

Wellesley Village Church

Congregational † United Church of Christ

Befriending Our Soul

Lent 2023



10:00 AM Worship

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 26, 2023

ANTHEM

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” Amy Lynne Engelsdorfer
Jennifer Soloway, Mauri Tetreault, Chad Chaffee, Matthew Buono
Dr. Kevin McDonald, Conductor
Kristjon Imperio, Piano

When I survey the wondrous cross,
On which the Christ of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, then, that I should boast,
Save in death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a presence far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, my all,
Demands my life, my all.

SCRIPTURE READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Charles Wood

GOSPEL READING

John 11:1-45

Rev. Megan Berkowitz

SERMON

“Can These Bones Live?”

RESPONSE HYMN NO. 288

“Let It Breathe On Me”

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.**

CALL TO OFFERING & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Offertory

“Sanctus” from Requiem
Sanctuary Choir; Dr. Kevin McDonald, Conductor
Kristjon Imperio, Organ

John Rutter

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua
Hosanna in excelsis

Holy, Holy, Holy
Lord God of Hosts
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini
Hosanna in excelsis

Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

*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:



COMMON LIFE AND STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Rev. Martha Schick
Dave Tolley

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 223 *“What Wondrous Love Is This”*

*WELCOME TO VISITORS AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“O Perfect Life of Love”
Please be seated for the postlude.

J. Bert Carlson

†††

*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*, Jade Hargrave, preaching; Rev. Martha Schick
- 10:00am** **Worship**, *Sanctuary and Livestream*, Rev. Megan Berkowitz, preaching;
Rev. 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*
- 11:15am-12:30** **Palm Sunday Children's Church Mini-Pageant Rehearsal**, *Sanctuary*
- 11:30am** **Seekers Orientation**, *Chapel*
- 11:30am** **Handbell Rehearsal**, *Village Hall*, Kristjon Imperio
- 5:00pm** **Worship at Congregational Church of Weston**, Rev. Megan Berkowitz
- 7:00pm** **High School Youth Group**, *Youth Room*, Rev. Pam Emslie
- 7:00pm** **Village Church Parents Group (VCPG)**, *Parlor*
- 7:00pm** **Community Deacons**, *Zoom*

**VISITORS INFORMATION
WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH!**

If you are visiting, we invite you to let one of the pastors know.

We would love to meet you!



~ **Spring Seekers Orientation** ~

Are you interested in exploring what Wellesley Village Church has to offer?

Are you curious about becoming a member?

We invite you to attend the

Spring Seekers Orientation sessions

TODAY at 11:30am on March 26th (in the Chapel)

and on April 23rd (in the Parlor and on Zoom)

to learn more about our faith community.

We will then welcome new members on April 30th.

Attend one or both of these sessions to learn about how Village Church works, how we fit into the United Church of Christ, and how we are “church” together! Childcare will be available at both sessions. Contact Rev. Martha Schick with questions or to RSVP at: martha@wellesleyvillagechurch.org



Befriending Our Soul

Lent 2023

A Lenten Practice of Tending to Our Roots

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**

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday, April 2

- 9:00am Chapel
- 10:00am Sanctuary & Livestream service

Maundy Thursday, April 6

- 7:00pm Sanctuary & livestream service

Good Friday, April 7

- Chapel open for labyrinth walking 9am-1pm with a noon to 12:15pm service.
- 7:00pm Sanctuary and livestream service

EASTER Sunday, April 9

- 7am ~ Sunrise Service with Communion
- 9am ~ Sanctuary & livestream service
- 10:15am ~ Fellowship & 10:25am Egg Hunt
- 11am ~ Sanctuary & livestream service

Scan for details or visit: WellesleyVillageChurch.org



LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT, SERVE & ACT

Village Church Parents Group (VCPG)

Tonight and May 7, 7:00-8:30pm, church parlor

We are a group of Village Church parents walking in faith together. We gather for conversation and support, especially when our kids -- or we!--struggle. Please feel welcome to join us to connect with other parents and to share our stresses, joys, tips, and resources. All parents are welcome! Email Caroline Johnson Hodge at cejh47@gmail.com.

