

Wellesley Village Church

Congregational † United Church of Christ

Befriending Our Soul

Lent 2023



10:00 AM Worship

Third Sunday of Lent

March 12, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

March 12, 2023

10:00 AM

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

“Rhapsody, Op. 17, No. 1”
Kristjon Imperio, organist

Herbert Howells

WELCOME & PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Stacy Swain

***OPENING HYMN NO. 489** “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

*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

***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.

GOSPEL READING

John 4:5-42

SERMON

“Who Are You?”

RESPONSE HYMN NO. 448 “Take My Life, God, Let It Be”

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. 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.**

CALL TO OFFERING & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Offertory

“How Deep the Silence of the Soul”

Thomas Tallis

Text: Sylvia Dunstan and Horatius Bonar

Sanctuary Choir; Dr. Kevin McDonald, Conductor

Kristjon Imperio, Organ

How deep the silence of the soul that lives within your grace.
How full the gratitude of heart in your abiding place.
What rich serenity is found, what courage and release
when wisdom teaches us to seek the gentle path to peace.

Like unseen chimes on moving air, like warm and morning sun,
Like gladdening, greening, growing things, like trees with blooms begun.
Such is your presence in our lives, you touch without a trace,
until we turn and find ourselves held fast in your embrace.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one, draw near and drink and live.
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream,
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in Him.

*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

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 25 “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

*WELCOME TO VISITORS AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten sein, BWV 641”

J.S. Bach

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. Martha Schick, preaching; Jade Hargrave
10:00am **Worship, Sanctuary and Livestream**, Rev. Stacy Swain, preaching;
Rev. Martha Schick and Worship Deacon; 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
11:30am **Handbell Choir Rehearsal**, Sanctuary
5:00pm **Worship at Congregational Church of Weston**, Rev. Megan Berkowitz
7:00pm **High School Youth Group**, Youth Room, Rev. Pam Emslie



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WELLESLEY VILLAGE CHURCH

LENT 2023

Befriending Our Soul

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**

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 7a – 9a – 11a

Scan for details or visit: **WellesleyVillageChurch.org**



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.

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!*

Today! Take a walk through the Cloister! The windows in our beautiful Cloister are being replaced as part of our environmental efforts to "green" our church. You will have a chance to compare the new with the old.

We expect the project to be completed by the middle of next week. As with any construction project there will be some inconvenience before we get to say "wow" at the finished product. Parking will be limited, there is noise in the cloister, and there will be no access to the cloister, except today.

Cloister Upgrades

by Jim Mongiardo, on behalf of the Energy Committee

Workmen have been removing 70-year-old, single pane windows and doors in the Cloister, and replacing 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.

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT, SERVE & ACT

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

Wednesdays from March 1 - 28th, 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

Village Church Parents Group (VCPG)

Sundays March 26 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 ceh47@gmail.com.

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.



**VISITORS INFORMATION
WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH!**

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

We would love to meet you!



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



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

~ **Spring Seekers Orientation** ~

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

Are you curious about why church?

Are you thinking about getting involved in a community of faith?

We invite you to attend the

Spring Seekers Orientation classes

to learn more about our faith community.

March 26th, April 23rd with joining on April 30th!

Details to follow!

Contact Rev. Martha Schick at: martha@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

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 – 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.

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Choose Love. Make it Real.

For information, please visit our website at:

wellesleyvillagechurch.org

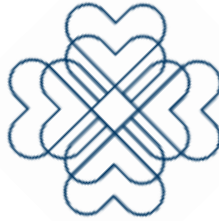
For smartphone access →
Or speak to any one of us!

2 Central Street,
Wellesley, MA 02482

Church Office & Directory: 781-235-1988

Urgent Pastoral Care Cell: 781-591-7451





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