

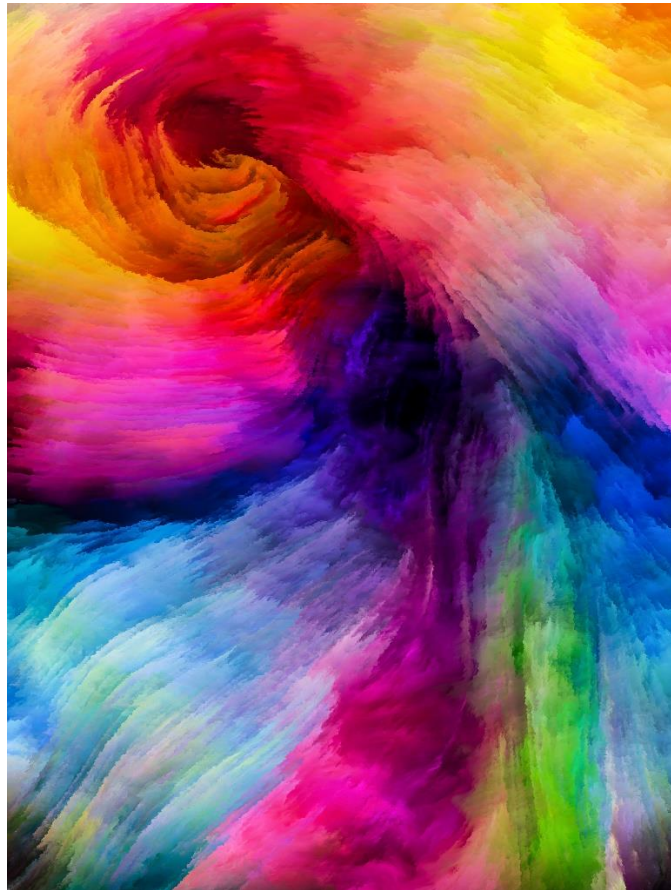


A progressive, radically inclusive, anti-racist community

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

May 14, 2023 • Sixth Sunday of Easter

**Celebrating Asian American / Pacific Islander and Jewish American Heritage Month
Black Lives Matter / Welcome the Stranger, including Migrants and Refugees
Stop Hate Against Muslims, Jews, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders**



**"We Live, Move,
and Have Our Being in God"**

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

*Holy, Holiness
(call and response)*

All a - round, _____ ev - ery - where. _____

All a - round, _____ ev - ery - where.

All a - round, ev - ery - where. ho - ly, ho - li - ness.

**All around, everywhere,
all around, everywhere,
holy, holiness.**

**In all we do, in all we are,
in all we do, in all we are,
holy, holiness.**

**Every step, every breath,
every step, every breath,
holy, holiness.**

WELCOME

WE PROCLAIM

CALL TO LISTEN

Open My Heart

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of two systems, each with three staves: Soprano (top), Alto (middle), and Bass (bottom). The lyrics are: "O - pen my heart. O - pen my heart." The melody is simple and repetitive, with the lyrics repeated twice in each system.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 17:22-31 (adapted from *NRSV*)

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him – though indeed he is not far from each one of us.

For 'In him we live and move and have our being;' as even some of your own poets have said,
'For we too are his offspring.'

Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

The Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

*We Live, Move,
and Have Our Being in God*

Rev. Gerald C. Liu, PhD
Minister-in-Residence, Church of the Village

WE RESPOND

A TIME OF SHARING

**How do we live and move and have our being in God?
Individually and collectively.**

WE GATHER AROUND THE TABLE OF GRACE

Taste and See

**Taste and see, taste and see
the goodness of God's love.
O taste and see, taste and see
the goodness of God's love, of God's love.**

**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.**

(call and echo)

**Le lo le lo lai lo ///
lo le lo le lo lai.**

**Holy, holy, holy,
God of loving pow'r
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God's love.
Hosanna in the highest!**

Le lo le lo lai lo...

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

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

GRATEFUL RESPONSE

Take My Hands

Take these gifts, oh, take these gifts. (2x)
Let them be tokens of your love.
Take these gifts, O God.

Take my hands, oh, take my hands. (2x)
Let them bless; let them open wide.
take my hands, O God.

Bless this world, oh, bless this world (2x)
may it heal, may it be made whole,
bless this world, O God.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

BLESSING

CLOSING SONG

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil

Goodness is stronger than evil.
Love is stronger than hate.
Light is stronger than the shadows.
Life is stronger than death.