Open Chapel for Walking the Labyrinth: A Sacred Journey for Our Souls

Wednesday, March 29th, 7:00-8:00pm, Chapel

Throughout Lent, the labyrinth will be open for walking on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00 pm. Come once or come every Wednesday. All are welcome. Contact: stacy@wellesleyvillagechurch.org. To learn about the history of Pilgrimage and Labyrinth walking from the Center of Action and Contemplation click [HERE](#) or visit our Common Life Opportunities web page at: wellesleyvillagechurch.org/common-life-opportunities."

Empty Nesters + Walking Group

We are a group of singles and couples (not just empty nesters), who gather weekly, weather permitting, for a walk in various locations, currently at the beautiful Elm Bank Reservation in Wellesley. Won't you join us? Email at Christina.oliver20@gmail.com to receive a weekly email for location details and confirmation or cancellation, pending weather.

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.

Book Drive for Tanyaradzwa Children's Home - March 5-31st

Please join Village Children's Church in our book drive to provide much needed books for this children's home in Zimbabwe. New or gently used children's books (ages 0-18) can be dropped off in the 1st floor lobby (cemetery entrance) in a marked bin. Gently used tablets to load education programs on are also welcome. Donations gratefully accepted to cover the freight costs by following this QR code→
Wellesley Village Church member Chipu Dendere will be delivering the books when she visits this summer.
Email Chipu with any questions chipu.dendere@gmail.com.



STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Warm greetings from the Village Church Stewardship Committee. We are three-quarters of the way to our goal of \$1.4 million. Over 150 members have made commitments of all sizes – an enthusiastic response to the many plans for choosing love and making it real. This year’s dollar goal is 8% higher than last year’s because the Church is investing more in our Service, Learning, Worship, Sharing & Community ministries.

If you have not yet made your pledge or gift, please do so by returning your pledge card. You may also give on-line at wellesleyvillagechurch.org/give. If circumstances allow increasing the size of your commitment, this will accelerate our progress. Pledging now allows the Finance Committee to better manage expenditures. In addition, members of the Stewardship Committee are beginning to follow up, so knowing your intentions will make our job much easier.

As we approach the joyous celebration of Easter, we hope making your “best gift” is an enjoyable process. We are all so fortunate to belong to this special community where we can deepen our faith and practice our values.



WELLESLEY VILLAGE CHURCH

Congregational • United Church of Christ

Choose Love. Make it Real.

CLOISTER WINDOW REPLACEMENT PROJECT

*BEHOLD as we live out our values by beautifying the Cloister
so that it will BECOME warm and lovely!
Rejoice in the Greening of our BELOVED CHURCH!*

Take a walk through the Cloister! The windows in our beautiful Cloister have been replaced as part of our environmental efforts to "green" our church.

Cloister Upgrades

by Jim Mongiardo, on behalf of the Energy Committee

Workmen have removed the 70-year-old, single pane windows and doors in the Cloister, and replaced them with custom built Pella high energy efficient insulated dual tempered glass windows and doors. This will greatly reduce the loss of energy in the Cloister.

The second part of the plan, which is being designed, will be to extend the HVAC system from the Chapel to the ceiling of the Cloister to provide both heating and air conditioning to make the space comfortable at all times.

The project is being managed by the Energy Committee which was formed in 2015 to use 10% of the 2014 Capital Appeal (about \$432,000) for the "greening", or in today's terms, the "sustainability" of the Church.

Projects over the past ten years have included the solar arrays on the roof, replacing the sashes of the Parish House windows, insulating the Upper Room, replacing inefficient lighting with more efficient LED lighting and making the existing heating and air conditioning systems (HVAC) as efficient as they can possibly be. Working with the Board of Properties, the Energy Committee will be making recommendations to the Congregation on sustainability upgrades to the HVAC system which is now past its expected useful life.

LAY LEADERSHIP

Kathy Schleyer ~ Moderator

Joe Morray ~ Vice Moderator

John Snyder ~ Immediate Past Moderator

PASTORS

The Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter,

Sr. Pastor *is on sabbatical, returning 5/14/23*

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

The Rev. 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 – Church Accountant

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.

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Choose Love. Make it Real.

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

Urgent Pastoral Care Cell: 781-591-7451

