

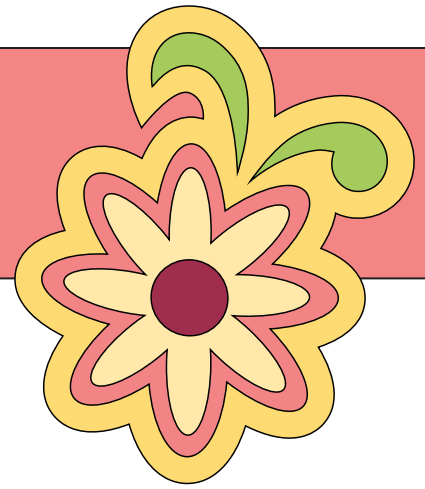
Holy Week
and

Easter



Journal of 2023 Holy Week and Easter Celebrations

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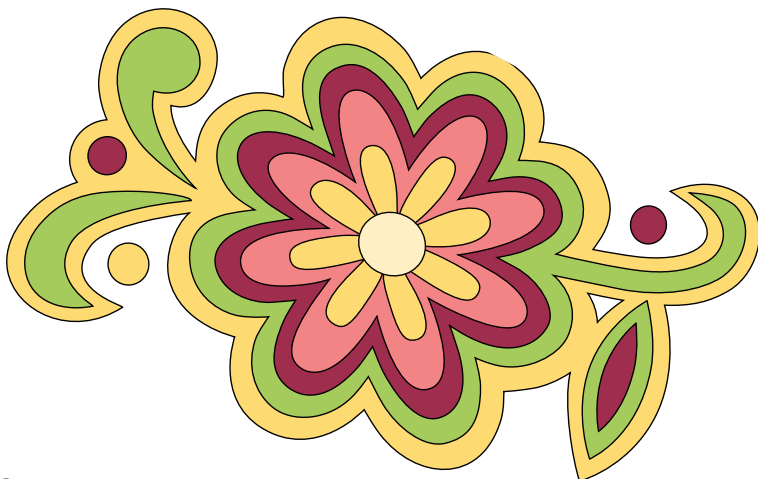
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MCC[®]

METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCHES

Easter 2023

Dear Saints:

It hardly seems possible that another year has come and gone! I know that for many of our congregations it has been a very challenging year, and I give thanks that MCCNY has held on and let nothing turn you around!

Your faithfulness to feeding the hungry and sheltering young people remains an inspiration across our movement of faith. I know it can't always be easy, but I also know you are steadfast in your devotion to the Gospel of Jesus the Christ, which feeds my spirit and that of so many others.

Though Phillip and I will not be there in person, we will be there in spirit and, like you, we will be rejoicing in the Good News that because Christ lives we can face tomorrow!

In Christ's love,

The Rev. Elder Troy D. Perry, Founder
Metropolitan Community Churches



Easter 2023

Dear friends ~

As we enter this Easter Season, I am thinking about the words we heard on the news every night for a while, with commentators and sports casters celebrating Aaron Judge and his escalating number of home runs in a single season: “All rise!” they would call out. It was a play on his last name {Judge}. I can still remember the delight of Bill Ritter on channel 7, the twinkle in his eyes as he waited each night and then celebrated the appearance on one more home run. Everyone {at least those who love baseball} wanted to be present for the great event; to see history made with their own eyes.

No one got to see the Resurrection. And people were not all that excited, it seems. John, the Gospel from which we will read this year, says Mary of Magdala was rather distressed ~ to her it seemed like the body of her friend and teacher was missing; possibly stolen. She will end up in tears when a figure she does not at first recognize calls her name, and her sorrow becomes the thrill of inexplicable reunion.

All rise! Do not cling to me, Jesus will tell Mary, who doesn’t want to lose him again. Go and tell the others, I’m rising up. It’s John’s way of calling us to let go of what holds us back and get up and follow Jesus’ example and not let anything stop us.

