



A progressive, radically inclusive, anti-racist community

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**February 13, 2022 • 6th Sunday after Epiphany**

**Honor the Earth / Black Lives Matter**

**No Human Being Is "Illegal" / No Muslim Ban Ever**

**Stop Hate Against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders**



***When in Doubt, Don't!***

# WE GATHER

## PRELUDE

## CENTERING AND OPENING PRAYER

*The Tree of Life\**

**There are things that we know  
that we don't know we know,  
Come to the tree of life (2x)**

**Come to the tree of life  
Come to the tree of life  
There are things that we know  
that we don't know we know,  
Come to the tree of life**

**There are things that we feel...**

**There are things that we pray...**

## WELCOME

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Bambelela*

**Bambelela ///**  
**bamba, bamba, bamba, bamba, bamba,**  
**Oh! Bamba, bambelela.**

**Never give up ///**  
**never, never, never, never, never**  
**Oh! Never, never give up.**

\* "The Tree of Life" was written by Matt Jones (1936-2011), Freedom Singer & Civil Rights leader, member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)

# WE PROCLAIM

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

*Psalm 1 (The Inclusive Bible)*

Happiness comes to those who reject the path of violence, who refuse to associate with criminals or even to sit with people who belittle others.

Happiness comes to those who delight in the Law of YHWH and meditate on it day and night.

They're like trees planted by flowing water – they bear fruit in every season, and their leaves never wither; everything they do will prosper.

But not wrongdoers! They're like chaff that the wind blows away. They won't have a taproot to anchor them when judgment comes, nor will corrupt individuals be given a place at the Gathering of the Just.

YHWH watches over the steps of those who do justice; but those on a path of violence and injustice will find themselves irretrievably lost.

The Word of Life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## MESSAGE

*When in Doubt, Don't!*

Pastor Alexis Lillie  
Minister for Leadership and Congregational Development, Church of the Village

# WE RESPOND

## MEDITATION

Anxiety is often our first reaction to conflict, problems or even our own fears. In those moments, detaching and getting peaceful may seem disloyal or apathetic. We think: if I really care, I'll worry; if this is really important to me, I must stay upset. We convince ourselves that outcomes will be positively affected by the amount of time we spend worrying.

Our best problem-solving resource is peace. Solutions arise easily and naturally out of a peaceful state. Often fear and anxiety block solutions. Anxiety gives power to the problem, not the solution. It does not help to harbor turmoil. It does not help.

Peace is available if we choose it in spite of chaos and unsolved problems around us, all is well, things will work out. We can surround ourselves with the resources of the universe, water, earth, a sunset, a walk, a prayer, a friend. We can relax and let ourselves feel peace.

Today I will let go of my need to stay in turmoil. I will cultivate peace and trust that timely solutions and goodness will arise naturally and harmoniously out of the wellspring of peace. I will consciously let go and let God.

From "The Language of Letting Go" by Melody Beattie

# WE GATHER AROUND THE TABLE OF GRACE

## INVITATION

*Come to the Table of Grace*

**Come to the table of grace!  
Come to the table of grace!  
This is God's table, it's both yours and mine –  
Come to the table of grace!**

**Come to the table of life...**

**Come to the table of peace...**

## CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

God be with you.  
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!  
Our hearts are lifted!

Let us give thanks to God!  
**It is right to give our thanks  
and praise.**

### SHARING THE GIFTS OF GRACE

Friends, this is the bread of life, given for you and for all.  
And this is the cup of salvation, poured out for you and for all.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*For the Healing of the Nations*

**For the healing of the nations, let us pray with one accord;  
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords;  
to a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.**

**Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release,  
that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace.  
Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.**

**All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned;  
pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan.  
In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span.**

### TIME OF OFFERING

## OFFERTORY

### *Like a Tree*

Just like a tree that's planted by the water, I shall not be moved.  
Though the winds are blowing all around me, I shall not be moved.

These winds will never last, this storm is sure to pass,  
this trial is just a test, so I shall not, I shall not, I shall not be moved.

Though waves of affliction sweep over my soul  
And billows and storm clouds continue to roll.  
Faith in God's promises anchors my soul;  
I shall not, I shall not, I shall not be moved.

## WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

### BLESSING

### CLOSING HYMN

#### *This Little Light of Mine*

**/// This little light of mine,  
I'm gonna let it shine ///**  
**Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**/// Everywhere I go,  
I'm gonna let it shine ///**  
**Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**/// This little light of ours,  
We're gonna let it shine ///**  
**Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**All around the world...**

To join conversation with Pastor Alexis Lillie  
type the word "**PREACHER**" in capital letters into the chat.  
For those on-site, please go to the Chapel of the Beloved Community,  
one floor down by the stairs or elevator.

To talk or pray one-on-one with a Minister of Care, if you are on-site,  
you can do that in the narthex behind the sanctuary with Sam Winfrey.  
If you are online, you can connect with Rhonda Wade  
by typing "**CARE**" in capital letters in the Zoom chat.

## WORSHIP HOSTS

**Worship Design Team:** Pastor Jeff Wells, Pastor Alexis Lillie, Jorge Lockward, Katie Reimer, Gabriel Borges, Alfida Figueroa

**Worship Leader:** Diane Barclay

**Call to Offering:** Monica Quintero

**Dance Ministry:** Megan Haungs & Toes Tiranoff

**Prayers of the People:** John Kleinig

**Ministers of Care:** Rhonda Wade (online), Sam Winfrey (on-site)

**Altar Design:** Suzie Wilder

**Vocalists:** Katie Braden, Alfida Figueroa, Reyno Francisco, Karen Hackett, Riot Mueller, Paul Pillitteri, Katie Reimer, Suzie Wilder

**Saxophone & Flute:** Matthew Willis

**Keyboard:** Jorge Lockward

**Drums & Percussion:** Juan Felipe Mayorga

**Ushers:** Maurice White & Sam Winfrey

**Zoom Host:** Sarah Witman

**Chat Host:** Gabriel Borges

**Visuals Host:** TBD

**Sound Engineer:** Inti Maldonado

## CREDITS

### *Cover Image:*

*iStock Image #1214723712, by Alphotographic, Used by permission*

### *The Tree of Life*

W & M: Matt Jones

### *Bambelela*

W & M: Xhosa - South Africa

### *Come to the Table of Grace*

W & M: Barbara Hamm.

© 2008 Barbara Hamm

### *Like a Tree*

W & M: Margaret Douroux

© Margaret Douroux (BMI)

### *This Little Light of Mine*

W & M: African American Spiritual

## 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](mailto: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](http://churchofthevillage.org).

### THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

<b>February 13 – Sunday</b>	10:10am 10:30am 12:15pm	Fellowship time Sunday worship (via Zoom or FB Live) United Methodist Women
<b>February 15 – Tuesday</b>	10:30am 3:30pm – 5:30pm	COTV Online Fitness (via Zoom) TRDP: Food Pantry
<b>February 16 – Wednesday</b>	6:00pm	Bible Study (via Zoom)
<b>February 17 – Thursday</b>	8:30pm	L.O.V.E. (via Zoom)
<b>February 18 – Friday</b>	9:30am – 10:15am	Together in Prayer conference call dial:(559) 546-1200 Code: 533-689-191
<b>February 19 – Saturday</b>	11:30am – 2:00pm	TRDP: Community Meal
<b>February 20 – Sunday</b>	10:30am	Sunday worship (via Zoom or FB Live)



Families give support, and families need support. Here at The Church of the Village, we choose to be family for one another, and we each strive to do our part. Every member of The Church of the Village family has gifts to bring.

The practice of regular giving in any amount recognizes God's abundance and strengthens our family. It builds our relationships with one another and expresses our trust in God's love. It does not matter how large or small the contribution, each donation adds to the flourishing of the family! What's important is that we do this together, with each family member doing their part as they are able. As we hear in 2 Corinthians 8:12:

*For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has,  
not according to what one does not have.*

We all work together as members and supporters of our spiritual community to foster the ministries and mission of the Church of the Village. Here are ways you can offer your gifts:

- **ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER/DIRECT PAYMENT** from your bank account to COTV. This option includes no fees for the giver or the church. You can set this up directly through your bank for one-time gifts/payments or recurring gifts/payments to COTV. For assistance with this process, please contact [giving@churchofthevillage.org](mailto:giving@churchofthevillage.org).
- **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](mailto: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!*

To make your pledge to this year's campaign please visit: <https://forms.gle/ApxV5fSkVBCT3Qfz7>



## THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF OURS: HOPE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

### A New Worship Series

Sundays, January 2 – February 20, 2022



*“The trouble with stars that beckon us to follow them is that we can never know at the onset of our journey where their light will lead.”* – The Rt. Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde

Epiphany (from Greek epiphainein, meaning "reveal") is the name the Christian Church gives to the day when the Magi (wise persons), led by a star, visited the infant Jesus. The season following that is a celebration of the Light that has come into the world.

