



A progressive, radically inclusive, anti-racist community

201 West 13th Street, New York, NY, 10011 • (212) 243-5470
www.churchofthevillage.org • facebook.com/churchofthevillage
office@churchofthevillage.org

May 5, 2024 • Sixth Sunday of Easter
Celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

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



Wednesday, May 1: Joyful celebration following an overwhelming vote to remove a Book of Discipline prohibition on performing same-sex weddings in UM churches or by UM pastors.

Plenty of Fish, Plenty of Love

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.”

WELCOME

GENERAL CONFERENCE REPORT

Draw the Circle Wide

**Draw the circle, draw the circle wide
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide
No one stands alone, we’ll stand side by side
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide**

**Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still!
Let this be our song: no one stands alone!
Standing side by side
draw the circle, draw the circle wide**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING, LAMENT, AND HEALING

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

John 21:1-14 (*The Inclusive Bible*)

Later Jesus again was manifested to the disciples at Lake Tiberias.
This is how the appearance took place.
Assembled were Simon Peter, Thomas “the Twin,”
Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, Zebedee’s children, and two other disciples.

Simon Peter said to them,
“I’m going out to fish.”
“We’ll join you,” they replied,
and went off to get into their boat.

All through the night they caught nothing.
Just after daybreak, Jesus was standing on the shore,
though none of the disciples knew it was Jesus.

Jesus said to them,
“Have you caught anything, friends?”
“Not a thing,” they answered.
“Cast your net off to the starboard side,” Jesus suggested,
“and you’ll find something.”
So they made a cast and caught so many fish that they couldn’t haul the net in.
Then the disciple whom Jesus loved cried out to Peter,
“It’s the Teacher!”
Upon hearing this, Simon Peter threw on his cloak – he was naked –
and jumped into the water.
Meanwhile the other disciples brought the boat to shore, towing the net full of fish.
They were not far from land – no more than a hundred yards.

When they landed, they saw that a charcoal fire had been prepared,
with fish and some bread already being grilled.
“Bring some of the fish you just caught,”
Jesus told them.

Simon Peter went aboard and hauled ashore the net,
which was loaded with huge fish – one hundred fifty-three of them.
In spite of the great number, the net was not torn.

“Come and eat your meal,” Jesus told them.
None of the disciples dared to ask, “Who are you?” –
they knew it was the Savior.

Jesus came over, took the bread and gave it to them,
and did the same with the fish.
This marked the third time that Jesus had appeared to the disciples
after being raised from the dead.

The Word of Life and Salvation.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Plenty of Fish, Plenty of Love
Pastor Jeff Wells
Lead Pastor, Church of the Village

WE RESPOND

WE GATHER AROUND THE TABLE OF GRACE

For Everyone Born

For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead,

*and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!*

For trans and for cis, a place at the table,
a covenant shared, a welcoming space,
a rainbow of race and gender and color,
for gay and for straight, the chalice of grace

For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free.

INVITATION & RELEASE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: God be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

All: **Our hearts are lifted!**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God!

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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

I Dream of a Church

I dream of a church where everyone is welcome.
I dream of a place we all can call home.
I dream of a world where justice is flowing
with hope and peace growing,
where God's will is done.

It is so, it is so!*
We welcome this day, it is so.
We've dreamed of this day
where all of us are welcome
and God's will is done.
Praise God, it is so!

O God, fill our hearts to reach out in welcome,
Make us to see your vision once more.
Let's dream of a world where our hands are in your hands.
We offer ourselves, God, make it so.

Make it so, make it so!*
We pray for that day, make it so.
We dream of a world where love reigns among us
and your will is done. O God, make it so!

*On this special day, we sing two different refrains to this song.

The first refrain speaks of our thanksgiving for the elimination of harmful exclusionary language against LGTBQIA+ persons in the United Methodist Book of Discipline. These harmful statements that started in 1976 and become worse every four years have been COMPLETELY excised from the United Methodist Book of Discipline.

The second refrain reflects the reality that there is still much work to do. Colonialism, Racism, Sexism, Homophobia and many other ills are part of our reality in the United Methodist Church and in the world. And so we keep on praying to God: "Make it so" and we continue to offer ourselves to that holy work.

GRATEFUL RESPONSE

For One Great Peace

The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major) and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are arranged in two columns under each staff. The first staff begins with a quarter rest followed by quarter notes on G4, A4, B4, and C5. The second staff begins with a quarter rest followed by quarter notes on G4, A4, B4, and C5. The third staff begins with a quarter rest followed by quarter notes on G4, A4, B4, and C5, ending with a half note on B4. The fourth staff begins with a quarter rest followed by quarter notes on G4, A4, B4, and C5, ending with a half note on B4.

