

# Wellesley Village Church

*Congregational † United Church of Christ*

*September* ~ a month of



*at*

**WELLESLEY VILLAGE CHURCH**

10:00am Worship



September 25, 2022

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

**September 25, 2022**

**10:00am**

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

\*Please stand as you are able.

*The flowers today are a gift from Helen Sagan,  
in loving memory and celebration of her husband, Robert Michael Sagan.*

**PRELUDE**

"Vision, Op. 156, No. 5"

*Josef Rheinberger*

Kristjon Imperio, Organ

**WELCOME & PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter

**\*OPENING HYMN NO. 70** "God Is Here! As We Your People Meet"

*Children are invited to stay in their seats or at the Pray Ground  
to witness the Sacrament of Baptism.*

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

## **Receiving the Sacrament of Baptism**

Isabella Marie Donoso, daughter of Carina and Ricardo Donoso and

Caroline Parmenter Fox, daughter of Kimberly and Robert Fox

*Assisting is Natalie Colbert, Worship Deacon.*

**Invitation**

**Covenant Promises of the Parents**

**Covenant Promises of the Congregation**

Deacon: Will you who witness and celebrate this sacrament promise your love, support, and care to Isabella Marie Donoso and Caroline Parmenter Fox, who are about to be baptized?

**All: We will, with the help of God. With this sacrament we welcome Isabella and Caroline into the fellowship of Christ's church. We promise to receive them as children of God, nurture them in Christian faith, and grow with them in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ.**

## **Blessing of Water**

### **Baptism of Isabella Marie Donoso**

Deacon: See what love God has for us, that we should be called children of God.

**All: Loving God, we thank you for Isabella; bless her and keep her, now and forever. Give her faith and strength for life's journey, the joy of fellowship, the freedom to love, the courage to serve, and the hope of new life, through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.**

### **Baptism of Caroline Parmenter Fox**

Deacon: See what love God has for us, that we should be called children of God.

**All: Loving God, we thank you for Caroline; bless her and keep her, now and forever. Give her faith and strength for life's journey, the joy of fellowship, the freedom to love, the courage to serve, and the hope of new life, through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.**

## **Introduction to the Family of Faith**

**SUNG RESPONSE NO. 325 "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise" vv. 1& 4**

*Children may leave for Children's Church, which concludes at 11:15am.  
Parents will find PreK-5<sup>th</sup> grade on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor after worship.*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(Please read bolded parts.)*

Stacy Swain

**Great and merciful God, we want to love you with our whole hearts, and love our neighbor as ourselves.**

But sometimes, we find it hard to do so.

**Sometimes, the pain of the world can feel too big, and we can feel too small.**

Sometimes, we wonder how we could ever make a difference in the lives of others when we can barely manage our own. Sometimes we turn away, lower our eyes, and shut the doors of our hearts.

**Forgive us, we pray. Come to us in our need with the outpouring of your mercy.**

*(You are invited to use this time for your own silent confession.)*

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

People of God, be assured, we are forgiven. God's grace meets us in our need. God's mercy flows freely into the broken places in our lives and in the world. God does not leave us alone to manage on our own. God is forever inviting us in the great outpouring of God's creating, redeeming and sustaining Love. May that Love rise again in us and pour forth from us as we love God and love God's people and serve God and serve God's people.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## \*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.*

## GOSPEL READING

John 15:12-17

Rev. Megan Berkowitz

## SERMON

"Not Servants but Friends"

## RESPONSE HYMN

"Here I Am, Lord" *(see insert)*

*Please remain seated during response hymn.*

## COMMON LIFE, CALL TO OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### Offertory

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

*Charles McCartha*

Sanctuary Choir

Dr. Kevin McDonald, conductor

Kristjon Imperio, piano

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear.

What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer.

O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, and to take him at his word;  
just to rest upon his promise, and to know, "Thus saith the Lord."

Are we weak and heavy laden, burdened by a load of care?

Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?

In his arms he'll take and shield you, you will find a solace there.