To talk or pray one-on-one with a Minister of Care, if you are on-site,
you can go to the area by the stairs next to the lobby/narthex at the back of the sanctuary.
If you are online, you can connect with a Minister of Care
by typing **"CARE"** in capital letters in the Zoom chat.

WORSHIP HOSTS

Worship Design: Rev. Gerald C. Liu, PhD, Pastor Jeff Wells, Pastor Alexis Lillie, Jorge Lockward, Alfida Figueroa, Katie Reimer, Rev. Jim Norton, Dwight Campbell

Worship Leader: Martha Chapman

Dance Ministry: Martha Chapman, Aza

Call to Offering: Katie Reimer

Altar Design: Martha Chapman

Visuals Design: Katie Reimer & Bailey Roach

Vocalists: Maura Burns, Katie Braden, Jackie Stzendera, Alfida Figueroa, Reyno Francisco, Karen Hackett, John Wesley Heaton, Michelle Morris, Paul Pillitteri, Katie Reimer, Suzie Wilder

Sax: Matthew Willis

Organ: Michael Johnson

Keyboard: Jorge Lockward

Drums & Percussion: Juan Felipe Mayorga

Ushers: Maurice White & Sam Winfrey

Ministers of Care: Virginia Riker (onsite) & Jim Norton (online)

Zoom Host: Gabriel Borges

Zoom Chat Host: Tasha Wright

CREDITS

Cover Image: iStock Image #911764800,
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Holy, holiness

W & M: Ellen Allard

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Open My Heart

W & M: Ana Hernández

© Ana Hernández

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Taste and See

W & M: James E. Moore

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Sanctus (le lo le lo lai lo)

W: Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

M: Spanish Villancico adapted by William Loperena O.P.

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Take My Hands

W: Adam M.L. Tice. Stz. 1, Jorge Lockward

M: Sally Ann Morris

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Goodness Is Stronger than Evil

W: Desmond Tutu, alt.

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.

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 14 – Sunday	10:10am 10:30am	Pre-service fellowship (via Zoom) Sunday worship (via Zoom or FB Live)
May 16 – Tuesday	2:00pm – 5:00pm	TRDP: Food Pantry
May 17 – Wednesday	9:00am 6:30pm 6:30pm	Together in Prayer (via Zoom) Bible Study Choir Rehearsal
May 20 – Saturday	11:30am – 2:00pm 4:00pm	TRDP: Community Meal Celebration of Life - Vicky King
May 21 – Sunday	10:10am 10:30am 12:00pm 12:45pm	Pre-service fellowship (via Zoom) Sunday worship (via Zoom or FB Live) Exploring Faith Anti-Racism Conversation (via Zoom)

2023 Stewardship Campaign

Together in Commitment, Strength, and Mission

Thank you for the many ways your presence enhances our community and work together.
Thank you for pledging financial support to the life and ministry of our beloved community.

As you prayerfully discern your pledge for 2023, we invite you to be bold in your generosity as we continue this adventure together.

Submit your pledge: <https://www.churchofthevillage.org/2023-stewardship-campaign>

Questions: Email giving@churchofthevillage.org

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.
- **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!*

OUR GUEST PREACHER: REV. GERALD C. LIU, PhD



The Rev. Gerald C. Liu, PhD is an ordained United Methodist Elder of the Mississippi Annual Conference and a Minister in Residence at Church of the Village. He is concluding work as Director of Collegiate Ministries, Initiatives, and Belonging for the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church and formerly taught worship and preaching at Princeton Theological Seminary. He has authored numerous print and online articles and book chapters about liturgy, preaching, and theology and the arts; as well as the books, *Music and the Generosity of God* (Palgrave, 2017) and co-author with Khalia Williams, *Associate Dean of Worship and Music at Candler School of Theology, of A Worship Workbook: A Practical Guide for Extraordinary Liturgy* (Abingdon, 2021).

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR VICKY KING

We will hold a celebration of the life of Vicky King on **Saturday, May 20 at 4pm** in the Church of the Village sanctuary. The Church is located on 7th Avenue at the corner of 13th Street in Manhattan. The service will also be available online via [Zoom](#).

