

Wellesley Village Church

Congregational † United Church of Christ



10:00 AM Worship
Third Sunday of Eastertide
April 23, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 23, 2023

10:00 AM

Hymns today may be found in the Pilgrim (red) hymnal.

*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
with our new church check-in page.



. . .

PRELUDE

“Eternal Ruler of the Ceaseless Round”
Kristjon Imperio, Organ

Philip Moore

WELCOME & PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Martha Schick

*OPENING HYMN NO. 38 (Pilgrim Hymnal) “Morning Has Broken”

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

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Michaela McDonald

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

Rev. Stacy Swain

Holy One, you have given yourself to us, so that we would learn from you.

You have given your good creation to us, so that we would care for it.

You have given us one to another, so that we would love our neighbors as
ourselves.

And yet, we confess we often turn away from your good gifts.

We do not see your presence among us.

We do not see the earth as a gift we are to cherish and care for.

We do not see our neighbors as your beloved children.

Forgive us, we pray.

Please use this time for your own silent prayer of confession.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

People of God be assured. We are a wholly loved and forgiven people renewed by God's grace and called to live out of the Love that God has made our own. May that good news set our hearts burning with in us that we would be instruments of God's grace in this beautiful and broken world.

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.

SOLO "I Know that My Redeemer Liveth" from *Messiah*, HWV 56 G.F. Handel
Jennifer Soloway, Soprano

GOSPEL READING Luke 24:13-35 Rev. Martha Schick

SERMON "Breaking Bread"

RESPONSE HYMN NO. 188 (Pilgrim Hymnal) "Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day"

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Rev. Megan Berkowitz

**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

Offertory "My Eyes for Beauty Pine" Elizabeth and Thomas Coxhead
Sanctuary Choir
Kevin McDonald, Conducting
Kristjon Imperio, Organ

***Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ and Spirit One.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

To give:



COMMON LIFE

***CLOSING HYMN NO. 485 (Pilgrim Hymnal) "This is My Father's World"**

***WELCOME TO VISITORS AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

"Sing Praise to God"

Philip Moore

"Sing praise to God, who has shaped and sustains all creation."

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; Rev. Stacy Swain
- 10:00am** **Worship**, *Sanctuary and Livestream*, Rev. Martha Schick, preaching;
Rev. Stacy Swain; Rev. Megan Berkowitz; 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*
Spring Seekers Orientation, *Parlor and on Zoom*
Standing for Climate Justice, *Village Common*
- 11:30am** **Stories from the Southern Border Forum**, *Chapel*
and Exhibit, *Village Common*
Handbell Rehearsal, *Village Hall*, Kristjon Imperio
- 5:00pm** **Worship at Congregational Church of Weston**
- 7:00pm** **No High School Youth Group tonight**, *Youth Room*, Rev. Pam Emslie

~Spring Seekers Orientation~

TODAY, 11:15, Parlor and on Zoom

Are you interested in exploring what Wellesley Village Church has to offer or curious about becoming a member? We invite you to attend the Spring Seekers Orientation session to learn more about our faith community.

We will then welcome new members on April 30th.

Come learn about how Village Church works, how we fit into the United Church of Christ, and how we are "church" together! Childcare is available.

Standing for Climate Justice!

TODAY, 11:15, Village Common

Join in as we write postcards to send to our elected public officials as a call for climate justice. Postcards, addresses and sample writings will be available during fellowship hour.

“Stories from the Southern Border” Conversation
TODAY, Forum on immigration crisis, 11:15am, Chapel
Photo Exhibit on display, Village Common

Rolf Larson, Chair of the Metrowest Asylee Family Coalition (winner of the Abernethy Award), created stories from the Southern Border, a photography exhibit of portrait and stories of people he met during a 2019 visit by members of Christ Lutheran Church in Natick to the U.S./Mexico border. The Coalition, including Village Church, now accompanies a family of four on their asylum-seeking journey. Please join us for a forum led by Rolf on the current immigration crisis at the border and what the faith community is doing.

OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT, SERVE & ACT

Bible Study: Exploring the New Testament

Beginning Tuesday, April 25th, 8:30-9:30 am, Parlor (in person and online)

Do you have questions about the Bible? Do you wonder who wrote it and why? Would you like to learn more about the stories of our faith? If so, join us as we embark on an exploration of the New Testament using the Exploring the Bible Series written by Rev. Ann Robertson. This accessible, introductory study welcomes all. No previous study or biblical literacy is needed. Come explore with us! If you are interested, please reach out to stacy@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Village Church/Charles Street AME Feeding Frenzy – Sign up Now!!

Sunday, April 30, 2-5 pm, Village Common

We will pack thousands of nutritious meals headed to local food pantries and to Ukraine, and we need your help to make it happen! This is a wonderful service opportunity for everyone, including families. Please see the e-news to sign up for one (or two! or three!) one-hour work slots, or just come! Reach out to Lisa Weinstock, leweinstock@gmail.com or Deryle House, derylehouse@gmail.com with questions.

The Stewardship of Last Things:

Join fellow sojourners in life to plan and prepare for life’s ending.

Tuesdays at 10:30am, May 2, 9, and 16

Using the Stewardship of Last Things booklet as a resource, we will learn about how to plan for our or a loved one’s funeral/memorial service. We will review documents that are helpful to have in order. We will learn about the grieving process and talk about other practical considerations. We will do all of this with love and support, knowing that

talking through and planning for death is not something most of us are comfortable with or have much experience doing. Will be reading together “When Breath Become Air” by Paul Kalanithi. If you need help securing a copy of the book, please reach out to stacy@wellesleyvillagechurch.org.

Village Church Parents Group (VCPG)

Sunday, 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 ceh47@gmail.com.

Village Churchwomen Luncheon and Program

Tues., May 9, noon, Village Common

Please join us for a luncheon at noon, to be followed by our program, “Spring into a Good Book” with book expert, Lorna Ruby, senior book buyer for the Wellesley Book Store. Lorna will present us with an entertaining and insightful overview of the new books to read this spring and summer.

Please RSVP normajeankamar@gmail.com by Monday, May 1, if you plan to attend.

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 weather cancellation.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

The Village Church Stewardship Committee is grateful to everyone who has pledged or donated to this year's Campaign! If you have not had a chance to do so, please return your pledge card to the office, or email Meg Sweeting at meg@wellesleyvillagechurch.org. You may also give online 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 their job much easier.

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 &

Assistant Director of Music

kristjon@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Ilana Cady – Chapel Worship Lead Musician

ilana@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Meg Sweeting – Church Administrator

meg@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Cynthia Sibold - Engagement & Advancement

cynthia@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.

All music and words printed in this bulletin are
Licensed under OneLicense.net, License #A-714276

or by CCLI, License #2910233.

CCLI Streaming License #20812468.



WELLESLEY VILLAGE CHURCH

Congregational • United Church of Christ

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