I'm so glad I learned to trust you, precious Jesus, Savior, friend;  
and I know that you are with me, will be with me to the end.  
O how sweet to trust in Jesus, just from sing and self to cease;  
Just from Jesus simply taking life and rest, and joy and peace.

**\*Doxology**

**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.**

To give:



**PASTORAL PRAYER**

Martha Schick

**RESPONSE HYMN NO. 506 "What a Friend We Have In Jesus" v. 1**

**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. 495 "Called As Partners in Christ's Service"**

**WELCOME TO VISITORS AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

"Recessional"

*William Mathias*

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

ALL ARE INVITED!  
Please plan on staying and  
joining in the continuing celebration of the start of the new program year.  
We will be delighting in fellowship in Village Common  
and photos taken at the Photo Booth.

*If you are watching our livestreamed service,  
please join us after virtual worship  
for a brief time of fellowship,  
followed by Faithful Questions led by Rev. Stacy Swain.  
Please use this New Zoom link > Zoom Fellowship (11:15am) and Faithful Questions (11:30)*

## 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.

## The Place to BE: Wellesley Village Church

### 9/25 - BEFRIEND!

- 9am – Chapel Worship
- 10am – Sanctuary Worship (livestream) / Children's Church / Middle School Youth Group
- 11am – Fellowship and PHOTO BOOTH / Zoom Coffee Hour & Faithful Questions
- High School Youth Group returning from retreat (no 7p gathering)



Sept 25 BEFRIEND!  
Oct 2 BEHOLD!  
Oct 9 BELONG!  
Oct 16 Confirmation

## TODAY

- 9:00am**      **Chapel Worship**
- 10:00am**      **Worship**, *Sanctuary and Livestream*, Rev. Megan Berkowitz, Preaching;  
Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter; Rev. Stacy Swain; Martha Schick  
**Childcare**, *Family Worship Room*  
**Children's Church**, *Courtyard or Upper Level*, Michaela McDonald  
**Middle School Youth Group today**, *Youth Room, Lower Level*
- 11:15am**      **Welcome Back Coffee and Fellowship**, *Village Common and Churchyard*  
Photo Booth, *Churchyard*
- 11:15am      **Zoom Fellowship**, to be followed by Faithful Questions
- 11:30am      **Faithful Questions**, *Parlor and Zoom*, Rev. Stacy Swain  
*You may join this conversation in person in the Parlor; or if you are  
participating by Zoom: Please use this New Zoom link >  
for Zoom Fellowship (11:15am) and Faithful Questions (11:30)*
- 5:00pm**      **Worship at Congregational Church of Weston**
- 7:00pm**      **No High School Youth Group tonight**, Rev. Pam Emslie

## OPPORTUNITIES

*Please see, or sign up to receive, our Enews for details.*

*For a complete listing and more information please go to our website. (See link on back page.)*

**Faithful Questions**, *Today and every Sunday, 11:30am, Parlor and zoom, Rev. Stacy Swain*  
Gather with us for an open-hearted, non-judgmental conversation as we explore questions of faith. Today's questions are: "Why is there so much suffering in the world? If God is good, why do so many bad things happen?" You may join this conversation in person in the Parlor; or, if you are participating by Zoom for Zoom Fellowship (11:15am) and Faithful Questions (11:30): [Please use this New Zoom link >](#)

**Chapel in the Pines**, *October 16, 3pm, McKinnon Park, Wellesley*

Join us in the forest for our next wild church worship service this coming Sunday! We look forward to gathering with you in our wild sanctuary at McKinnon Park.

**Empty Nesters+ Walking Group**, *Mondays, 9:30am, Elm Bank Reservation.*

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

**Village Church Dads Group** – *7:00pm, Tues., Oct. 18, at the home of Julien Grant and Tues., Nov. 15, at the home of Ed Berger* All Dads welcome! Please email [getinvolved@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:getinvolved@wellesleyvillagechurch.org) to sign up.

