Wellesley Village Church
Congregational † United Church of Christ

Sunday, September 26, 2021
10:00am
ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 26, 2021 10:00 am

*Please stand as you are able.

PRELUDE “Prrelude” Denis Bédard

WELCOME AND PRAYER OF INVOCATION Sarah Sarchet Butter

*OPENING HYMN NO. 307 “Glorious Things of You are Spoken”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Bob Feeny

One: God calls us to sing a new song, to listen to the new ways that God is moving among us, and to worship with our entire beings.

All: We confess that we do not always bring ourselves fully into God’s presence. Holding back for fear of judgment, we mumble through life, rather than joyfully shouting the good news.

One: God wants us just as we are.

All: And yet we promise that there will be a better time to come before God, choosing to remain apart from God until we feel we have made ourselves worthy.

One: Forgive us, O God, for our desire to make things just so. Call us back to the heart of true worship, our sincere desire to be in your presence.

All: Forgive us, and call us anew. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE

One: Beloved people of God, we are forgiven for our stinginess of spirit, and our stubbornness. God is always willing to meet us where we are, connecting us to God and to one another in new and glorious ways. Sing a new song unto God, for God has made us a new people this day.

All: 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**

“My Eyes for Beauty Pine”  
Sanctuary Choir  
*Herbert Howells*

My eyes for beauty pine,  
My soul for God’s grace,  
No other care nor hope is mine,  
To heaven I turn my face.

One splendour thence is shed  
from all the stars above:  
‘Tis named when God’s name is said,  
‘Tis Love, ‘tis heavenly Love.

And every gentle heart  
That burns with true desire,  
Is lit from eyes that mirror  
Part of that celestial fire.

**RESPONSIVE PSALM**

Psalm 96  
*Diane Seaborn*

**GOSPEL LESSON**

John 4:14-15, 23-24

**SERMON**

**RESPONSE HYMN NO. 397**

“Thank Our God for Sisters, Brothers”

**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 TIME OF OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Offertory

“O How Amiable”

R.V. Williams

O how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts!
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter in to the courts of the Lord.
My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house
And the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:
Even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my king, and my God.
Blessed are they that dwell in thy house.
They will be alway praising thee.
The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us;
Prosper thou the work of our hands upon us.
O prosper thou our handiwork.
O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

*Doxology

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

OUR COMMON LIFE
How shall I sing that majesty which angels do admire? Let dust in dust and silence lie; sing, for thy steps trace; a sound of God comes to my ears, but with love's fire, then shall I sing and take my part with beings keep! Thy knowledge is the only line to sing, ye heavenly choir. Thousands of thousands stand a round thy throne, O God most high; they behold thy face: I shall, I fear, be dark and ten thousand cold, with all my fire and light; yet when thou shore, a sun without a sphere; thou art a sea without a times ten thousand sound thy praise; but who am I? does accept their gold, Lord, treasure up my mite. is but once begun, there alleluias be. now and evermore, thy place is everywhere.

Enlighten with faith's light my heart, inflame it How great a being, Lord, is thine, which doth all

*CLOSING HYMN  "How Shall I Sing that Majesty"  Ken Naylor
*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Toc-cat-a" Denis Bédard

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

TIME OF FAREWELL

†††

ALL ARE INVITED to share in the farewell celebration for David Carrier in the Cloister Garden.

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.*

The chancel flowers today are given in honor of David Carrier.
CELEBRATION OF
DAVID CARRIER’S MUSIC MINISTRY
AT VILLAGE CHURCH

Today we are honoring and celebrating David Carrier for 36 years of beautiful, Spirit-filled music and joyful noise at Wellesley Village Church and bidding him farewell with blessings on his next chapter. We will celebrate at the end of our worship service and continue afterward with food and conversation in the Cloister Garden.

If you would like to contribute to a gift for David ~

You may donate by following this link >

Or, by using this QR code:

Or, by making a check payable to “Wellesley Congregational Church,” with the notation “David Carrier gift,” and drop it off or send it to our Church Administrator, Meg Sweeting, at Wellesley Village Church, 2 Central Street, Wellesley, MA 02482.

If you would like to send a note to David:

For those attending in-person, please find the index cards in the pews for all who wish to leave David a personal note.

Those attending online via livestream may send such a note to Chris Toppin at: christine@wellesleyvillagechurch.org. The notes will be collected and presented to David.

Worship Ministry
Board of Human Resources
Giving

Our community is sustained by the gracious gifts of time, service, and financial resources that we share. In an effort to make that sharing more streamlined, we now offer online giving. You can find the link in the weekly Enews, or scan this QR code. May God bless the giving and receiving of these and all gifts, and make more of us together than we can ever hope or imagine apart.

