



**the  
Church  
of the  
Village**



A progressive, radically inclusive, anti-racist community

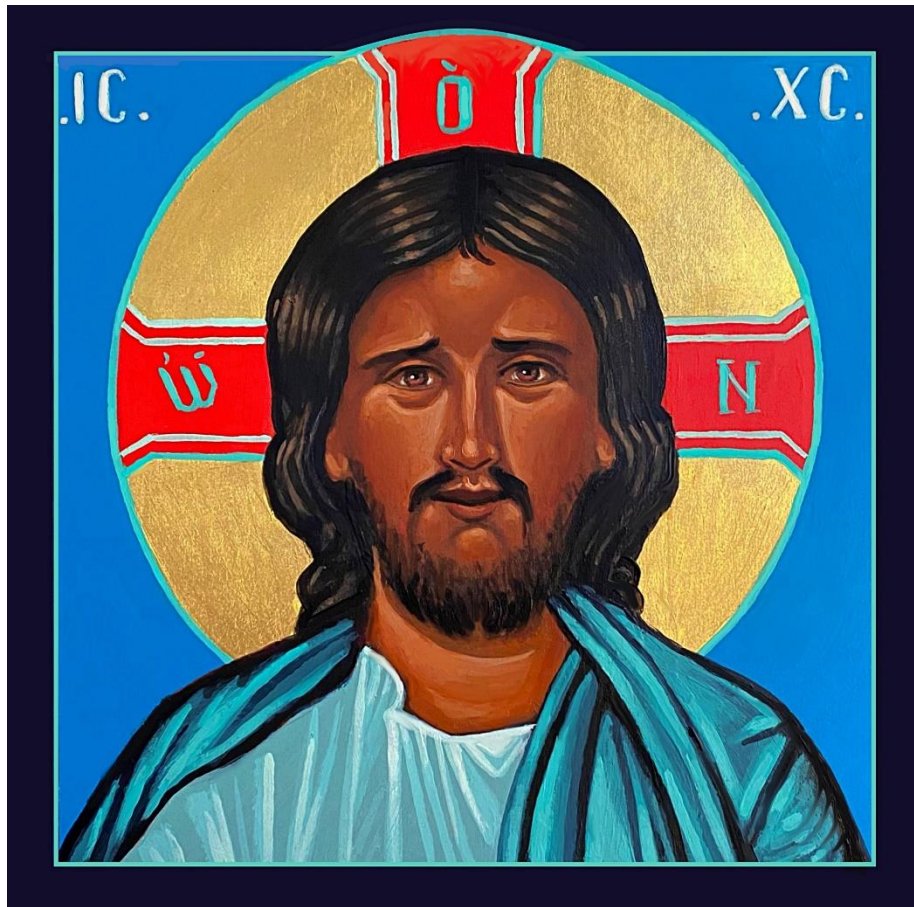
201 West 13<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY, 10011 • (212) 243-5470  
www.churchofthevillage.org • facebook.com/churchofthevillage  
office@churchofthevillage.org

**September 25, 2022 • Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Honor the Earth / Black Lives Matter**

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

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



**"Oh, How I Love Jesus"**

# 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 Renape 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

### *Woke Up This Morning*

Oh, I woke up this morning with my mind, and it was stayed,  
**stayed on Jesus.**

