

Wellesley Village Church

Congregational † United Church of Christ



*“Moment of Epiphany” by Tray Ford,
chosen in recognition of Black History Month.*

10:00am Worship Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany February 12, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

February 12, 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

“O God in Whom All Life Begins”
Kristjon Imperio, organist

David Thome

WELCOME & PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter

*OPENING HYMN NO. 6 “Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good” vv. 1-3

*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

Rev. Megan Berkowitz

Holy One, our hearts long to serve you. We yearn to experience your love ourselves, and to let that love overflow from us into the world.

Yet we confess that there are times when we find it hard to choose the abundant life you have promised us. There are times when it is hard to trust in your Spirit’s movement in our communities. There are times when it is hard to walk in the way of Jesus.

We know there are times when we have strayed from you. Hear the confessions we offer to you in silence.

Please offer your own prayers of confession in silence.

Forgive us, we pray. **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

People of God, there is good news for us all. No matter how much time we spend wandering, God continues to extend love and beckon us to come home to Her. Each moment of each day, we are once again given the choice to follow God with joy and thanksgiving. Let us choose life in the light of God's love.

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.

ANTHEM

"Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace"
Village Ringers; Kristjon Imperio, Director

Kevin McChesney

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 100

GOSPEL READING

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

SERMON

"Growing Pains"

RESPONSE HYMN NO. 401 *"O God in Whom All Life Begins"*

HAMILTON-BARRETT CENTER FOR MUSIC AND ARTS WITNESS Mark Sibold

COMMON LIFE, CALL TO OFFERING & PRAYER OF DEDICATION Martha Schick

Offertory

“Ubi Caritas “

Ola Gjeilo

Sanctuary Choir; Dr. Kevin McDonald, conductor
Kristjon Imperio, organ

*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.
Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.*

Where charity and love are, God is there.
Christ's love has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.
Let us fear, and let us love the living God.
And may we love each other with a sincere heart.

*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**

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.**

SABBATICAL BLESSING

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 372 “God, You Have Set Us”

*WELCOME TO VISITORS AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

Richard Elliott

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. Stacy Swain, preaching; Rev. Megan Berkowitz
- 10:00am** **Worship, Sanctuary and Livestream**, Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter,
preaching; 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** **Coffee and Fellowship, Village Common**
Annual Meeting, Sanctuary and Zoom
- 5:00pm** **Worship at Congregational Church of Weston**, Rev. Megan Berkowitz
- 7:00pm** **High School Youth Group, Youth Room**, Rev. Pam Emslie

Martha Schick's Ordination

Wed., Feb. 15, 7 pm, Old South Church or livestreamed

Please use this address for livestreaming: <https://youtube.com/@OldSouthChurch>.

You are invited to attend Pastoral Resident Martha Schick's Ordination service! Come and celebrate this milestone by wearing red. Clergy are invited to robe and wear a red stole. Then, on Sunday, Martha will lead worship for the first time as Reverend Martha Schick. Hallelujah!

WELLESLEY VILLAGE CHURCH

LENT
2023

Befriending Our Soul

A Lenten Practice of Tending to Our Roots

ASH WEDNESDAY, February 22

- **Morning Open House 8a-1p** in the Chapel
Ashes and Labyrinth walk
- **Evening Worship 7:00p** in the Sanctuary with livestream
A Service of Holy Communion & Ashes

WORSHIP: Lenten Sundays 2/26-4/2

- **9a Chapel Worship**
- **10a Sanctuary worship** with livestream, 11a Fellowship hour
- **5p Congregational Church of Weston (CCW) service**

LENTEN REFLECTION groups

- see website and enews for an array of small reflection groups
offered by your pastors – sign up for one or more

HOLY WEEK

- **Palm Sunday** 10a, April 2
- **Maundy Thursday** 7p, April 6
- **Good Friday** 7p, April 7
- **EASTER Sunday** April 9 Services: Sunrise – 9a – 11a



Scan for details or visit: WellesleyVillageChurch.org

LENTEN REFLECTION SMALL GROUP OFFERINGS AND SIGN-UP INFO

LENTEN REFLECTION GROUPS 2023 “Befriending Our Soul” Offerings:

#1 Befriending the Mess

Tuesdays from Feb. 28 – April 4, noon to 1:00pm, hybrid

It can be easier to befriend our soul when we feel like we’re on the right track – but what about when aren’t? In this Lenten group, we will lay down the need to always be the hero in our story and dig into the messiness of life. We will engage with Biblical stories, finding lessons in the imperfect anti-heroes. We will discuss the ways that worship and our spiritual practices can free us from binds of always having to be good enough. And we will find grace in our sacred stories, our community, and ourselves. If you have questions, please reach out to martha@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

#2 Walking the Labyrinth: A Sacred Journey for Our Souls

Wednesdays from March 1 – 28th, 7:00-8:00pm, Chapel

A labyrinth is a geometric pattern that has a well-defined pathway that winds its way to the center and back out again. Labyrinths have an ancient history and are found all over the world and in all cultures. Prayerfully walking the labyrinth can be a helpful spiritual tool to quiet the mind, open the heart and bring new clarity. One may walk the labyrinth without expectation, or with a specific prayer or question or purpose in mind. Contact stacy@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

#3 Mom’s Befriending Moms, Soul to Soul, Story to Story

Tuesdays, Feb 28 – April 4, 9:00-10:00am, Parlor

You are invited to gather and share stories of being a mom with other moms. Soul to soul, story to story, we befriend each other in a place of love and trust. This time together is open and generous with questions to spark conversation robust with laughter, truth, and wisdom. Here, you might touch a longing to be seen and known, and to see and know others. All moms are invited, no matter how old your children. Once a mom, always a mom! Our weekly conversations will be enriched by poetry, prose, and Scripture. Please join us as we listen deeply to our own hearts, to each other, and to God’s Loving Spirit. We meet Tuesday’s from 9 AM – 10 AM, February 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28. We will gather in person in the Church Parlor OR join us in the parlor via zoom. Rev. Pam Emslie will guide our time together. Your presence will be a gift to those who join. If you have questions, please reach out to pam@wellesleyvillagechurch.org.

