



A progressive, radically inclusive, anti-racist community

201 West 13<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY, 10011 • (212) 243-5470  
[www.churchofthevillage.org](http://www.churchofthevillage.org) • [facebook.com/churchofthevillage](https://facebook.com/churchofthevillage)  
[office@churchofthevillage.org](mailto:office@churchofthevillage.org)

**March 20, 2022 • Third Sunday in Lent**

**Honor the Earth / Black Lives Matter**

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

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



***Take Me to the Water***

# WE GATHER

## WELCOME

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

*When God's People*

**When God's people lift their song  
and from their hearts sing praise to God,  
suceden cosas, suceden cosas maravillosas\*. (2x)**

**All hearts are healed, all fears released,  
we feel God's holy presence as we sing. (2x)**

*\*suceden cosas maravillosas= amazing things happen*

## CENTERING AND OPENING PRAYER

*Take Me to the Water / Psalm 63*

**Take me to the water ///  
I need new life.**

God, my God, you I crave;  
my soul thirsts for you,  
my body aches for you  
like a dry and weary land.

Your love is better than life,  
my speech is full of praise.  
I give you a lifetime of worship,  
My hands raised in your name.

You have been my help,  
I rejoice beneath your wings.  
Yes, I cling to you,  
your right hand holds me fast.

# WE PROCLAIM

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

*Revelation 21:1-6 (The Inclusive Bible and the New Revised Standard Version)*

Then I saw new heavens and a new earth. the former heavens and the former earth had passed away, and the sea existed no longer. I also saw a new Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down out of heaven from God, beautiful as a bride and groom on their wedding day.

And I heard a loud voice calling from the throne, "Look! God's home is among humankind! God will live with them; they will be God's people, and God will be with them. The most high will wipe away every tear from their eyes. and death, mourning, crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

The one who sat on the throne said, "Look! I'm making everything new!" and added, "write this, for what I am saying is trustworthy and true."

And that one continued, "It is finished. I am the alpha and the omega, the beginning and the end. To those who are thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**MESSAGE**

*Take Me to the Water*

Rev. Dr. Kimberly Bracken Long  
Guest Preacher

*How Long? (Psalm 13)*

*How long, my God 'till you hear my cry?  
How long, my God, how long, how long?*

*How long, my God 'till I find relief?  
How long, my God, how long, how long?*

Do not hide your face, don't forget me, God  
as I bear this pain **all day, all day long.**

*How long...*

Grief has made its home deep within my soul;  
sorrows do not cease **all day, all day long.**

*How long...*

Give light to my eyes free me from despair  
help me find the way, **all day, all day long.**

*How long...*

In your steadfast love I have placed my trust,  
my heart shall rejoice, **all day, all day long.**

**I'll sing unto my God, I will praise God's name.  
I'll sing unto my God all day, all day long.**

*Goodness Is Stronger than Evil*

**Goodness is stronger than evil.  
Love is stronger than hate.  
Light is stronger than darkness.  
Life is stronger than death.**

**WE RESPOND**

# WE GATHER AROUND THE TABLE OF GRACE

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

We come before God as beloved children.  
With confidence, let us tell the truth about our lives.

**Eternal God, we confess that we have lived for ourselves  
and apart from you.**

**We have turned from our neighbors,  
and refused to bear the burdens of others.**

**In your mercy forgive our sins  
and free us from selfishness,  
that we may choose your will  
and reflect your love;  
through Jesus Christ our Savior.**

**Amen.**

Friends, God's love has been poured into our hearts.  
Believe this good news and give thanks:  
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
**Thanks be to God!**

## 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

*\* If you're at home, gather communion elements you'd like to use.  
Onsite, we serve gluten-free bread and grape juice, and also have sealed packets available.*

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

### *Through Our Fragmentary Prayer*

Through our fragmentary prayer  
and our silent heart hid sighs  
wordlessly the Spirit bears  
our profoundest needs and cries.

Deeper than the pulse's beat is  
the Spirit's speechless groan,  
making human prayers complete  
through the prayer that is God's own.

Search and sound our mind and heart,  
Breath and Flame and Wind and Dove,  
let your prayer in us impart strength  
to do the work of love.

## 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
  - 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](mailto:giving@churchofthevillage.org)  
OR call the church office: 212-243-5470

## OFFERTORY

*Jump With Joy  
(call and echo)*

**Jump with joy  
for Jesus brings us together, Alleluia**

**Singing together, Alleluia!  
Crying together, Alleluia!  
Praying together, Alleluia!  
Blessing together, Alleluia!**

## WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

## BLESSING

## CLOSING HYMN

*I'm Gonna Live So*

**I'm gonna live so God can use me, anywhere and anytime (2x)    I'm gonna pray so God can use me, anywhere and anytime (2x)    I'm gonna sing so God can use me, anywhere and anytime (2x)**

*Stay online after service for five-minute breakout rooms. Afterwards, you may continue fellowship in the main Zoom room, or join breakouts for a discussion with the Preacher or to speak with a Minister of Care.*

To join conversation with Rev. Dr. Kimberly Bracken Long 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 Monica Quintero by typing "**CARE**" in capital letters in the Zoom chat.

