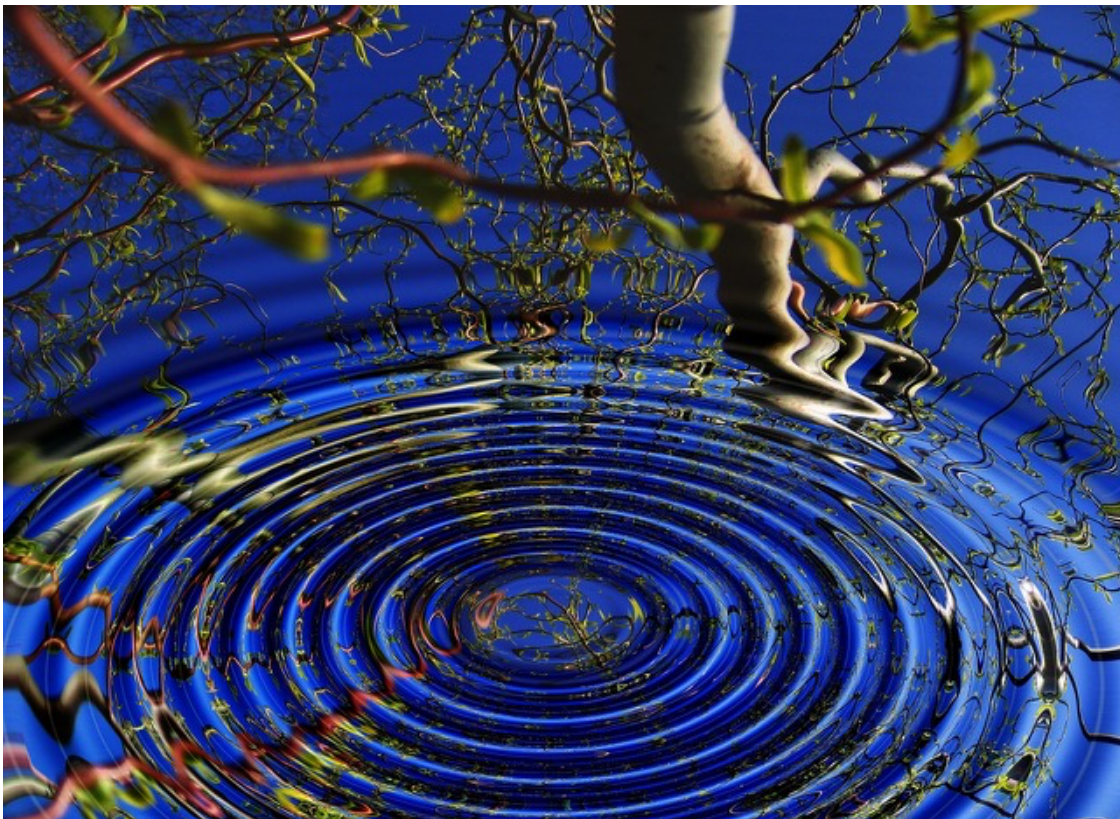




A progressive radically inclusive anti-racist community
201 West 13th Street New York NY, 10011 • (212) 2435470
www.churchofthevillage.org • facebook.com/churchofthevillage
office@churchofthevillage.org

**February 11, 2024 • Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany •
*Celebrating Black History Month***

**Black Lives Matter / Welcome the Stranger, including Migrants and Refugees
Stop Hate Against Muslims, Jews, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders**



***Amazing Grace –
God Working Through All and In All***

WE GATHER

“The land upon which we gather is part of the traditional territory of the Lenni-Lenape, called ‘Lenapehoking.’ The Lenape People lived in harmony with one another upon this territory for thousands of years. During the colonial era and early federal period, many were removed west and north, but some also remain among the continuing historical tribal communities of the region: The Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation; the Ramapough Lenape Nation; and the Powhatan Lenape Nation, The Nanticoke of Millsboro Delaware, and the Lenape of Cheswold Delaware. We acknowledge the Lenni-Lenape as the original people of this land and their continuing relationship with their territory. In our acknowledgment of the continued presence of Lenape people in their homeland, we affirm the aspiration of the great Lenape Chief Tamanend, that there be harmony between the indigenous people of this land and the descendants of the immigrants to this land, “as long as the rivers and creeks flow, and the sun, moon, and stars shine.”

