

Wellesley Village Church

Congregational † United Church of Christ



10:00am Worship Third Sunday After the Epiphany January 22, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

January 22, 2023

10:00am

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

*Please stand as you are able.

What a blessing it is to have you here today!
Please use this QR code to register your presence.



†††

PRELUDE

“Psalm Prelude, Set 2, No. 2”

Herbert Howells

*“Yea, the darkness is no darkness with thee,
but the night is as clear as the day; the darkness and light to thee are both alike.”*

- Psalm 139:11

Kristjon Imperio, organist

WELCOME & PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter

*OPENING HYMN NO. 164 “ Arise Your Light is Come”

*Children are invited to gather on the chancel steps during the last verse
for their time as young disciples before proceeding to church school.*

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Michaela McDonald

*Children may proceed to Children’s Church, which concludes at 11:15am.
Parents of 1st grade and younger should go to 2nd floor classrooms after worship.
Grades 2-5 will be brought to Village Common after Children’s Choir rehearsal.
Middle School Youth Group (6th – 8th grades) meets on the lower level.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ever-speaking God, you call to us as we go about our daily lives. You call us to be part of your greater purpose.

We confess that we do not always hear or heed your call. Sometimes the din of our noisy world keeps us from going deeper. Even in the quiet moments, we avoid you, thinking, “Later, I will listen.”

God, we ask you to keep calling us.

Tune the ears of our hearts to hear you and give us the courage to listen. We pray that your voice would move us ever closer to embodying your love in our daily lives.

[please use this time for your own silent prayer of confession]

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

People of God, hear this good news: God is calling to us today - to you and to me. We are invited to heed God's voice and to go deeper into a life grounded in God's love. You and I are called to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God each and every day.

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.

ANTHEM "We Are One in Mission" *Kevin McChesney*
Village Ringers; Kristjon Imperio, Director

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 9:1-4 Jim Thistlethwaite

GOSPEL READING Matthew 4:12-23 Rev. Stacy Swain

SERMON "Where Do We Go from Here?"

RESPONSE HYMN NO. 173 "You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore"

COMMON LIFE, CALL TO OFFERING & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Stewardship Testimony

Offertory "Christus Lux Mea" *Heather Sorenson*
Sanctuary Choir; Dr. Kevin McDonald, conductor
Kristjon Imperio, piano

Jesus, Light of the world shining in our hearts. Christus lux mea.

Candle, Hope of the lost blazing in the dark. Christus lux mea.

Shadows of iniquity now dim the cross to gray
while flame of Heaven's candle flickers fast away.

Clouds of death now fall, and they silently bring the night.
evil has won, and the dark overtakes the light.
Our hearts will burn the light of Christ 'til righteousness ascends
when brilliantly the candle of hope is alive again.

Christus lux mea. Christ is my light.
Christ is my hope and the righteousness of my soul.
Christus lux mea. Shine in our night.
Christus lux mea.
The light that heals the wounded soul.
Love that makes us whole.
Oh, Christus lux mea. Christ is my light.
Christ is my hope and the brightness of my soul.
Christus lux mea. Shine in our night. Christus lux mea.

Jesus, light of the world shining in our hearts.
Candle, hope of the lost blazing in the dark.
Christus lux mea. Christus lux mea.

***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. Amen⁹**

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Martha Schick

**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.**

BEFRIENDERS BLESSING

***CLOSING HYMN NO. 170 "Your Ways Are Not Our Own" vv. 1, 2, 4, 5**

***WELCOME TO VISITORS AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

"Rise, Shine, You People"

David Cherwien

Please be seated for the postlude.

†††

*Following the service ALL ARE INVITED
to join in the sharing of refreshments and conversation in Village Common.*

*VISITORS - We're so glad you are here!
Please introduce yourself to a pastor near the Welcome sign.*

TODAY

- 9:00am** **Worship, Chapel**, Rev. Megan Berkowitz, preaching; Martha Schick
- 10:00am** **Worship, Sanctuary and Livestream**, Rev. Stacy Swain, preaching; Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter, Rev. Megan Berkowitz, Martha Schick, Michaela McDonald
- Childcare**, *Family Worship Room*
- Children's Church**, *Sanctuary, then pick up on Upper Level*, Michaela McDonald
- Middle School Youth Group**, *Youth Room*, Rev. Pam Emslie
- 10:50-11:20am** **Village Children's Choir**
- 11:15am** **Congregational Budget Hearing**, *Sanctuary and Zoom*
- Coffee and Fellowship**, *Village Common*
- No Zoom Fellowship or "Faithful Questions" Gathering today**
- Handbell Choir Rehearsal**, *Sanctuary*, Kristjon Imperio
- 5:00pm** **Worship at Congregational Church of Weston**, Rev. Megan Berkowitz
- 7:00pm** **Community Deacons**, *Parlor*
- High School Youth Group**, *Youth Room*, Rev. Pam Emslie

Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting

A **Congregational Hearing** on our 2023 budget will be held in the sanctuary today after the 10:00 am worship service.

