Wellesley Village Church
Congregational † United Church of Christ

Welcome Sunday
September 12, 2021
10:00am
ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 12, 2021

*Please stand as you are able.

**PRELUDE**

David Carrier

**WELCOME AND PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Sarah Sarchet Butter

**OPENING HYMN**

“Oh God Beyond All Praising”

1. O God beyond all praising, We worship you today
2. Then hear, Gracious Savior, Accept the love we bring.

1. And sing the love amazing That songs cannot repay;
2. That we who know your favor May serve you as our King;

1. For we can only wonder At every gift you send,
2. And whether our tomorrows Be filled with good or ill,

1. At blessings without number And mercies without end:
2. We'll triumph through our sorrows And rise to bless you still:

1. We lift our hearts before you And wait upon your word,
2. To marvel at your beauty And glory in your ways,

1. We honor and adore you, Our great and mighty Lord.
2. And make a joyful duty Our sacrifice of praise.
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Almighty God, you are our Creator. You speak worlds into being, and welcome us into the ongoing work of creating. But often, we are not the collaborative co-conspirators you need us to be. We do not respond to your movements, but instead seek to bend situations to our will. We do not tend to the living, emergent things, but instead seek our old, well-worn ways.

One: Forgive us, o God, when we do not trust your Spirit to guide us.

All: Forgive us when we refuse to hear your voice, when we silence the voices that you speak through, when we ignore those whose voices have been pushed aside or dismissed.

One: Forgive us, o God, and call us forth into this new season, seeking new ways of being your people, new ways of connecting with one another, and new ways of making your love real in our world. Through Jesus Christ, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE

One: Beloved in Christ, hear this good news: the God who has always already been still speaking continues to proclaim love, forgiveness, and community, even when we struggle to hear it. In the old ways, and in countless new ways, God is moving in our midst, as shouts of joy and subtle whispers. Thanks be to God. Amen

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The peace of Christ be with you, All: and also with you.

Please stand and share a greeting of peace with one another.

ANTHEM “Christ Hath a Garden” arr. Gerald Near
Sanctuary Choir


SERMON “Knowing What is Needed”
**RESPONSE HYMN**  "Blessed Jesus at Thy Word"

1. Blessed Jesus, at thy word We are gathered all to hear thee;
2. All our knowledge, sense, and sight Lie in deepest darkness shrouded,
3. Glorious Lord, thyself impart! Light of light, from God proceeding,

Let our hearts and souls be stirred Now to seek and love and fear thee;
Till thy Spirit breaks our night With the beams of truth unclouded;
Open thou our ears and heart, Help us by thy Spirit's pleading;

By thy teachings sweet and holy, Drawn from earth to love thee solely.
Thou alone to God canst win us, Thou must work all good within us.
Hear the cry thy people raise, Hear, and bless our prayers and praises. Amen.

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**  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 TIME OF OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**  Diane Seaborn

Offertory "The Heavens are Telling"  F. J. Haydn

*Doxology  Kevin McDonald, piano

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;

**OUR COMMON LIFE**  Sarah Sarchet Butter
1. Sent forth by God’s blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from this dwelling take leave. The service is ended, O now be extended the fruits of our worship in sharing, in love ever caring, embracing God’s children of all who believe. The seed of the teaching, receive your light now lead us, unite us as one in this God and for all. God’s grace did invite us, and love shall unite us to work for God’s realm and to answer the call.

2. With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living, the tasks of our everyday life we will face. Our faith ever ended, O now be extended the fruits of our worship in sharing, in love ever caring, embracing God’s children of all who believe. The seed of the teaching, receive your light now lead us, unite us as one in this God and for all. God’s grace did invite us, and love shall unite us to work for God’s realm and to answer the call. Giving give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.
*BENEDICTION AND SPECIAL WELCOME TO VISITORS

POSTLUDE
   You are invited to remain seated until the conclusion of the postlude.

*Commissioning:

   Pastor: Our worship has ended,
   People: Let our service begin!
   Pastor: GO IN PEACE.

†††

   ALL ARE INVITED
to share in food and fellowship
   in the Cloister Garden.
   PLEASE JOIN US!

We are glad you’re here today! Please sign in on a fellowship sheet, located at the entrance of the Sanctuary and in Village Common Lobby to provide your contact information in case we need to be in touch. Together we answer God’s call to care for one another and for our neighbor.

   Visitors, welcome to Village Church!
   If you are looking for a church home
   or want a smaller group with whom to connect after worship,
   please visit our Welcome Table outside. We would love to meet you!

   If you are watching our live-streamed service,
   please join us for Coffee Hour following virtual worship at approximately 11 am.
   The link is found here or from the website home page and the weekly enews Village News.

Thank you to the Community Deacons and Sharing Ministry for being our Welcomers and to Village Table for providing the delicious fare for our fellowship hour today.
Wellesley Village Church
CONNECTED September 2021

CONNECTED ~ Growing ~ Grateful

*WORSHIP 9 - 10 - 5

SEPTEMBER 12 WELCOME SUNDAY
10am Sanctuary worship begins in-church or livestream
Children's Church & Middle School Youth Group outdoors
11:15am Outdoor Fellowship
5pm Evening Worship Congregational Church of Weston begins

SEPTEMBER 19
9am Chapel Worship Begins

SEPTEMBER 26
David Carrier's Final Sunday &
Appreciation Celebration

*Worship Sundays at 9am, 10am & 5pm
(masks required indoors)
Cynthia Sibold ~ Moderator
John Snyder ~ Vice Moderator
Leif Hille ~ Immediate Past Moderator

Senior Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter
sarah@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Associate Pastors
The Rev. Pam Emslie
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The Rev. Diane P. Seaborn
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Pastoral Residents
The Rev. Bob Feeny 3rd Year
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Megan Berkowitz, 1st Year
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