GATHERING SONG & SHARING GOD’S PEACE

Child of God

**No matter what people say, say or think about you,
you are a Child, you are a Child of God.**

**No matter what you may say, say or think about you,
you are a Child, you are a Child of God.**

**And there is no thing or no one who can separate,
they can’t separate you from the truth that you’re someone,
You are family, you are meant to be, a Child, a Child of God!**

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

WE PROCLAIM

CALL TO LISTEN

Come. Come, Whoever You Are

Come, come, who - ev - er__ you_ are,__
wor-ship-per, wan-der-er,__ lov - er__ of leav - ing__
Ours is not a ca - ra - van__ of des - pair.
Though you have brok-en your vows__ a thou - sand times,
Come, come a - gain come!

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Ephesians 4:1-6 (*Inclusive Bible*)

I plead with you...to lead a life worthy of your calling.
Treat one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness,
and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit
through the peace that binds you together.

There is one body and one Spirit—
just as you were called into one hope when you were called.
There is one Savior, one faith, one baptism, one God and Creator of all,
who is over all, who works through all and is within all.

Excerpt from John Wesley, “Upon Our Lord’s Sermon on the Mount” (Sermon 3)

“God is in all things, and...we are to see the Creator in the glass of every creature;... [W]e should use and look upon nothing as separate from God...; but, with a true magnificence of thought, survey heaven and earth, and all that is therein, as contained by God in the hollow of his hand, who by his intimate presence holds them all in being, who pervades and actuates the whole created frame, and is, in a true sense, the soul of universe.”

The Word of Life
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

*Amazing Grace –
God Working Through All and In All*
Pastor Jeff Wells
Lead Pastor, Church of the Village

WE RESPOND

A TIME OF SHARING

**How does knowing God’s grace is active in you and everyone every moment
impact your faith, spirituality, and how you live your life?**

This Ancient Love

Long before the night was born from darkness
Long before the dawn rolled unsteady from fire
Long before she wrapped her scarlet arms around the hills
there was a love this ancient love was born

Long before the grass spotted green the bare hillside
Long before a wing unfolded to wind
Long before she wrapped her long blue arm around the sea
there was a love this ancient love was born

Long before the name of God was spoken
Long before a child on a manger was born
Long before she laid her arm of colors 'cross the sky
there was a love this ancient love was born

**Wakeful are our nights and slumbers our morning
Stubborn is the grass sowing green wounded hills
As we wrap our healing arms to hold what her arms held
this ancient love this aching love rolls on**

WE GATHER AROUND THE TABLE OF GRACE

INVITATION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

SHARING THE GIFTS OF GRACE

A TIME OF OFFERING

4 WAYS TO GIVE:

- The Vanco giving app, using the link on our website <https://www.churchofthevillage.org> or the Vanco mobile app or secure Vanco web link. Visit <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YQX3>.
- Setting up a direct bank transfer from your bank to COTV's bank
- Mailing a check to COTV's address: 201 West 13th St., NY, NY, 10011
- For those in the church building: Placing your gift in the offering basket in the sanctuary

For help with any of these, send an email to giving@churchofthevillage.org
OR call the church office: 212-243-5470



OFFERTORY

GRATEFUL RESPONSE

For the Harvests of the Spirit



For the har-vests of the Spir-it, thanks be to God;
in the good we all in-he-rit, thanks be to God;
for the won-ders that as-tound us, for the truths that
still con - found us, most of all, that
love has found us, thanks be to God!