Congregational Hearing zoom link: go to www.wellesleyvillagechurch.org livestream page to find the zoom link.

Our **Annual Meeting** will be on February 12 after the 10:00 am worship service.



All are invited to join with fellow Wellesley Village Church friends, to joyfully celebrate the blessings of Stewardship 2022, and to begin this season of giving and pledging for Stewardship 2023.

Each "Pick Your Party" offering is a wonderful opportunity to gather informally in small groups, share the blessings of each other's company, and feel the Spirit as we contemplate our OWN BEST GIFTS to Wellesley Village Church -- and answer God's call to **Choose Love and Make it Real**.

We hope to see you at one (or more!) of these events!

Tuesday, January 24, 5:30 p.m.

Family-Friendly Pizza Night at Wellesley Village Church, Hosted by The Forker Family and The Tolley Family

Wednesday, January 25, 2:30 p.m.

Afternoon Tea at North Hill, The Classroom - Level 1

Hosted by Kathy McGraw Bentley, Cynthia Sibold, and Rev. Stacy Swain

Saturday, January 28, 7:00 p.m.

Wine & Cheese Gathering at the home of Dan & Jill Garrison, 11 Pilgrim Circle, Wellesley

Sunday, January 29, 4:00 p.m.

Family-Friendly Afternoon Social at Wellesley Village Church, Hosted by Rev. Dr. Sarah Butter, Michaela McDonald, and Lilly Stafford

Friday, February 3, 7:00 p.m.

Wine & Cheese Gathering at the home of Cynthia & Bill Sibold, 130 Abbott Road, Wellesley

To sign up please go to www.wellesleyvillagechurch.org home page or Enews or email Cynthia Sibold at cynthia@wellesleyvillagechurch.org.

VILLAGE TABLE IS READY!

Happy New Year! After a brief hiatus we are looking forward to getting back into the kitchen with all of you! We've heard from a few of our partner organizations who are counting the days until our meals fill their freezers once again.

Please see Enews for ways you can get involved. Great ways to contribute include cooking or packaging on specific dates, volunteering on a regular basis, joining a fundraising team to brainstorm plans, and joining the marketing/PR team.

For more information, please reach out to Shannon Kelly at spkelly611@gmail.com.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

Exploring the Bible - A new Bible study for the new year

Are you new to the Bible? Do you have questions as to how it came to be and what it is all about? If so, perhaps you'd like to join in a new Bible study that will be starting in the new year. Please reach out to Pastor Stacy at stacy@wellesleyvillagechurch.org. The study will take place on Tuesday mornings.

VISITORS INFORMATION WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH!



If you are visiting, please let one of the pastors know,
so that we can welcome you fully.
We would love to meet you!

LAY LEADERSHIP

John Snyder ~ Moderator

Kathy Schleyer ~ Vice Moderator

Cynthia Sibold ~ Immediate Past Moderator

PASTORS

The Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter,

Sr. Pastor sarah@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

The Rev. Pam Emslie, Assoc. Pastor, Youth

Minister pam@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

**The Rev. Stacy Swain, Assoc. Pastor,
Congregational Care and Engagement**

stacy@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

PASTORAL RESIDENTS

The Rev. Megan Berkowitz, 2nd Year

megan@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Martha Schick, 1st Year

martha@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

MINISTRY DIRECTORS

Michaela McDonald – Children’s Ministry

michaela@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Dr. Kevin McDonald –

Director of Music & Youth Music

kevin@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Kristjon Imperio – Organist & Assist Music

Director

kristjon@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Ilana Cady – Chapel Worship Lead Musician

ilana@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Meg Sweeting – Church Administrator

meg@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Christine Toppin – Communications

christine@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Sharon Funk – Admin. Assist.

sharon@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Marina Berga – Financial Secretary

marina@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.

WELLESLEY VILLAGE CHURCH

For information, please visit our website at: wellesleyvillagechurch.org

For smartphone access →

Or speak to any one of us!

2 Central Street,
Wellesley, MA 02482

Church Office & Directory: 781-235-1988



All music and words in this bulletin are reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net, License #A-714276 and by CCLI, License #2910233. CCLI Streaming License #20812468.