All rise! It’s what our siblings in Uganda are doing, standing up against that nation’s latest draconian measure to criminalize even our existence — 10 years in prison for even being LGBTQ+.

It’s what the family of Irvo Otieno is doing in the wake of his murder by police and hospital staff. Ten people just piling on him to force the last bit of oxygen from his lungs, smothering him to death. His crime: mental illness. Compelled by the American dream, they say, his family is rising up for equal justice for all God’s children.

It’s what a man named Yan Rachinsky has tried to do in Russia, founding Memorial, the leading human rights group there, and continuing to speak out despite a government crackdown, naming the injustices, calling for change.

Resurrection is not something we believe happened to someone a long time ago and hopefully will happen to us when we die. It’s a way of life. It’s about putting the forces of death on notice: The stone has been rolled away and we, as followers of Jesus, are full of a power death cannot contain.

J. Alfred Smith, a preacher, once said ~ “Resurrection is God’s protest against those who practice the injustice of crucifixion.” The call of Easter is to join the protest! Put the forces of death on notice in this world.

That is what MCCNY does every single day, I believe, in feeding the hungry and sheltering the homeless and supporting the work and ministry of the Global Justice Institute.

John's Jesus lets nobody and nothing turn him around, as the theme we have adopted for 2023 says, and neither should we. Tough times, challenging times, political set-backs are a call to rise up and be the living and life-giving Presence of a loving and sustaining God, as Jesus was.

Don't cling to Jesus; follow him! Jesus is on the rise, and my Easter prayer is that we will be, too.

Join MCCNY for Holy Week and Easter celebrations of the love nothing can contain. All rise!

With love,



The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner

Palm Sunday: The Blessing of Palms 9am and 11am
Holy Thursday Community Celebration and Meal at 7pm
Good Friday Stations of the Cross with Lavender Light Gospel Choir at 7pm
Holy Saturday Easter Vigil with the Ordination of Candidate Mike Easterling at 7pm
Easter Sunday: Gala Celebration and Reception at 11am!

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S
MCCNY
O N
51 Y E A R S

Mary Jane Gibney
MA, LC
P S Y C H O T H E R A P Y

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All glory, laud, and honor

7.6.7.6.D.

ST. THEODULPH

Majestically; may be sung in unison



†Refrain All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or To thee, O Christ, we sing!



To whom the lips of chil - dren Made sweet ho - san - nas ring. A-men.

Stanzas commence here



1. Ho-san-na in the high-est our ea-ger hearts ac-claim The
2. Te re-ci-bio con pal-mas el pue-blo he-bre fiel, no-
3. O one of Yah-weh's Pro-phets who comes of sim-ple folk, To
4. Te dier-on a-la-ban-zas poco an-tes de mo-rir, no
5. Re-store our eyes from blind-ness Make clear the life, the way, That



1. pro-phet of God's jus-tice, who bears Mes-si-ah's name. *Repeat Refrain*
2. so-tros hoy lo hace-mos con can-ti-cos tam-bien.
3. free us from our bond-age, to break op-pres-sion's yoke.
4. so-tros te can-ta-mos, rein-an-tes y sin fin.
5. leads thru love & jus-tice, un-to the peace-crowned day!

Palm Sunday



I Shall Not Be Moved!

SUNDAY, APRIL 02

+ **PALM SUNDAY!** Holy Week begins!

+ **Blessing of Palms at all services!**

+ **The Rev. Dr. Jim Merritt, preaching**

(Mt. 21: 1-11, Is. 50: 4-7, Mt. 26: 14-29)

8:00 am **Choir Rehearsal for 9am**

9:00 am **Traditional Liturgy** Live-streamed!

10:00 am **Choir Rehearsal for 11am**

11:00am **Celebration Liturgy** Live-streamed!

