

Wellesley Village Church

Congregational † United Church of Christ



10:00am Worship

†

May 29, 2022

ORDER OF WORSHIP

May 29, 2022

10:00am

Hymns may be found in the New Century (black) hymnal.

*Please stand as you are able.

PRELUDE

“Fantasia in G Minor”

J. S. Bach

Will Sherwood, Organ

WELCOME & PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter

*OPENING HYMN NO. 257 “Alleluia! Gracious Jesus!”

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

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Michaela McDonald

Children may leave for Children’s Church, which concludes at 11:15am.

Parents will find PreK-5th grade on the 2nd floor after worship.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Congregation, please read bolded parts.)*

Holy One, we come confessing a world of hurt and our need for your transforming grace. Especially today we confess our dismay at the events of Buffalo and Uvalde and so many other sites of human-caused devastation.

We confess our feelings of hopelessness, outrage, grief, and vulnerability. We pray for the grieving, the traumatized, and all those whose lives are forever changed.

(Solo) Lord, listen to your children praying; Lord send your spirit in this place.

Lord, listen to your children praying; send us love, send us power, send us grace.

Huge problems challenge our country, and we confess the greed, fear and self-interest that prevent us from uniting to solve them.

We confess we have divided ourselves into those we trust, and those we do not, those with whom we agree, and those we have decided are wrong.

You have commanded us not to kill, and yet we do, not only with weapons, but also with words, self-interest, arrogance and apathy.

(All) Lord, listen to your children praying; Lord send your spirit in this place.

Lord, listen to your children praying; send us love, send us power, send us grace.

Holy One, whenever we settle for the way things are instead of the way love would have them be, forgive us.

When we are tired, renew us. When we lack vision, show us a better way. Help us lay down our weapons of blame and finger-pointing, open us to seek understanding, and inspire us to work toward wholeness together.

*(All) Lord, listen to your children praying; Lord send your spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to your children praying; send us love, send us power, send us grace.*

In Jesus' name, **AMEN**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Beloved, the Good News is this: God never gives up on the human family. God's grace extends to all people and permeates the planet. The Holy Spirit is relentlessly at work, inspiring us to bind up the broken-hearted and create a world of justice and joy for all.

**The Risen Christ goes before us proclaiming God's love is stronger than death.
Thanks be to God!**

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of Christ be with you, **and also with you.**

Please stand as you are able and share a greeting of peace with one another.

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Come Down, O Love Divine"

William Harris

Sanctuary Choir; Kevin McDonald, Director

Come down, O Love divine, Seek thou this soul of mine,

And visit it with thine own ardour glowing.

O Comforter draw near, within my heart appear,

And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn

To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;

And let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight,

And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity Mine outward vesture be,

And lowliness become mine inner clothing:

True lowliness of heart, which takes the humbler part,

And o'er it's own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

*And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,
Shall far outpass the power of human telling.
For none can guess it's grace, Till he become the place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling. Amen.*

GOSPEL READING

Luke 24:44-53

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 1:1-11

SERMON

“The Stuff of Legends”

Martha Schick

RESPONSE HYMN NO. 522 “I Love to Tell the Story”

Please remain seated during response hymn.

COMMON LIFE AND CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Megan Berkowitz

Offertory

“I Believe”

Mark Miller

Sanctuary Choir

Dr. Kevin McDonald, Director

*I believe in the sun, even when it's not shining.
I believe in love, even when I don't feel it.
I believe in God, even when God is silent.*

***Doxology**

To give:

**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.**



PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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, 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. 249 “Peace I Leave With You, My Friends” vv. 1, 3**

WELCOME TO VISITORS AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Improvisation on 'Hyfrydol'

You are invited to remain seated until the conclusion of worship.

†††

ALL ARE INVITED to share in coffee and refreshments in Village Common, then join us in the Sanctuary for the Congregational Meeting to vote to call Martha Schick to be our next Pastoral Resident.

If you can't make it to the meeting in person, please join in by Zoom ([Zoom Cong. Meeting Link](#)).

We will not have a zoom fellowship today because of the meeting.

Thank you to our guest organist, Will Sherwood, ChM, AAGO. Will was Director of Music at First Unitarian Church Worcester for 37 years, and Dean of Worcester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists from 2010-2018, and is currently principal organist at Mechanics Hall Worcester and artistic director of the Worcester Organ Concert Series.

GIVING OPTIONS



Our church, our community and our world are sustained by the gracious gifts of time, service, and financial resources that we share. May God bless the giving and receiving of gifts and make more of us together than we can be apart. To donate **to support the mission and ministry of Village Church**, please [follow this link](#) or scan this QR Code to take you to the giving page for **Gifts**.