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

BLESSING

God Is Building a New Way

**God is building a new way, (3x)
sending love and grace our way;
God is building a new way.**

**We are building a new way, (3x)
growing wiser ev'ry day;
we are building a new way.**

**Holy cycles carry us, (3x)
bringing us into new life;
holy cycles carry us.**

WORSHIP HOSTS

Worship Design: Pastor Jeff Wells, Pastor Alexis Lillie, Jorge Lockward, Dwight Campbell, Alfida Figueroa & Katie Reimer

Lector/Reader: Dwight Campbell

Communion Assistant: Scarlett Begonia

Dance Ministry: Aliyah Miller

Call to Offering: Sarah Witman

Altar Design: John C. Flake

Visuals Design: Bailey Roach & Katie Reimer

Usher: Sam Winfrey

Organ: Michael Johnson

Keyboard: Jorge Lockward

Sax/Clarinet/Flute/Bass: Matthew Willis

Drums & Percussion: Juan Felipe Mayorga

Zoom Host: Sarah Witman

Ministers of Care: Virginia Riker (onsite); Monica Quintero (online)

CREDITS

Cover Image: **Image by 506967 from Pixabay**

Child of God

W & M: Mark A. Miller

© 2014 Choristers Guild

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Come, Come, Whoever You Are

W: attr. Jalal ad-Din Rumi, 1207-1273, tr. unknown

M: Jorge Lockward

Music © 2019 Jorge Lockward.

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This Ancient Love

W & M: Carolyn McDade

© 1996 Carolyn McDade

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For the Fruits of All Creation

(3rd. stz. For the Harvests of the Spirit)

W: Fred Pratt Green

M: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh melody

Words ©1970 Hope Publishing Co.

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Building a New Way

W & M: Martha Sandefer

© 1986 Martha Sandefer

WE ARE THE CHURCH OF THE VILLAGE

The Church of the Village is a progressive and radically inclusive community that is committed to dismantling racism, sexism, and all forms of oppression. The foundation for all of our theology and practice is Jesus' instruction to "love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength and love your neighbor as yourself."

We seek to build a world overflowing with justice, mercy, kindness, and compassion.

Our church building stands on ancestral lands of the Lenape people. The colonizers who stripped Indigenous peoples of their lands used Christianity to justify their actions. We are beneficiaries of a history of appropriation, slavery, and forced migration. We repent and commit to being a community that seeks to repair the harm done to Indigenous peoples and build new pathways to love and justice.

We celebrate human diversity – welcoming people of every color, nationality, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, physical and cognitive ability, and economic status. We strongly support environmental justice and stewardship of the Earth. We believe many roads lead to God and are respectful of a diversity of spiritual paths. We believe our community flourishes with many points of view, opportunities for creative expression, and participatory worship.

To learn more about The Church of the Village, please complete our [Virtual Welcome Card](#).

You can also submit a prayer request on the Welcome Card form.

We will gladly send you our weekly email newsletter and Daily Inspiration emails.

If you have questions, please contact PastorAlexis@churchofthevillage.org.

Please follow us on Facebook ([Facebook.com/ChurchoftheVillage](https://www.facebook.com/ChurchoftheVillage)), Twitter (@umcofthevillage), and Instagram (churchofthevillage). Check out our [YouTube channel](#) for videos of music, worship, Finding Center, and more.

You can also learn more on our website at churchofthevillage.org.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

February 11 – Sunday	9:00am 10:10am 10:30am 12:00pm 12:15pm	Choir Rehearsal Pre-service fellowship (via Zoom) Sunday worship (via Zoom or FB Live) Community Closet United Methodist Women
February 13 – Tuesday	2:00pm – 5:00pm	The Red Door Place: Food Pantry
February 14 – Wednesday	10:00am-6:00pm 7:30pm	Glitter Ashes to-go Ash Wednesday Service
February 17 – Saturday	11:30am – 2:00pm	The Red Door Place: Community Meal
February 18 – Sunday	9:00am 10:10am 10:30am 12:00pm	Choir Rehearsal Pre-service fellowship (via Zoom) Sunday worship (via Zoom or FB Live) Community Closet

2024 Stewardship Campaign

Community, Commitment, and Courage

I give because I need to support the people and places that give me life.

I give because I gotta put my money where my mouth is...

I give because this community looks like God's Kin-dom in action to me.

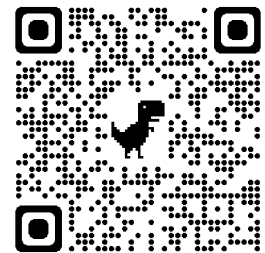
I give because this is the place in my life where I encounter the biggest variety of God's Children, and I love it!