9:00 pm Sylvia's Place Youth Shelter

Monday, April 03: Monday of Holy Week/ Office Closed

♥ **Happy Birthday Montel Cherry-Holmes!**

5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Tuesday, April 04: Tuesday of Holy Week

+ **Anniversary of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

♥ **Happy Birthday First Lady Mary Jane Gibney!**

1:00 pm Lunch Distribution (until 3pm)

5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Wednesday, April 05: Wed. of Holy Week

✱ **Passover begins at sundown**

♥ **Happy Birthday Maribelle Vazquez!**

1:00 pm Lunch Distribution (until 3pm)

5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)

6:00 pm **Q Clinic (3rd floor)**

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Thursday, April 06: Holy Thursday

♥ **Happy Birthday Ursula Kwong-Brown!**

5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)

6:00 pm **Covenanted Bible/Theology Study w/Rev. Reg via Zoom**

7:00 pm Restoration Temple Rehearsal resumes April 12th

7:00 pm **Holy Thursday Service with Casey & Mike Easterling!**

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

2023: "Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round"

Friday, April 07: Good Friday

12:15 pm Taize Prayer w/Rev. Brett & Tonie Boykin
(facebook.com/mccny)

1:00 pm Lunch Distribution (until 3pm)

5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)

7:00 pm **Good Friday Celebration:**

+ **Stations of the Cross**

+ **Lavender Light Gospel Choir**

+ **The Rev. Jermaine Green, preaching**

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Saturday, April 08: Holy Saturday

+ **Vesak/Buddha's Birth**

♥ **Happy Birthday Jaz Buchanan!**

7:00 pm **Easter Vigil Liturgy:**

+ **Lighting of the New Fire**

+ **Chanting of Exultet + Salvation History**

+ **The Ordination of Candidate Mike Easterling**

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

SUNDAY, APRIL 09

+ **EASTER SUNDAY!**

+ **Gala Reception provided by Mike and Casey Easterling!**

+ **The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, preaching**
(Acts 10: 34-43 & John 20: 1-9)

8:00 am **Choir Rehearsal for 9am** resumes April 16th

9:00 am **Traditional Liturgy** resumes April 16th

10:00 am **Choir Rehearsal for 11am**

11:00 am **Celebration Liturgy** Live-streamed!

12:30 pm **Genderpeople w/Moshay Moses is on break**

9:00 pm Sylvia's Place Youth Shelter

WELCOME

Bishop Pat Bumgardner, Pastor
Metropolitan Community Church of New York

+The Blessing of the Palms
Matthew 21: 1-11

PRELUDE

Evan Swanson, Director of Music
Carolyn Tratore, Song Leader

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“All Glory, Laud and Honor”

Page 6
Please Stand as Able

+PRAYER OF ADORATION

The grace of Jesus the Christ, the Love of God
and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

AND ALSO WITH YOU

+KYRIE ELEISON

LECCIÓN PRIMERA
THE FIRST LESSON

Isaías 50: 4-7
Isaiah 26: 4-7

ACCLAMATION

LA LECCIÓN SEGUNDA
THE SECOND LESSON

Mateo 26: 14-29
Matthew 26: 14-29

CHORAL RESPONSE

Morning Choir

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Jim Merritt
Director Eastern European Affairs, Global Justice Institute

+OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

+SPECIAL MUSIC

+OFFERTORY BLESSING AND PROCESSION

*Praise God from whom all Blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise God, the Christ and Holy Ghost.*

God is with you
AND ALSO WITH YOU

Let us open our hearts
WE OPEN THEM TO GOD

Let us give God thanks and praise
IT IS A GOOD AND JOYFUL THING TO DO

Eucharistic response:

BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER!

Sanctus

***¡Santo, santo, santo,
mi corazón te adora!
Mi corazón te sabe decir:
Santo eres Dios.***

***Holy, holy, holy,
My heart, my heart adores you!
My heart is glad to say the words:
You are holy, God***

+THE MYSTERY OF FAITH: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again

+PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT (sung)

+THE SIGN OF PEACE

Metropolitan Community Churches celebrate an Open Communion. These are the Gifts of God for ALL the People of God.
(A non-alcoholic Cup is provided as well as hypo-allergenic hosts, so that all may freely participate.)