SHARING YOUR PRESENCE WITH US TODAY



What a blessing it is to have you here today!
Please sign in at the door or use this QR code.

TODAY

- 9:00am** **No 9am Worship Today** *Please attend 10am worship and meeting.*
- 10:00am** **Worship, Sanctuary and Livestream,** Martha Schick, Preaching;
Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter; Rev. Megan Berkowitz;
Michaela McDonald
Childcare, *Family Worship Room*
Children's Church, *Courtyard or Upper Room,* Michaela McDonald
No Middle School Youth Group today
- 11:00am** **Coffee and Fellowship,** *Village Common*
Congregational Meeting, *Sanctuary and on zoom*
[Zoom Cong. Meeting Link](#)
No Zoom Fellowship today *Please attend Congregational Meeting*
No Handbell Choir Rehearsal today
- 5:00pm** **No Worship at Congregational Church of Weston today**
- 7:00pm** **No High School Youth Group tonight**

In observance of Memorial Day, our office will be closed Monday, May 30.

Pentecost and Pizza

Sunday, June 5

Join us as we celebrate Rev. Bob Feeny's last Sunday with us, and release him to his new call in Spokane, WA. Village Table will bless us with Bob's favorite food: Pizza!

Feeding Frenzy returns for a Joint Service Project with Charles St (AME)!

Sunday, June 12, 2-5pm You are invited to answer God's call to feed the hungry as we stand side by side and serve others with our sister congregation. Hosted by WVC Service Ministry and WVC-CSAME Better Together team. **[Sign Up Genius Link Here >](#)**

Village Table Ministry Cooking *June 2-4, and every other Thurs., Fri. & Sat. after that, Village Hall Kitchen.* Please email food@wellesleyvillagechurch.org to get involved.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Please see Enews for details.

Empty Nesters+, *Mondays, June 6 & 13, 9:30am, Elm Bank Reservation*

Please contact Christina Oliver at 617-529-9246 for more information.

Seniors Connect, *First Tuesday of the month.*

Please email Rev. Megan Berkowitz at megan@wellesleyvillagechurch.org.

Village Church Dads Group -Please check Enews for details.

Please email getinvolved@wellesleyvillagechurch.org to sign up.

Prayer Shawl and Baptismal Blanket Ministry, *Wednesdays, 10-11:30, via Zoom*

Please contact Bobbie Hayes at 781-400-1333 or rchkch@verizon.net.

Wednesday Bible Study, *Wednesdays, 10am-11:45am, via Zoom*

Please email getinvolved@wellesleyvillagechurch.org to sign up.

Village Churchmen -*Monthly, on third Thursdays, 12:30pm-2:30pm via Zoom.*

Please email getinvolved@wellesleyvillagechurch.org for the link.

FAMILY LIFE

Family Life is community and faith formation for children, youth, and their families.

For current information on our programming,
please go to the Church website for the Family Life Enews.

WELCOME, VISITORS!

Are you thinking about getting involved in a community of faith?
If you are interested in joining, and have not been in touch with our
Welcoming Ministry, please contact Megan Berkowitz at
megan@wellesleyvillagechurch.org



WELLESLEY VILLAGE CHURCH IS AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (UCC)

At Wellesley Village Church, we believe in a vision for God's Beloved Community where all people are welcomed and enthusiastically affirmed, as well as honored and celebrated as made in God's holy image. This intentional inclusivity welcomes people of all races, sexual orientations, gender identities/expressions, abilities, family dynamics and configurations, and so much more. We recognize that our world and our church community do not always live into this vision, and yet as a church, we are continually working to widen our welcome and witness. If you have suggestions for how we can better welcome you and those you love, please reach out to Pastoral Resident Megan Berkowitz at megan@wellesleyvillagechurch.org.

Lay Leadership

John Snyder ~ Moderator

Kathy Schleyer ~ Vice Moderator

Cynthia Sibold ~ Immediate Past Moderator

Senior Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter

sarah@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Associate Pastors

The Rev. Pam Emslie

pam@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

On sabbatical until 8/25/22

Pastoral Residents

The Rev. Bob Feeny 3rd Year

bob@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

The Rev. Megan Berkowitz, 1st Year

megan@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Ministry Directors

Michaela McDonald – Children’s Ministry

michaela@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Dr. Kevin McDonald – Youth Music,

Interim Director of Music,

Director of Sanctuary Choir

kevin@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Kristjon Imperio – Organist &

Handbell Choir Director

kristjon@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Meg Sweeting – Church Administrator

meg@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Chris Toppin Riordan – Communications

christine@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Sharon Funk – Admin. Assistant to Sr. Pastor

sharon@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

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