#4 Family dinner followed by: **Kids Befriending Kids** with Michaela McDonald And, **Parents Befriending Parents, Soul to Soul, Story to Story** with Rev. Pam Emslie

Wednesdays, March 1 – 28th, 5:30 – 6:45pm

Parents, you and your child(ren) are invited to gather for a pizza dinner with other church families. Following our meal, you are invited to meet with the other parents, soul to soul, story to story, to befriend each other in a place of love and trust. During each meeting our conversation will be sparked by questions that bring laughter, truth, and wisdom. Our weekly conversations will be enriched by poetry, prose, and Scripture. And, while you are meeting in the parlor, your child(ren) will gather with Michaela as they befriend their self. Please join us as we listen deeply to our own hearts, to each other, and to God's Loving Spirit. Your presence is a gift.

Contact pam@wellesleyvillagechurch.org.

#5 A Second Conversations about Life and Death

Tuesdays, Feb. 28 – March 28, 5:00-6:30 pm, Parlor

Join us for a conversation about the mystery and wonder of life and death. You are invited to befriend your own soul and the souls of others as we gather in a place of love and trust and share the stories of our lives. This conversation is for all ages, for we all know love and loss and we all hold wonder and wisdom to be shared. Our weekly conversations will be enriched by poetry, prose, and Scripture. Together, we will listen deeply to our own hearts, to each other, and to God's Loving Spirit that partners with us. We will gather in person in the Church Parlor OR join us in the parlor via zoom. Rev. Pam Emslie, Dorothy Patton, and Tom Walter will guide these holy conversations. We hope you will join us. If you have questions, please reach out to pam@wellesleyvillagechurch.org.

Befriending the Earth

Thursday 8:30-9:30am, hybrid, Feb 23 to April 6

Co-hosted by Rev. Megan and Chapel in the Pines Seminarian Abby Lietz. During Lent, we will take a journey together of "watershed discipleship," learning about the places we call home through faithful experience and encounter. Group members will be invited to spend about 10-15 minutes in the same outdoor place any time during the week. When we meet (hybrid in the WVC parlor and on Zoom), we'll reflect on how we interacted with the place, what we learned or noticed about the space, and what we learned or noticed about ourselves. We will also learn a little bit about watersheds, make a little art, and seek out our calm, quiet center through contemplative practices. These practices of place will facilitate connection with God – the Ground of Being from which we grow – and with the Earth. All are welcome! If you have any questions, reach out to megan@wellesleyvillagechurch.org.

VISITORS INFORMATION

WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH!



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



Connect with us!
Scan this QR Code or visit:
wellesleyvillagechurch.org

If you are visiting, please let one of the pastors know,
so that we can welcome you fully.

We would love to meet you!

Hamilton Garrett Music & Arts Academy (HGMA) "Make Them Hear You" Concert

Feb. 26th, 6pm, Berklee Performance Center, 136 Massachusetts Ave, Boston

All are invited! HGMA has been proudly affiliated with the Historic Charles Street A.M.E. Church for over twenty years (csamechurch.org) and is committed to the development of Boston's next generation of young artists through the celebration and preservation of Black Music. HGMA realizes this vision by providing high-caliber music instruction to youth throughout Greater Boston, preparing them for a future in music that encourages inner-city youth to see themselves as positive producers of culture, music, and arts.

Featured will be the renowned HGMA Youth Choir, the recently established HGMA Drumline, along with a performance by Grammy Award winning acapella group "Take 6". The program will also include a celebration of world-renowned artist/producer, Patrice Rushen. Tickets may be purchased through hamiltongarrett.org.

Additionally, there will be a post-concert reception at a nearby restaurant, Rochambeau. Those interested in attending the post-concert reception should contact Mark Sibold at 339-364-9800 or at mark.sibold@gmail.com to discuss further details.

We look forward to members of the Wellesley Village Church community joining HGMA and Charles Street AME for this special evening!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Calling all knitters and crocheters! You are invited to join in a special ministry to create prayer shawls and baptismal blankets. This is a rewarding way to use your creative hands, as well as help the church be ready when needs that arise. All materials and patterns will be provided and help given as needed. Please contact Bobbie Hayes (781-400-1333) for more information.

Labyrinth Talk and Walk

Sunday, February 19th 11:30-12:15

Join us in the Chapel after worship on Sunday the 19th to learn about the contemplative practice of Labyrinth walking. After a brief presentation, there will be an opportunity to walk the beautiful labyrinth that is inlaid in the chapel floor. The labyrinth will be open for walking every Wednesday during Lent from 7:00-8:00 pm. Come and nourish your soul with this ancient practice. stacy@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

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!

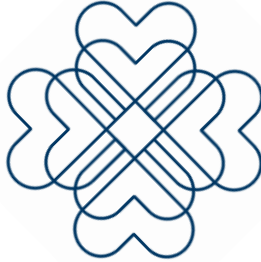
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Wellesley, MA 02482

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WELLESLEY VILLAGE CHURCH

Congregational • United Church of Christ

Choose Love. Make it Real.