+CLOSING COMMUNION PRAYER

RECESSIONAL HYMN

“We are the Church Alive”

Printed (page 13)
Please Stand as Able

***Go in peace to love and serve our God
THANKS BE TO GOD!**

POSTLUDE

† Please join in a reception immediately following the Benediction!

The Community at Worship 11am

ASL Interpreter (First, second, and third Sundays of the month and special celebrations)

Pat Dash

PRELUDE

The Little Big Band
Evan Swanson, Director of Music
Carolyn Traore, Song Leader

PROCESSION

Please stand as able

"All Glory, Laud and Honor"

Page 6

WELCOME

The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner
Metropolitan Community Church of New York

+ The Blessing of Palms (Matthew 21: 1-11)
+ The Sign of Peace

THE LESSON

La Lección Primera

Isaías 50: 4-7

The First Lesson

Isaiah 50: 4-7

Dios me ha instruido para que yo consuele a los cansados con palabras de aliento. Todas las mañanas Dios me hace estar atento para que escuche dócilmente. Dios me ha dado entendimiento, y yo no me he resistido ni le he vuelto las espaldas. Ofrecí mis espaldas para que me azotaran y dejé que me arrancaran la barba. No retiré la cara de los que me insultaban y escupían. Dios es quien me ayuda: por eso no me hieren los insultos; por eso me mantengo firme como una roca, pues sé que no quedaré en ridículo.

+ Esta es la Palabra de Dios
TE ALABAMOS, O DIOS

God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning God wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

+ This is the word of God
THANKS BE TO GOD

MUSICAL RESPONSE

MCCNY Choir

La Lección Segunda

Mateo 26: 14-29

The Second Lesson

Matthew 26: 14-29

Uno de los doce discípulos, la persona que se llamaba Judas Iscariote, fue a ver a los jefes de los sacerdotes y les dijo: "¿Cuánto me quieren dar, y yo les entrego a Jesús?" Ellos le pagaron treinta monedas de plata. Y desde entonces Judas anduvo buscando el momento más oportuno para entregarles a Jesús. El primer día de la fiesta en que se comía el pan sin levadura, los discípulos se acercaron a Jesús y le preguntaron: "¿Dónde quieres que te preparemos la cena de Pascua?" Jesús les contestó: "Vayan a la ciudad, a casa de Fulano, y díganle: 'El Maestro dice: Mi hora está cerca, y voy a tu casa a celebrar la Pascua con mis discípulos.'" Los discípulos hicieron como Jesús les había mandado, y prepararon la cena de Pascua. Cuando llegó la noche, Jesús estaba a la mesa con los doce discípulos; y mientras comían, Jesús les dijo: "Les aseguro que uno de ustedes me va a traicionar." Ellos se pusieron muy tristes, y comenzaron a preguntarle uno tras otro: "Maestro, ¿acaso seré yo?" Jesús les contestó: "Uno que moja el pan en el mismo plato que yo, va a traicionarme. El Niño de la Humanidad ha de recorrer el camino que dicen las Escrituras; pero ¡ay de aquel que lo traiciona! Hubiera sido mejor para la persona no haber nacido." Entonces Judas, la persona que lo estaba traicionando, le preguntó: "Maestro, ¿acaso seré yo?" "Tú lo has dicho," contestó Jesús. Mientras comían, Jesús tomó en sus manos el pan y, habiendo dado gracias a Dios, lo partió y se lo dio a los discípulos, diciendo: "Tomen y coman, esto es mi cuerpo." Luego Jesús tomó en sus manos una copa y, habiendo dado gracias a Dios, se la pasó a ellos, diciendo: "Beban todos ustedes de esta copa, porque esto es mi sangre, con la que se confirma la alianza, sangre que es derramada en favor de muchos para perdón de sus pecados. Pero les digo que no volveré a beber de este producto de la vid, hasta el día en que beba con ustedes el vino nuevo en el reino de Dios."