Woke up this morning with my mind, and it was stayed,  
**stayed on Jesus.**

Woke up this morning with my mind, and it was stayed,  
**stayed on Jesus.**

Hallelu, **hallelu,**  
Hallelu, **hallelu,**  
**hallelujah.**

## WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

## CELEBRATION OF SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

### *We Sing in Praise of God’s Love*



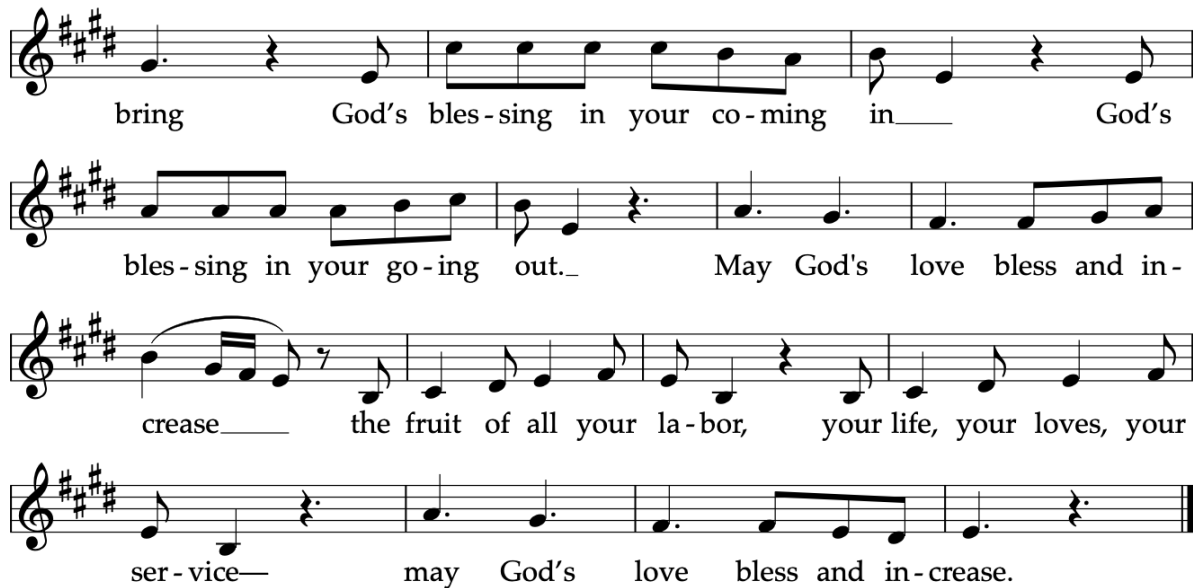
We sing in praise of God’s love, who sent you to us as a



wit-ness for jus - tice and peace. May God’s em-brace be your



shield as you boldly share who you are, what you’ve learned, what you



bring God's bles-sing in your co-ming in God's  
 bles-sing in your go-ing out. May God's love bless and in-  
 crease the fruit of all your la-bor, your life, your loves, your  
 ser-vice may God's love bless and in-crease.

## WE PROCLAIM

## CALL TO LISTEN

*O How I Love Jesus*

**There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth;  
 it sounds like music in my ear, the sweetest name on earth.**

**/// O how I love Jesus ///  
 because he first loved me!**

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 5:43-48 (The Inclusive Bible)

“You have heard it said, ‘Love your neighbor – but hate your enemy.’

But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for your persecutors. This will prove that you are children of God.

For God makes the sun rise on bad and good alike; God’s rain falls on the just and the unjust. If you love those who love you, what merit is there in that? Don’t tax collectors do as much? And if you greet only your sisters and brothers, what is so praiseworthy about that? Don’t Gentiles do as much? Therefore be perfect, as Abba God in heaven is perfect.”

This is a Word of Radical Love.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## MESSAGE

**“Oh, How I Love Jesus”**

Pastor Jeff Wells  
 Lead Pastor, *Church of the Village*

# WE RESPOND

## A TIME OF SHARING

Who is Jesus for you today?

How do you see Jesus' teachings and example lived out in our community and/or in the world?

*Traveling Companions*

**We are traveling companions, journeying as one,  
moving ever forward, our faces to the sun,  
in the family of God, a place for ev'ryone,  
together we are community,  
traveling, journeying as one.**

## A TIME OF HEALING

*Softly and Tenderly God's Love Is Waiting*



1. Soft - ly and ten - der-ly God's love is wait-ing wait-ing for you and for me;



See, like a moth-er God's watch-ing and wait-ing, Wait-ing for you and for me.



Come home, — come home, — You who are wea-ry, come home;



Ear-nest-ly, ten-der-ly, God's love is wait-ing. Wait-ing un - til we come home!