This thread I weave, this step I dance,
this pot I shape, this fire I light,
this check I write, this march I join,
this stone I carve, this ball I bounce,
this fence I leap, this bone I knit,
this faith I state, this truth I sign,
this nail I drive, this pearl I string,—
this seed I nurse, this rift I mend,—
this is small part, in one small place,—
this flag I wave, this note I sing,
this child I raise, this earth I tend,
of one heart's beat for one great Peace.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

Love Is Stronger

**Love is stronger,
love is so much stronger,
Love is stronger,
Love is stronger than hate.**

**Faith is stronger
Faith is so much stronger
Faith is stronger
Faith is stronger than fear**

**Life is stronger
Life is so much stronger
Life is stronger
Life is stronger than death**

WORSHIP HOSTS

Worship Design: Pastor Jeff Wells, Pastor Alexis Lillie, Jorge Lockward, Alfida Figueroa & Katie Reimer
Lector/Reader: Benjamin Bartley
Onsite Communion Assistant: Alfida Figueroa
Online Communion: Joy Sanjek
Dance Ministry: Jeana Mussachio
Call to Offering:
Altar Design: John C. Flake & Scarlett Begonia
Visuals Design: Bailey Roach & Katie Reimer
Organ: Michael Johnson
Keyboard: Jorge Lockward
Sax/Clarinet/Flute/Bass: Matthew Willis
Drums & Percussion: Juan Felipe Mayorga
Zoom Host: Sarah Witman
Sound Engineer: Maya Maldonado
Ministers of Care: Katie Braden (online) & Alfida Figueroa (on-site)

CREDITS

Cover Image: RNS photo/Yonat Shimron

Draw the Circle Wide

W: Gordon Light
M: Mark Miller
© 2008 Abingdon Press
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For Everyone Born

W & M: James E. Moore
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Sanctus (le lo le lo lai lo)

W & M: Spanish Villancico adapted by William Loperena O.P.
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I Dream of a Church

W & M: Mark Miller
© 2015 Choristers Guild
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For One Great Peace

W: Shirley Erena Murray
M: Jim Strathdee
W: ©1992 Hope Publishing Co. Music © 1998 Desert Flower Music
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Love Is Stronger

W & M: Jorge A. Lockward
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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

May 5 – 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
May 7 – Tuesday	2:00pm – 5:00pm	The Red Door Place: Food Pantry
May 8 – Wednesday	6:30pm-7:30pm 6:30pm	Bible Study: Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time Choir Rehearsal
May 11 – Saturday	11:30am – 2:00pm	The Red Door Place: Community Meal
May 12 – 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



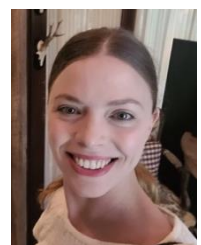
Jeanie Kurka Reimer



Katie Reimer



Sam Winfrey



Sarah Witman

EASTER IS NOT THE END!

A new worship series: Sunday April 14 – Sunday May 19



Jesus is risen - now what?! The post-resurrection stories of Jesus and his followers offer glimpses into this new way of living and being to which we are called. As the early Jesus communities grew and developed, they worked to make sense of how to live as the resurrected body of Christ in the world. Stories like Jesus' appearance on the road to Emmaus, or of the community sharing a breakfast on the beach offer paradigms of this life to which God calls us, and that we are still working to make manifest in the world.

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!

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).

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

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-YQX3>.

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,
Lead Pastor
Email: PastorJeff@churchofthevillage.org
Phone: (212) 243-5470 ext. 9;
(917) 604-5227

Pastor Alexis Lillie,
Minister for Leadership & Congregational
Development
Email: PastorAlexis@churchofthevillage.org
Phone: (212) 243-5470 ext. 8;
(719) 201-6535

Jorge Lockward,
Minister of Worship Arts
Email: Jorge@churchofthevillage.org
Phone: (212) 243-5470 ext. 7;
(917) 723-0169

Dwight Campbell,
Chair, Vision & Ministry Council
Email: DCampbell5938@gmail.com

Becca Love,
Lay Leader
Email: beccalove123@gmail.com

Monica Quintero,
Chair, Ministers of Care
Email: quinteromm@gmail.com

Alfida Figueroa,
Chair, Worship Committee
Email: figueroaalfida045@gmail.co