The light of Epiphany (and beyond) does not illuminate everything all at once. It does not give us all the answers. It does not guarantee the solution of all our problems. It doesn't provide a certain pathway. Rather, it shows us the next step.

This light, the light of Christ, lies deep within each one of us. The Season after Epiphany invites us to uncover and rediscover this light. This is not always easy since the Christ light often reveals difficult truths and calls us to seemingly impossible dreams.

Join us on Sundays @ 10:30 am EST onsite or online as we dare to see what happens when we allow the light to shine, together.

## TOGETHER IN PRAYER

### Friday mornings; 9:30am

Our weekly prayer group includes an inspirational reading, time to support one another, and prayers for ourselves, others, and events in the world. We gather by conference call Friday mornings from 9:30 to 10:15am. For more information, contact Deaconess Sarah Capers at [smcapers99@gmail.com](mailto:smcapers99@gmail.com).

## L.O.V.E. (LGBTQA+ group)

### 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays; 8:30pm ET



Our LGBTQA+ group is re-imagined as L.O.V.E (love, openness, and validating expressions!) will meet every Thursday via this [link](#) to discuss a variety of topics, grow friendships, and gather support from one another.

All are welcome as we create a safe space to bring our whole selves, learn from each other, and walk our journeys together. For more information please email [PastorAlexis@churchofthevillage.org](mailto:PastorAlexis@churchofthevillage.org).

Join Us via [Zoom](#).

## COTV ONLINE FITNESS

### Tuesdays, 10:30 am ET



COTV Online Fitness with Lina returns Tuesdays at 10:30 am ET.

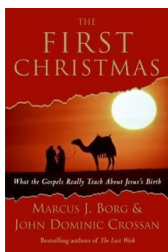
Join us via [Zoom!](#)

**Meeting ID:** 878 7016 4212

**Passcode:** fitness

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY: *THE FIRST CHRISTMAS*

### Wednesdays; 6:00pm



Our current study, *The First Christmas* by Marcus Bored, will focus as an in-depth examination of the Christmas stories recorded in the gospels. We will examine the similarities and differences of each story during the Advent Season. Everyone is invited to join us.

The group meets Wednesdays at 6:00 PM. Everyone is invited to join. Facilitated by Sarah Capers, Deaconess. Join us via Zoom! <http://zoom.us/j/713063594> or by phone: 646-876-9923;

Meeting ID: **713 063 594** Passcode: **10011**

## 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 from 3:30 – 5:30pm. No early line up permitted before 3pm.**

**Lineup will begin behind the rope at 3pm on the corner of 7th Avenue and 13th Street.**

**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!**

**The huge increase in unemployment and homelessness** means that The Red Door Place has gone from providing food for 1,700 persons before the pandemic, to 2,500 in April, to now more than *4,000 persons every week*. TRDP has plenty of volunteers. **What we need is money.** We are desperately trying to keep enough food coming in to give out to every guest. TRDP is one of only a few emergency food programs in Manhattan still giving out a significant amount of food to each guest at the pantry on Tuesdays and still offering a hot meal on Saturdays.

**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**, 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-YQX3>.

### BECOME A CHURCH OF THE VILLAGE PRAYER PARTNER

Each week, we receive many prayers through our website, the Hope for Our Neighbors in Need food 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](mailto:smcapers99@gmail.com)) with your interest. You can submit a prayer online at [ChurchoftheVillage.org/prayer](http://ChurchoftheVillage.org/prayer).