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

## OFFERTORY

*Shine Jesus Shine - FWS 2173*

## WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

## BLESSING

## CLOSING SONG

*Enviado soy de Dios / Sent Out in Jesus' Name*

**Sent out in Jesus' name, our hands are ready now  
to make of all the earth a better place to live. (2x)**

**The angels are not sent into this world of pain  
to do what we were meant to do in Jesus' name;  
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.  
Help us, O God, we pray, to do your will today.**

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 Team:**

Pastor Jeff Wells, Pastor Alexis Lillie, Jorge Lockward, Alfida Figueroa, Katie Reimer, Rev. Jim Norton

**Worship Leader:** Alfida Figueroa

**Prayers of the People:** Sarah Capers

**Dance Ministry:** Martha Chapman

**Call to Offering:** Jorge Lockward

**Ministers of Care:** Sam Winfrey (on-site) & Monica Quintero (online)

**Altar Design:** Suzie Wilder

**Vocalists:** Maura Burns, Katie Braden, Alfida Figueroa, Reyno Francisco, Karen Hackett, Michelle Morris, Riot Mueller, Paul Pillitteri, Katie Reimer, Suzie Wilder, Natasha Wright

**Saxophone & Flute:** Matthew Willis

**Keyboard:** Jorge Lockward

**Drums & Percussion:** Juan Felipe Mayorga

**Ushers:** Maurice White & Sam Winfrey

**Visuals Host:**

**Zoom Host:** Sarah Witman

**Zoom Chat:** Paul Pillitteri

## CREDITS

***Cover Image:***

Face of Christ - Compassion, by Kelly Latimore, Used by permission

***Woke Up This Morning***

W & M: African American Spiritual

***We Sing in Praise of God's Love***

W: adapted by Jorge A. Lockward

M: Nilcéia Protázio

Music © Nilcéia Protázio ([nilceiaprotasio@gmail.com](mailto:nilceiaprotasio@gmail.com))

***O How I Love Jesus***

W: Frederick Whitfield, 1855

M: 19th cent. USA melody

***Traveling Companions***

W: Lindy Thompson

M: Mark A. Miller

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Used by permission.

***Softly and Tenderly***

W: Will L. Thompson. Adapted by Jorge Lockward & Katie Reimer

M: Will L. Thompson

***Sent Out in Jesus' Name***

W & M: José Aguiar, English trans. Gerhard M. Cartford, alt.

English trans. © 1998 Augsburg Fortress

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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](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>September 25 – Sunday</b>	10:10am 10:30am	Pre-service fellowship (via Zoom) Sunday worship (via Zoom or FB Live)
<b>September 27 – Tuesday</b>	10:00am 2:00pm – 5:00pm	COTV Fitness with Lina TRDP Food Pantry
<b>September 28 – Wednesday</b>	6:00pm 6:30pm	Bible Study (via Zoom) Choir Rehearsal
<b>September 30 – Friday</b>	9:00am – 10:00am	Together in Prayer (via Zoom)
<b>October 1 – Saturday</b>	11:30am – 2:00pm	TRDP: Community Meal
<b>October 2 – Sunday</b>	10:10am 10:30am 12:30pm	Pre-service fellowship (via Zoom) Sunday worship (via Zoom or FB Live) Ministers of Care

# 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!*



## BACK TO BASICS: A New Worship Series

Sundays, September 11 – November 20, 2022



This Fall, it's time to go back to basics in a way only Church of the Village can! We'll be unpacking concepts like Faith, Prayer, Justice, Giving, the Spirit, and more – all through uniquely creative, collaborative, and open-hearted lenses. Join us as we explore some of the building blocks of Christian faith and practice in ways that are reflective and transformative.

## ROOTS

### A Small Group for Connection and Belonging

October 4 – November 15



We are born with a longing for connection and belonging. We can only blossom and flourish emotionally, intellectually and spiritually when we make conscious efforts to be curious about each other. This small group fosters deeper roots in our community by bringing people together to learn each other's names, life stories, histories, traditions, emotions, personalities, struggles and dreams. Those who engage are asked to make a commitment for 6 weeks. Signup deadline is October 3, 2022. Contact Alfida Figueroa

([figueroarollins@gmail.com](mailto:figueroarollins@gmail.com)) for more information or visit <https://forms.gle/uCKk8YKtk2WqaYMA8> to sign up.