We, the Stewardship Team, are grateful for the many ways your commitment to our community expresses itself. In particular, we are grateful that you see financial giving as one of the ways in which you covenant with other members of this community and with the God whose love draws us together and outward to the world in which our lives are lived. As you give prayerful discernment to your gifting for 2024 – your expression of solidarity with fellow journeyers in faith – please consider the many individuals, initiatives, and hopes that reside in our congregation and give as generously as you are able.

You can express your commitment via: <https://www.churchofthevillage.org/2024-stewardship-campaign>. Or, if you have questions, via: Email giving@churchofthevillage.org.

As we work together to foster, support and grow, we have tried to make it easy to give. Apart from our weekly collection basket for those on site, we offer the following:

- **ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER/DIRECT PAYMENT**
- **VANCO:** [Vanco](#)'s simple online payment processing services and giving app make it easy to give when and where you want.
- **CHECK:** you can send a check payable to "The Church of the Village," and mail it to: Church of the Village
PO Box 167, New York, NY 10113



For assistance with using any of these methods or to talk about remembering Church of the Village in your will, email giving@churchofthevillage.org. *Please note – emails to this address should be about how we can help you set up your giving process but should NOT include any specific information about pledge amounts, gift amounts, or any other confidential information from the individual sending the message.*

Thank you for being a part of the family of The Church of the Village and supporting the work and ministry of this community!



Jason Brubaker



John Kleinig



Jorge Lockward



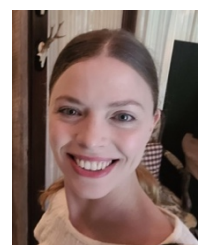
Jeanie Kurka Reimer



Katie Reimer



Sam Winfrey



Sarah Witman



AGAIN AND AGAIN: The Cycle of Grace
a new worship series
January 7 – February 11

The new year invites us to ponder new ways of being – and brings into focus the ways we may repeatedly strive to grow over the course of our lives. Sometimes we seem to take two steps forward and one step back which can feel discouraging. Instead of viewing it as a disappointment or failure, what if we saw our continued efforts at growth as part of a cycle of grace, where the Divine continually beckons us to new life. This holy cycle is in operation in all aspects of our life and in all of creation. Like children learning to walk and forests renewing themselves after a fire, God’s grace meets us, again and again.



GOD AFTER DECONSTRUCTION DISCUSSION GROUP
Wednesdays, 2/21-3/27, 6:30pm via Zoom

During Lent, we will be offering a weekly discussion group based on the course, God After Deconstruction, created by friends of Church of the Village, Tripp Fuller and Thomas Jay Oord. Join us for a facilitated discussion led by Pastor Jeff and Pastor Alexis each Wednesday in Lent at 6:30pm via Zoom. Themes include scripture, the problem of evil, faith and science, sex and gender, and others. For more details go to www.churchofthevillage.org/groups or contact Pastor Alexis at pastoralexis@churchofthevillage.org. Join at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87062849124>



GLITTER ASH WEDNESDAY
February 14, 10am-6pm

Celebrate the beginning of Lent by receiving Blessed Glitter Ashes-on-the-go from our Pastors on the steps of COTV on 7th Ave. The glitter ash is a reminder to us and to others of the solidarity between God and the LGBTQ+ community.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
February 14, 7:30

Join us on the evening of Ash Wednesday to usher in the beginning of lent at our Ash Wednesday Service at 7:30pm at Church of the Village. This day marks the beginning of a time of introspection, reflection, and turning back to our connection with the Sacred. Come celebrate with us!

COMMUNITY CLOSET
Sundays, Noon to 1pm.



Community Closet is seeking donations!

Ready to let go of some of your gently used clothing and accessories? Make space in your closet by helping to stock our free, inclusive, and identity-affirming community closet. Contributions can be brought to COTV on Sundays or email Pastor Alexis to arrange a possible pick-up!

Spread the word! Church of the Village's Community Closet will be available every Sunday for 1 hour after service in the narthex. All are welcome to browse the racks and shop for free! If you know of someone who may be desiring a new style or a wardrobe change, please invite them to check us out! We have a variety of styles and sizes but are especially looking for donations of womenswear in sizes 10 and above as well as menswear in good condition. Interested in hosting the Community Closet after service one Sunday? Sign up here or e-mail Beccalove123@gmail.com for more info!