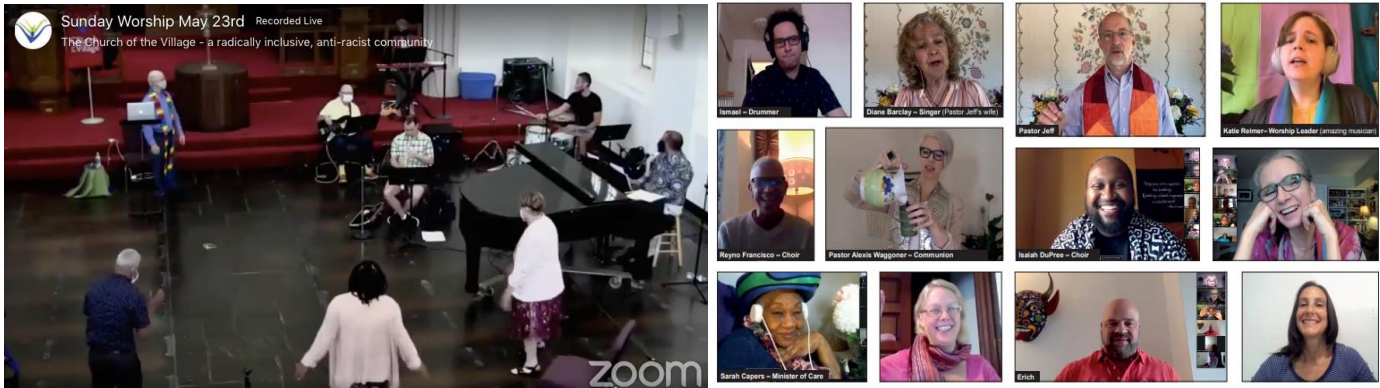
### COTV WORSHIP VIDEOS ON FACEBOOK

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](https://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](http://ChurchoftheVillage.org/sermons). We encourage you to read and share them with others.

## OUR ADVENTURE IN ONLINE-ONSITE COMMUNITY



The Church of the Village never “closed” during the Covid-19 pandemic because we shifted our entire ministry to be online in March 2020. Then, as the world began slowly to emerge in the summer of 2021 from the worst of the pandemic, there was no thought among the Church of the Village leadership of “going back” to the way of “doing church” before the pandemic.

Our reality and our reach have changed dramatically in a year. We continue to attract worshippers and receive new members from across the U.S. and beyond its borders, as well as from the New York City area. As a faith community, the Church of the Village is no longer tied to a building. We opened to all of our vaccinated members in September 2021 and have expanded vision and our capacities since then to become a fully online and onsite community. We are actively evaluating when to open fully to the vaccinated public.

People are attracted to the Church of the Village because of our progressive theology, radical inclusivity, extravagant welcome, and focus on social, economic, and climate justice. Many who worship with us or decide to join cannot find this sort of faith community where they live.

We believe it is God’s desire that each of us have the chance to have as full a life as possible by seeking the common good in healthy community together. We are committed to building an online and onsite community to reach as widely as possible. With this dream becoming reality, we can re-imagine John Wesley’s vision and say that the whole world, literally, can be our parish.

We encourage you to participate in as many online and onsite opportunities in the Church of the Village community as possible. Consider how you can contribute to the thriving of our lives together. If you want more information on how to connect with Church of the Village, contact [Pastor Jeff Wells](#) or [Pastor Alexis Lillie](#).



## How to Contact Key COTV Leaders

During the Coronavirus outbreak and beyond, we want to make sure our members and supporters know how to reach key staff and leaders in the Church of the Village.

Pastor Jeff Wells

Email: [PastorJeff@churchofthevillage.org](mailto:PastorJeff@churchofthevillage.org)

Phone: (212) 243-5470 ext. 9; (917) 604-5227

Pastor Alexis Lillie, Minister for Leadership & Congregational Development

Email: [PastorAlexis@churchofthevillage.org](mailto:PastorAlexis@churchofthevillage.org)

Phone: (212) 243-5470 ext. 8; (719) 201-6535

Jorge Lockward, Minister of Worship Arts

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Phone: (212) 243-5470 ext. 7; (917) 723-0169

Teresa Concepción, Executive Program Director, The Red Door Place

Email: [Teresa@churchofthevillage.org](mailto:Teresa@churchofthevillage.org)

Phone: (212) 243-5470 x.5

QuiShaun Hill, Administrative Associate, in the church office

Email: [Office@churchofthevillage.org](mailto:Office@churchofthevillage.org)

Phone: (212) 243-5470 x.3

Martha Chapman, Chair, Vision & Ministry Council

Email: [marthachapman62@gmail.com](mailto:marthachapman62@gmail.com)

Sarah Capers, Lay Leader

Email: [scape131@aol.com](mailto:scape131@aol.com)

Monica Quintero, Chair, Ministers of Care

Email: [quinteromm@gmail.com](mailto:quinteromm@gmail.com)

Alfida Figueroa, Chair, Worship Committee

Email: [figueroarollins@gmail.com](mailto:figueroarollins@gmail.com)