## WORSHIP HOSTS

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

**Worship Leader:** Katie Reimer & Alfida Figueroa

**Call to Offering:** Sam Winfrey

**Prayers of the People:** Sarah Capers

**Dance Ministry:** Megan Haungs & Jeana Musacchio

**Ministers of Care:** Virginia Riker, Sam Winfrey

**Altar Design:** Suzie Wilder

**Vocalists:** Katie Braden, Alfida Figueroa, Reyno Francisco, 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:** Becca Love

**Chat Host:** Paul Pillitteri

**Visuals Host:** Danielle Haupt

**Sound Engineer:** Inti Maldonado

## CREDITS

**Cover Image:** Shutterstock Image #1247354812, by osmak olga, Used by permission

### ***Shall We Gather at the River***

W & M: John Winber

© 1979 Mercy Publishing

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### ***Take Me to the Water***

W & M: African American Spiritual

### ***When God's People***

W: Stz. 1, Hispanic Caribbean Worship Chorus; English trans. and additional stz. 2 by Jorge Lockward.

M: Hispanic Caribbean Worship Chorus, transcribed by Jorge Lockward. *Transcription, English. trans. and additional stanzas* © 2006 Jorge A. Lockward. *Permission granted for non-commercial use in worship.*

### ***Through Our Fragmentary Prayers***

W: Thomas Troegger

M: Carol Doran

© 1989 Oxford Press University.

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### ***How Long? (Psalm 13)***

W: Psalm 13, adapted by Christopher Heckert & Jorge Lockward

M: Christopher Heckert

© 2021 Christopher Heckert christopherheckert@gmail.com

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### ***Goodness Is Stronger than Evil***

W: Desmond Tutu

M: Nehemiah Lockett

W: © 1995 Desmond Tutu (Admin. Doubleday, a div. of Random House, Inc.)

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M: © 2017 Nehemiah Lockett. *Used by permission.*

### ***Jump With Joy!***

W & M: Chichewa Worship Chorus, Malwi

### ***I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me***

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>March 20 – Sunday</b>	10:10am 10:30am	Pre-service fellowship (via Zoom) Sunday worship (via Zoom or FB Live)
<b>March 22 – Tuesday</b>	10:30am 3:30pm – 5:30pm	COTV Online Fitness (via Zoom) TRDP: Food Pantry
<b>March 23 – Wednesday</b>	6:00pm 7:45pm	Bible Study (via Zoom) Roots
<b>March 24 – Thursday</b>	6:30pm – 7:45pm	Choir rehearsal
<b>March 25 – Friday</b>	9:00am – 10:00am	Together in Prayer (via Zoom)
<b>March 26 – Saturday</b>	11:30am – 2:00pm	TRDP: Community Meal
<b>March 27 – Sunday</b>	10:10am 10:30am	Pre-service fellowship (via Zoom) Sunday worship (via Zoom or FB Live)

# WE ARE FAMILY

*Together in Commitment, Strength, and Mission  
Stewardship Campaign*

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!*



## OUR GUEST PREACHER: REV. DR. KIMBERLY BRACKEN LONG



Kimberly Bracken Long is a minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA). She serves as editor of the quarterly journal *Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching, and the Arts* and was a professor of worship at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. She is the author of several books and editor of numerous liturgical resources.

Long holds the Ph.D. in Liturgical Studies from Drew University, the M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary, and degrees in voice performance from the College of Wooster and the University of Maryland.

## UMCOR: UKRAINE

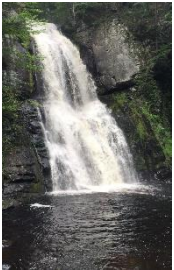


United Methodists and others wishing to provide humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people in the wake of the Russian invasion of their country may contribute to Advance #982450, UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery. This fund will provide direct assistance to those in Ukraine as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to neighboring countries. Visit <https://umcmission.org/umcor/ukraine/> for more information.

## WADE IN THE WATER: THE BEAUTY, MYSTERY, AND POWER OF WORSHIP

### Our New Worship Series

Sundays, February 27 – April 4, 2022



*“It is not the voice but the choice, not the clarity but the charity, not the harp but the heart that makes music in the ear of God.”*

– from inscription in a choir stall at the Church of St. Damien, Assisi, Italy

Candles, Prayers, Ancient Texts, Songs, Bread, Grape Juice – these are but a few of the things we engage every Sunday as we gather for worship. What is the story behind them? How do they shape our lives and the life of the world? How do we engage them in ways that speak to progressive values and lead to the realization of God’s Dream? These are some of the questions we will explore in this Season.

## TOGETHER IN PRAYER

### Friday mornings; 9:00am

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 via Zoom conference call Friday mornings from 9:00 to 10:00am (**Meeting ID: 850 0514 7319** **Passcode: 594909**). For more information, contact Deaconess Sarah Capers at [smcapers99@gmail.com](mailto:smcapers99@gmail.com).

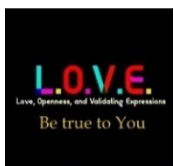
## COTV CHOIR

Join us Thursdays 6:30-7:45pm onsite: 201 West 13<sup>th</sup> St, NY, NY 10011)

and online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86979925984> as we prepare to lead worship in song on Sunday. All voices welcome!

## 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.

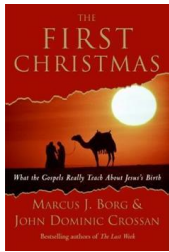
Join us via [Zoom!](#)

**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 someone 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 worshiping 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

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

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)