome as broad as the outstretched arms of God.

God Calls You by Name, and So Do We

Please wear a nametag; temporary stickers are available and anyone may request a permanent nametag anytime.

Visitors, we want to help you connect with our community. Please complete a Connection Card found in the blue folders, sign the pew pads and introduce yourself to a pastor.

Following worship, all are invited to stay for refreshments and conversation in Village Common.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

March 1, 2020 10:00 AM

Hymns can be found in the New Century (black) Hymnal. *Please stand as you are able.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL & CANDLE LIGHTING

Rev. Diane Seaborn

WELCOME & PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter

*OPENING HYMN NO. 212 "O Jesus Christ, May Grateful Hymns"

Children are invited to come forward on the last verse to join the pastor on the Chancel steps.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Children's Church & Joyful Noise start in Sanctuary. Grades 6-8 start in Youth Room. All families are invited to join their children and youth in the Upper Room (second floor) during the closing hymn for our Lenten closing prayer circle.

LENTEN CONFESSION

One: Holy One. You are our refuge and our strength. You alone are worthy of our deepest trust and faithfulness.

All: We confess that we are imperfect people living in a broken world. We turn away from you, O God, and look to material comforts for refuge, our pride for strength. We place our trust and faith in things of this world, in all that we can acquire, and in all that we can achieve on our own. In the wilderness that is life, we face temptations, and we often succumb to them.

One: Forgive us when we wander, and help us find the Jesus way.

Response "Bless the Lord My Soul" see opposite page

Silent Prayer of Confession

Response "Bless the Lord My Soul"

ASSURANCE OF GRACE & SHARING OF PEACE

One: Grace, forgiveness and redemption; these too are components of the Jesus Way. The assurance of our faith is this: death does not have the last word; Good Friday is not the end of the story.

All: Together we await the good news of Easter!

One: The peace of Christ be with you. All: And also with you.

Please share a greeting of peace with one another.

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SERMON

"Wandering and Wondering"

RESPONSE NO. 520

"Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ"

OUR COMMON LIFE & OFFERING

Offertory

"O Savior of the World"

John Goss

O Savior of the world,

Who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,

Save us and help us, we humbly beseech Thee,

O Lord.

*Doxology and Presentation

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God for all that love has done;

Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Jesus welcomes all to the table, and so do we!

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

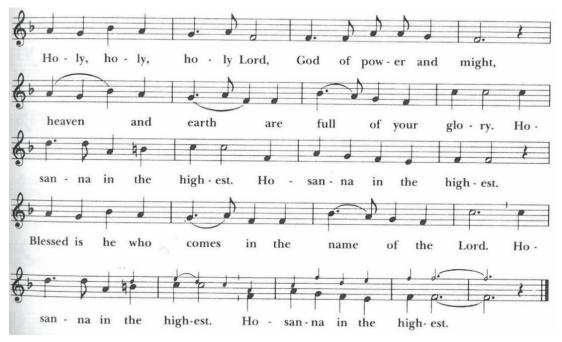
One: The Lord be with you; All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts; All: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God;

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Words of Institution



*The Gift of the Bread and Cup

If you are in the center of the sanctuary, come forward by the center aisle and return by the side aisle. If you are in a side transept, a server will be at the front of your area. Gluten free bread and cup are offered by the piano. If you prefer to receive a blessing in words instead of communion, cross your arms over your heart.

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Pastoral Prayer

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, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 522 "I Love to Tell the Story"

At this time, parents may leave the sanctuary with the liturgist to join their children in the Upper Room (second floor) for our Lenten closing prayer circle.

*BENEDICTION

†††

ALL ARE INVITED to share in coffee and conversation, hosted by Kent Hewitt and his Vision 2020 group. Village Common is located through the doors nearest the pulpit.

The chancel flowers today are given by Christina Mathews With love for her parents, Rt. Rev. Simmy Mathews & Sosamma Mathews.

If you are visiting, looking for a church home or want a smaller group with whom to connect after worship, please visit our **Welcome Table** in the North Transept (right side of Sanctuary).

Our **communion bread** was baked with love and care by the Village Church Bread Ministry.

TODAY

9:00am **Worship**, Chapel

Rev. Dr. Sarah Butter, Sean Patrick Coady

10:00am Worship, Sanctuary

Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter, Rev. Diane P. Seaborn, Sean Patrick Coady

Childcare, Family Worship Room

Children's Church & Joyful Noise, Sanctuary, see order of worship for details.

Middle School Youth Group, Youth Room, see order of worship for details.

11:15am Coffee & Conversation, Village Common

11:15am Welcome Table, Sanctuary

11:30am "Spirit Lead Me" Lenten Study Group, Chapel

11:30am Congregational Hearing Re: Collaboration with CCW, Sanctuary

12:00pm 60th Anniversary of Congregational Church of Weston, at CCW

1:00pm Confirmation Group returns from Retreat

7:00pm **High School Youth Group**, Youth Room

Family Promise week begins today! Thank you to all who have already signed up to help! There are still opportunities to serve in this important ministry. If you would like to join in, please contact christina.oliver20@gmail.com or diana.carroll14@gmail.com.



Sign up for Lenten small groups at: wellesleyvillagechurch.org/lent



Moderator, Leif Hille ~ Vice Moderator, Cynthia Sibold ~ Past Moderator, Lori Bruce

The Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter ~ Senior Pastor sarah@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Associate Pastors

The Rev. Pam Emslie pam@wellesleyvillagechurch.org
The Rev. Diane Seaborn
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Ministry Directors

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