**Seniors Connect**, *First Tuesday of the month, 2pm on zoom*

Please email Rev. Stacy Swain at [stacy@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:stacy@wellesleyvillagechurch.org).

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

We welcome new knitters and crocheters to this special ministry. Yarn and patterns supplied. Please contact Bobbie Hayes at 781-400-1333 or [rchkch@verizon.net](mailto:rchkch@verizon.net).

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

Please email [getinvolved@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:getinvolved@wellesleyvillagechurch.org) to sign up.

**Thursday Evening Bible Study**, *Thursdays, 7pm-8:30pm, hybrid via Zoom and in the Parlor*

All are welcome to join our Gospel of John study, starting September 29. Please email [martha@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:martha@wellesleyvillagechurch.org) to sign up and get your materials.

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

Please email [getinvolved@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:getinvolved@wellesleyvillagechurch.org) to sign up.



**Village Table Ministry Cooking** *Thursday, Fri., and Sat., Oct. 6, 7 and 8 and every other Thurs., Fri. & Sat., Village Hall Kitchen.* For a special time with amazing people preparing delicious, healthy meals for people in need, please indicate your interest by emailing [food@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:food@wellesleyvillagechurch.org).

**Village Church Men's Book Group** – *Sat., Oct. 29, 9am, Parlor or zoom*

Please email [getinvolved@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:getinvolved@wellesleyvillagechurch.org) to sign up.

**Family Promise Dinners**, *Oct. 3-6*

Family Promise provides support for hardworking, motivated families facing homelessness to find housing as well as to set and meet goals that change their lives forever. Our church provides dinner support several times a year to families staying at the Natick Center shelter. Please see Enews to sign up.

*Enews* - If you would like to receive our weekly electronic E-newsletter, contact Chris Toppin at: [christine@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:christine@wellesleyvillagechurch.org) and she will add you to our "Village News" email list.



## 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 Martha Schick at [martha@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:martha@wellesleyvillagechurch.org).



**WELCOME IS OUR  
FAVORITE WORD**  
@ Wellesley Village Church



**Connect with us!**  
Scan this QR Code or visit:  
[wellesleyvillagechurch.org](http://wellesleyvillagechurch.org)

## 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, or email [pam@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:pam@wellesleyvillagechurch.org) or  
[michaela@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:michaela@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](mailto:sarah@wellesleyvillagechurch.org)

## ASSOCIATE PASTORS

**The Rev. Pam Emslie**

[pam@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:pam@wellesleyvillagechurch.org)

**The Rev. Stacy Swain**

[stacy@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:stacy@wellesleyvillagechurch.org)

## PASTORAL RESIDENT

**The Rev. Megan Berkowitz**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year

[megan@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:megan@wellesleyvillagechurch.org)

**Martha Schick**, 1<sup>st</sup> Year

[martha@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:martha@wellesleyvillagechurch.org)

## MINISTRY DIRECTORS

**Michaela McDonald** – Children’s Ministry

[michaela@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:michaela@wellesleyvillagechurch.org)

**Dr. Kevin McDonald** –

Director of Music & Youth Music

[kevin@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:kevin@wellesleyvillagechurch.org)

**Kristjon Imperio** – Organist & Assist Music

Director

[kristjon@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:kristjon@wellesleyvillagechurch.org)

**Ilana Cady** – Chapel Worship Lead

Musician

[ilana@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:ilana@wellesleyvillagechurch.org)

**Meg Sweeting** – Church Administrator

[meg@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:meg@wellesleyvillagechurch.org)

**Christine Toppin** – Communications

[christine@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:christine@wellesleyvillagechurch.org)

**Sharon Funk** – Admin. Assist. to Sr. Pastor

[sharon@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:sharon@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 Rev. Megan Berkowitz at:

[megan@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:megan@wellesleyvillagechurch.org).

## WELLESLEY VILLAGE CHURCH

For information , please visit our website at: [wellesleyvillagechurch.org](http://wellesleyvillagechurch.org)

For smartphone access →

Or speak to any one of us!

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