DANCE PRAYER
Every third Thursday of the month, 6:30pm-7:30pm



Join us in the sanctuary every third Thursday of the month for Dance Prayer! We will come together with an opening prayer and moment of reflection and then spend 45 minutes moving our bodies and dancing together to a diverse playlist. There will be no designated choreography and no final performance, just a joyful space to connect with your own rhythm while rejoicing in the gift of dance and community. Each gathering will then close with a moment of prayer and reflection before we part ways

HEALING CONVERSATIONS

(Every 4th Sunday of the month); 12:30pm

Healing Conversations is a place to share your feelings about the losses in your life in a safe, supportive, and friendly atmosphere. Your feelings of loss may be caused by events that are recent or in the distant past. You are invited to join our small group on site or online via Zoom (**Meeting ID:** 838 5366 1938 **Passcode:** 690827).



THE ALLIANCE: A YOUNG ADULT GROUP

1st Sundays after worship

The Alliance will meet the first Sunday of the month, starting October 1 after worship. Outings will include sharing meals together, exploring the city, museum visits, and more. Open to anyone who is young adult(ish), college age - mid-thirties. Bring a dish to share.

THE RED DOOR PLACE



Donations, in person, to the program can be made Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, from 9am to 3pm. Ring the bell on the red door on 13th street or call the number posted at the door.

Food Pantry: Tuesdays; 2pm - 5pm - BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Appointments are available via the [Plentiful App](#) (download from the play/app store). You can search for us, in the app, by name “The Red Door Place” or scroll through the list (towards the bottom) and our pantry will show. After registering on the app, you will receive a QR code - **BRING the QR code with you to your appointment.** Arrive within 5 minutes of your scheduled appointment and present your QR code for scanning.

If you do not have a QR code, you will not receive pantry. Note: Missed appointments can be rescheduled to a later open slot or the following Tuesday. If you have any questions call (347) 687-5321 or visit www.thereddoorplace.org.

Community Meal: We will continue to hand out bags of food on Saturdays beginning around 11:30am. Guests may arrive earlier to get a place in line; we have chalk marks on the sidewalk at 6-foot intervals to indicate where people should stand at a safe distance.

THE RED DOOR PLACE – NEEDS MONEY FOR FOOD!

IF YOU WANT TO HELP, ask your employer, your family, your friends to GIVE! Put out an appeal on your Facebook page. Email people you think would be able to donate.

TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE RED DOOR PLACE, you can donate online using [VANCO](#)'s simple online payment processing services and giving app. Or send checks made payable to Church of the Village and write The Red Door Place (TRDP) in the memo line.

Mail to: Church of the Village, PO Box 167, New York, NY 10113.

GIVE TO THE CHURCH OF THE VILLAGE ON VANCO

The Church of the Village is now accessible via Vanco. [VANCO](#)'s simple online payment processing services and giving app make it easy to give when and where you want. Visit <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YOX3>.

BECOME A CHURCH OF THE VILLAGE PRAYER PARTNER

Each week, we receive many prayers through our website, the Red Door Place empowerment ministry, on prayer cards during worship, and from our Ministers of Care team. These prayers are distributed via email to our large team of **Prayer Partners** who lift them up to God. If you would like to pray for others, please email Deaconess Sarah Capers (smcapers99@gmail.com) with your interest. You can submit a prayer online at ChurchoftheVillage.org/prayer.

COTV WORSHIP VIDEOS ON FACEBOOK

It is always a deeper experience to be present with the worshipping community, but when you can't join us for Sunday worship, you can view the worship recording anytime at Facebook.com/ChurchoftheVillage/videos.

SERMON ARCHIVE

If you missed worship or want to read the sermon again, we post many of our past Sunday sermon manuscripts and worship bulletins on our website at ChurchoftheVillage.org/sermons. We encourage you to read and share them with others.



How to Contact Key COTV Leaders

Pastor Jeff Wells

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(917) 604-5227

Pastor Alexis Lillie,

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