+ Esta es la Palabra de Dios
TE ALABAMOS, O DIOS

One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I betray Jesus to you?" They paid Judas thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray Jesus. On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" Jesus said, "Go into the city to a certain person and say to them, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, Jesus took his place with the twelve disciples, and while they were eating said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." And they became greatly distressed and began to say to Jesus one after another, "Surely not I, Sovereign?" Jesus answered, "The one who has dipped their hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Child of Humanity goes as it is written, but woe to that one by whom the Child of Humanity is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born." Judas, who betrayed Jesus, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" Jesus replied, "You have said so." While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it Jesus broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then Jesus took a cup, and after giving thanks, gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in God's reign."

**+ This is the Word of God
THANKS BE TO GOD**

SELECTION

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Jim Merritt
Director Eastern European Affairs, Global Justice Institute

SPECIAL MUSIC

THE OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offering Call

✚ Please consider an extra gift to the Global Justice Institute!

~ Please prayerfully consider direct donations through your bank or credit card giving.

THE CELEBRATION AND SHARING OF COMMUNION

The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner
Deacon Brenton Buchannan
Deacon Len Richardson

God is with you
AND ALSO WITH YOU
Let us open our hearts
WE OPEN THEM TO GOD
Let us give God thanks and praise
IT IS A GOOD AND JOYFUL THING TO DO

MCCNY celebrates an OPEN COMMUNION. Everyone is welcome to share in the Gifts of God for the People of God. (Grape juice is used so that all may freely share in this meal. For those with health concerns, distributors sanitize their hands immediately before the service. Communion wafers for those with wheat or gluten allergies are available upon request. Please let your server know if you need this service.) A prayer of blessing will be offered, unless you request the sacrament only.

PLEASE OBSERVE THE SACREDNESS OF THIS SACRAMENT by praying silently or by joining in the singing of hymns.

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

"Take My Life . . ."	#220/Hymnal
"I Want Jesus . . ."	#109/Hymnal
"Nearer, My God, to Thee"	#142/Hymnal

CLOSING SONG

"I Shall Not be Moved" by *Million Dollar Quartet*
I shall not, I shall not be moved (repeat)
Just like a tree that's planted by the wa—ter, I shall not be moved,
I'm on my way to glory land, I shall not be moved (repeat)
Just like a tree that's planted by the wa—ter, I shall not be moved . . .

Please Stand as Able

BENEDICTION

✚ *Deacons are available to pray privately with you.*
✚ *Join us for fellowship time in the 3rd floor Gallery Room immediately following the Benediction!*
✚ *Stained Glass by Jackson Hall*

PROGRAMMING at MCCNY

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION PROGRAM: Spiritual Direction is a process in which a mentor accompanies one person - the directee - for an extended period of time. Through conversation, prayer, and spiritual exercises, the mentor helps the directee clarify spiritual issues so that s/he can move toward a deeper experience with the Divine. To seek Direction, contact Bishop Reg at 332-400-7488.

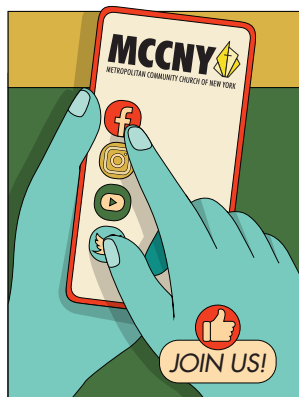
LIVE-STREAMING at MCCNY: Beginning October 2nd, all worship celebrations (9am Traditional and 11am Celebration) will be live-streamed. Go to [facebook.com/mccny](https://www.facebook.com/mccny) and celebrate with your family of faith!