EXPLORING FAITH

Our New Worship Series; Sunday, May 21, 12 Noon ET



Do you want to learn more about the Church of the Village? Are you feeling called to belong to this amazing community? Please join us after worship Sunday, May 21, 12 Noon. This will be a great opportunity to learn more and get to know others who are new to the Church of the Village. Contact Pastor Alexis Lillie or Pastor Jeff Wells for more information. Join us in person or via **Zoom!**

Meeting ID: 836 3180 1675 **Passcode:** 398291

HEALING CONVERSATIONS

Every 4th Sunday of the Month, beginning April 23, 2023; 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).

COMMUNITY CLOSET

Sundays starting 4/16, Noon to 1pm.



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

Thursdays starting 4/20, 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.

ANTI-RACISM TASK FORCE CONVERSATION



(WHITE) CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM

Sunday, May 21, 12:45pm ET

Presenter: John Kleinig

Emeritus Professor of Criminal Justice/Philosophy
John Jay College/Graduate Center, CUNY

Join the **Anti-racism Task Force Conversations** via Zoom:

Meeting ID: 867 6866 3955 **Passcode:** 029447

TOGETHER IN PRAYER

Wednesday 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.

COTV CHOIR REHEARSAL

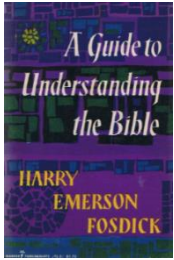
Choir
Rehearsal

Wednesdays, 6:30pm – 7:45pm ET

Open call to make a joyful noise! New singers are always welcome. Rehearsals are currently Wednesdays from 6:30-7:45pm. If you love to sing or play an instrument, contact our Choir Coordinator Paul Pillitteri or Jorge Lockward, our Minister of Worship Arts.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY: A GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLE

Wednesdays; 6:30pm



Our current Bible Study is *A Guide to Understanding the Bible* by Harry Emerson Fosdick

Harry Emerson Fosdick presents a study of the development of Biblical ideas. We will study the ideas developed by Fosdick (Idea of God; Idea of Man; Idea of Right and Wrong; Idea of Suffering; Idea of Fellowship with God; Idea of Hospitality). This book presents a different perspective for studying scripture.

We would be delighted to have you join us. **Everyone is Welcome.**

The group meets Wednesdays at 6:30 PM. 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; 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 347-497-9718 and ask for Teresa.

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, 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.

CHURCH OF THE VILLAGE COVID-19 PROTECTION POLICY

Updated September 23, 2022



From the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, The Church of the Village has been diligent about protecting everyone connected to our church community. We have followed guidelines offered by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the City and State of New York, as well as those shared by the NY Conference of the United Methodist Church. Our leadership has stayed on top of new developments and adjusted our policies periodically to fit evolving conditions.

We recognize that for our members, supporters, visitors, and staff who are in proximity to New York City or visit our building, the status of the pandemic has shifted dramatically. The rates of infection, hospitalizations, and especially deaths have fallen to very low levels. This does not mean they cannot go back up and we will continue to monitor the situation. In addition, mask requirements have been lifted for most public spaces, including public transportation in NYC.

Therefore, we have decided to lift our own mask requirement for entry to our church building. This applies to staff as well as members and to groups that rent or use space in our building.

We continue to strongly recommend that everyone be vaccinated and boosted to the highest extent for which you are eligible. The most recent bivalent booster is available to anyone age 12 or older (Pfizer) or 18 and older (Moderna). The bivalent boosters protect against the original Covid-19 virus strain and provide stronger protection against Omicron, which is the most widespread and transmissible variant. To find a location and schedule your vaccination or booster anywhere in the United States, [click here](#)! This is not for your protection only, but for the well-being of our community, our city, and the country.

Also, we strongly encourage those persons at higher risk for infection or hospitalization – especially those with underlying health conditions – to continue to take all appropriate safety measures like masking and social distancing. All of us need to self-monitor for symptoms and follow CDC guidance about self-isolation and testing (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>).



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

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

Teresa Concepción,
Executive Program Director,
The Red Door Place

Email: Teresa@churchofthevillage.org

Phone: (212) 243-5470 x.5,
(347) 497-9718

QuiShaun Hill,

Administrative Associate, in the church office

Email: Office@churchofthevillage.org

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Vision & Ministry Council

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Monica Quintero,
Chair, Ministers of Care

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Alfida Figueroa, Chair,
Worship Committee

Email: figueroaalfida045@gmail.com