Wellesley Village Church website

For information about Wellesley Village Church, please visit our website, which may be accessed using your smartphone.
TODAY

10:00am **Worship, Sanctuary**
Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter, Rev. Diane Seaborn, Rev. Bob Feeny, Megan Berkowitz
**Childcare, Family Worship Room**
**Children’s Church & Joyful Noise, in courtyard, or Upper Room**
**Middle School Youth Group, Cloister Garden or Chapel**

11:00am **Coffee & Farewell Celebration for David Carrier, Cloister Garden**
Zoom Fellowship, immediately after live-streamed worship

1:00pm **High School Youth Group returns** from Retreat at Craigville

5:00pm **Worship, Congregational Church of Weston (masked)**

No High School Youth Group tonight

**Village Church Parents Group (VCPG)**
*Starting Today, 7-8:30pm*
We are a group of Village Church parents walking in faith together. Please join us on Zoom (for now -- we hope to be in person in the near future!) for an hour of conversation and support. How are you and your children getting through the latest pandemic issues? Is there frustration? New stresses? Are you experiencing new joys? Come and share with others going through similar things. All parents welcome! Kerstin Allen (Kerstin.r.allen@gmail.com)

**Handbell Choir is Ringing Again!**
*Today, after 10am worship, Village Hall*
All who would like to ring are welcome! WVC's beautiful set of Whitebell handbells have just been refurbished, thanks to a generous grant from Village Churchwomen. Today our handbells will be available for those who wish to give them a trial “ring” and consider joining the Handbell Choir. Rehearsals are after the 10am worship service. To hear more, check your Enews, the church website, or email christie.baskett@gmail.com.
COMING UP – ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

Empty Nesters+ (a walking group)
Starting Back Up on Mon., Sept. 27, 9:30am
Empty Nesters+ (not necessarily empty nesters, hence the plus sign!) gather weekly, weather permitting, for a walk at the beautiful Elm Bank Reservation in Wellesley. Won’t you join us? Email Christina Oliver for questions or to RSVP and to receive a weekly email for details and confirmation, or cancellation due to weather forecast.

Funeral and Interment for Natalie Wright
Sept. 27, 10:30am, Sanctuary and Wellesley Village Church Cemetery and livestreamed
Livestream link for the service is available in the Enews.

Seniors Connect
Sept. 28, 2-3:00pm, outdoors in person
(Rain Date: Sept. 29)
Come join us underneath the giant pine tree in the church yard! We will gather for fellowship and connection. We look forward to seeing you!

Service of Ordination of Megan Berkowitz
Oct. 3, 3pm, on Zoom and at First Church Somerville
Our new Pastoral Resident will be ordained to Christian Ministry in the United Church of Christ at her home congregation, First Church Somerville. Watch the Enews for the Zoom link to join this joyous celebration.

Thursday Night Bible Study Begins!
Every Thursday night, starting October 7th, 7pm, on Zoom
You, yes YOU, are invited to join in a Bible study this fall exploring the theme of “Violence in the Hebrew Bible.” Relevant to our lives as people of faith in the world today, this season’s Bible study group will ask questions of how to make sense of morally questionable material in the Bible. In doing so, we hope that we will together gain tools for interpreting the text, and through the text interpreting our world.

This Bible study is an opportunity to grow in faith and ask questions of ourselves and one another as we wrestle with the text in community on Zoom, 7:00-8:30pm.

All are welcome! We ask that you commit to the study for the season, coming most weeks, so that we can grow in trust and communication with one another throughout our time together. For more information, or to sign up for the email list to join, please email at: megan@wellesleyvillagechurch.org.
VISITORS, WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH!

Please visit our Welcome Table outside next Sunday. We would love to meet you!
*Sun., Oct. 3, before and after worship*

Please join us outside today for the celebration for David Carrier! We hope to see you next week at the Welcome Table and get a chance to talk with you more!

Seekers Orientation for Newcomers to Village Church
*Oct. 17 and Oct. 24, 11:15am, Parlor*

If you are new to WVC and want to learn more, please join the Welcomers on Oct. 17 and Oct. 24 in the Parlor after 10 AM worship. Childcare will be provided. Our church staff and lay leaders will share information about our mission, beliefs, governance and programs, as well as answer questions. A social gathering for visitors will be offered in November, so stay tuned!

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Wellesley Village Church
Congregational + United Church of Christ

Welcome is our favorite word
@ Wellesley Village Church

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

The Rev. Pam Emslie
pam@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

The Rev. Diane P. Seaborn
diane@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Pastoral Residents

The Rev. Bob Feeny 3rd Year
bob@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Megan Berkowitz, 1st Year
megan@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Senior Pastor

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

Ministry Directors

Michaela McDonald – Children’s Ministry
michaela@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

David R. Carrier – Music
david@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Ed Broms – Associate Music Director
ed@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Dr. Kevin McDonald – Youth Music
kevin@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Meg Sweeting – Church Administrator
meg@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Chris Toppin Riordan – Communications
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Cynthia Sibold ~ Moderator
John Snyder ~ Vice Moderator
Leif Hille ~ Immediate Past Moderator

2 Central Street, Wellesley, MA 02482
www.wellesleyvillagechurch.org