BIBLE STUDY & RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: The Queer Life & Faith religious education program is led by Bishop Reg Richburg every Thursday at 5 pm. Our discussions connect the Scriptures, our faith, and queer Life. We use educational materials and methodologies that will help look at life from different perspectives: art, videos, and dialogue, among others. Come to one session, some sessions, or all sessions on Zoom. Contact: lambseeker@hotmail.com

MCCNY E-Prayer Ministry: If you would like to participate or send prayer requests, please contact prayers@mccny.org. You will receive a weekly list of prayer concerns about members and friends of our congregation, the wider MCC community, and social justice issues.

MCCNY E-Newsletter: This e-newsletter provides reflections, news and information for members and friends of MCC New York. If you want to subscribe, email Mike Easterling at Mike@mccny.org or text MCCNY to 22828.

PLEASE REMEMBER to list the Church and our phone number among those to be contacted in case of illness or an emergency. (MCCNY has a new phone#: **332-400-7488**.) Church Pastors will contact and visit you. Please send your information to Mike at Mike@mccny.org



Connect with MCCNY

Website: www.mccny.org

Facebook: MCCNY

Instagram: @m_c_c_n_y

Youtube: @MCCNewYork

Twitter: MCCNewYork

SUPPORT MCCNY!!! OPTIONS ABOUND!



- Sign up for one time or recurring giving at www.easytithes.com/mccny
- Donate by text message by sending any numerical amount to 646-681-7445
- Email Mike (mike.mccny@gmail.com) to have credit giving set up for you

We Are the Church Alive

Authors: Jack Hoggatt-St. John and David Pelletier

1. We are the Church Alive, Christ's presence on this earth
We give God's Spirit body in the act of our new birth.
As yielded open channels for God's descending dove,
We shout and sing, With joy we bring God's all-inclusive love.
2. We are the Church Alive, our faith has set us free;
No more enslaved by guilt and shame, we live our liberty!
We follow Christ's example and freedom now proclaim,
Destroying myths of doubt and fear in Jesus' mighty name.
3. We are the Church Alive, the body must be healed;
Where strife has bruised and battered us, God's wholeness is revealed.
Our mission is an urgent one; in strength and health let's stand,
So that our witness to God's light will shine across the land.
4. We are the Church Alive, all praise to God on high!
Creator, Savior, Comforter! We laud and magnify
Your name, Almighty God of love; pray give us life that we
May be your Church, the Church Alive, for all eternity.

Holy Thursday



Traditional Holy Thursday Service 2023
51st Anniversary Year at MCCNY: "Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round"
7PM

Our Time together

"If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them." —John 13:17

WELCOME & INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

OPENING MUSIC

"Be With Me"

Instrumental

Bless my God

Bless my God, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.

The first line of musical notation for "Bless my God" consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics "Bless my God, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name." are written below the top staff.

Bless my God, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

The second line of musical notation for "Bless my God" consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics "Bless my God, my soul, who leads me in - to life." are written below the top staff.

OPENING PRAYER

+READING OF SCRIPTURE

Preparation of the Space

Exodus 30:17-30

+READING OF SCRIPTURE

Period of Meditation

2nd Maccabees 6:18-31

John 13:2-7

A Scriptural Litany

ALL: AND DURING SUPPER JESUS, KNOWING THAT GOD HAD GIVEN ALL THINGS INTO HIS HANDS, AND THAT HE HAD COME FROM GOD AND WAS GOING TO GOD...

ONE: John 2: 18-22

ALL: ... JESUS ROSE UP FROM THE SUPPER...

ONE: John 10: 11-18

ALL: ... AND JESUS LAID DOWN HIS OUTER GARMENTS AND TOOK A TOWEL AND GIRDED HIMSELF.

ONE: John 9: 1-11

ALL: THEN JESUS Poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples feet and wipe them that were around him.