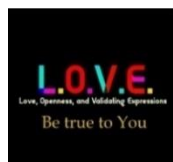
## TOGETHER IN PRAYER

### 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).

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

### 2nd Sundays; 12:00pm ET following worship

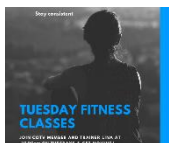


Our LGBTQIA+ group is re-imagined as L.O.V.E (love, openness, and validating expressions)! We will meet the second Sunday of each month after church for City Adventures — outdoor explorations around the neighborhood and times for connection.

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](https://zoom.us).

## COTV ONLINE FITNESS

### NEW TIME - Tuesdays, 10:00 am ET



COTV Online Fitness with Lina now on Tuesdays at 10:00 am ET.

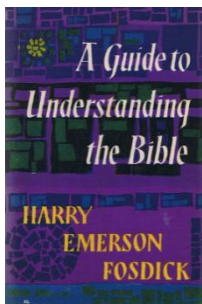
Join us via [Zoom](https://zoom.us)!

**Meeting ID:** 878 7016 4212

**Passcode:** fitness

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY: A GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLE

### Wednesdays; 6:00pm – beginning September 14, 2022



Our next 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 6:00 PM. Facilitated by Sarah Capers, Deaconess. Join us via [Zoom](https://zoom.us/j/713063594)! <https://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 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).

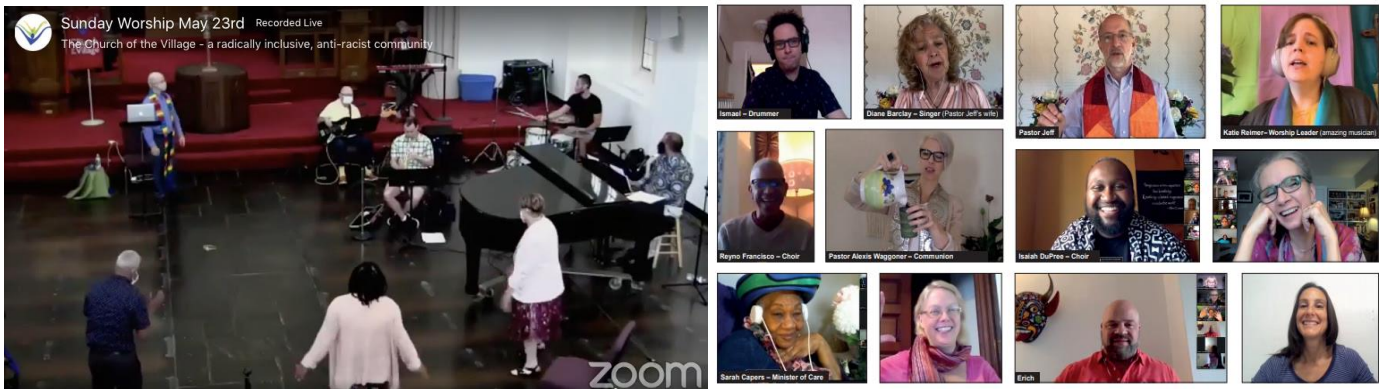
### **COTV WORSHIP VIDEOS ON FACEBOOK**

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



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 good 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>).

Finally, while not yet widespread, we encourage everyone to be alert to the rising number of cases of Monkeypox. Among those most at-risk are some members of the LGBTQ+ community and people living with HIV. However, this virus is not limited by gender or sexuality and can spread to anyone, anywhere, through close, personal, often skin-to-skin contact. The Human Rights Campaign provides excellent resources on their [“What You Need to Know” web page](#).

Prayers, Peace, and Good Health,  
Pastor Jeff



## 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: [figueroaalfida045@gmail.com](mailto:figueroaalfida045@gmail.com)