TOGETHER: JESUS CAME TO SIMON PETER WHO SAID TO HIM, "TEACHER, ARE YOU GOING TO WASH MY FEET?" JESUS ANSWERED, "YOU DO NOT KNOW NOW WHAT I AM DOING, BUT LATER YOU WILL UNDERSTAND."

INVITATION AND FOOTWASHING

Please rise in pairs, starting with those nearest the altar, and approach the basin. Take turns drawing a pitcher of water, pouring it over one another's feet. Dry one another's feet at the basin with your towels and return to your seats. Please pray silently until all have been washed.

+COMMUNITY LIFTING OF PRAYERS AND INTENTIONS

RESPONSE: God hear our prayer.

+SHARING OF THE PEACE

"Be With Me" (reprise)

+COMMUNION

+SILENCE

+STRIPPING THE ALTAR

Join us for a family meal by candlelight.



Global Justice Institute

Metropolitan Community Churches

2023 MCCNY EASTER OFFERING CAMPAIGN FOR THE GLOBAL JUSTICE INSTITUTE

Dear Friends of the Global Justice Institute:

We hope that this letter finds you preparing to celebrate the joys of the Easter Season and the promise and hope of new life and new possibilities. Despite the continuing global pandemic, we have continued to be very active with partnerships around the world. In Guyana, we are pursuing a new partnership under the direction of The Rev. Dr. Robert Griffin. In Latin America, we are laying the groundwork for an on-site office in that region under the direction of The Rev. Dr. Margarita Sanchez deLeon.

We sponsored our annual Gay Clergy Retreat in Mtito Andei, Kenya, and help refurbish space to house two gay pastors losing their pulpits as they came out. We also sponsored the first Lesbian Couples Retreat in the country. East Africa continues to experience the worst drought it has seen in 40 years, leading political and religious leaders to attempt to refocus the anger and fear of people on the LGBTQI community, diverting attention from the dire needs of those who are suffering. Our work with Rev. Uthasyo, Pastor Robai and in partnership with Stan Kimer continues to be a lifeline and saving grace for many.

In Eastern Europe, our office in Lithuania is firmly established, giving us an on-site location for the region. We continue working to move our allies in Belarus to safer locations. In partnership with Journalists4Tolerance, the Global Justice Institute continues its work of reshaping the social narrative around LGBTQI people. And in Romania, our legal case on behalf of family rights continues to move forward and will be heard by the European Court of Human Rights. Florin Buhuceanu, representing the Global Justice Institute, will also present our case before the United Nations in Geneva.

In the United States, our Government and Policy Team continues its work focusing on legislative efforts, in particular the increase in legislation targeting transgender people.

For years, we have carried on vital and life-saving work with only the direct donations received from individuals and congregations like yours. Your gifts have and will continue to make all the difference in the world.

This Easter Season, we ask you to join in this good work by making a special donation for the work of the Global Justice Institute. Donations can be made in the MCCNY offering, by making a special gift at www.easytithe.com/mccny, or by going to the GJI Easter Campaign Page at www.givebutter.com/gjieaster.

Please know that I speak for all our partners when I say, we are deeply grateful for your faithfulness and support.

Resurrection Blessings,



The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner



The first Lesbian Couples Retreat in Kenya.

Good Friday



Good Friday, April 07, 2023

51st Anniversary Year at MCCNY: Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round!

Good Friday: MCCNY and Unity Fellowship Worshipping Together at 7pm!

ASL Interpreter

Pat Dash

PRELUDE

MCCNY Choir
Ethan Swanson, Director of Music
Matthew Kilgore, Accompanist
Carolyn Traore, Song Leader

THE LAVENDER LIGHT BLACK AND PEOPLE OF ALL COLORS GOSPEL CHOIR

+ + +

WELCOME

The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, Pastor
Metropolitan Community Church of New York

+ The Sign of Peace

+ Liturgy of the Stations of the Cross

SELECTION

MCCNY Choir

+ CHORAL READING OF THE PASSION FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN +

Jesus went forth with some disciples across the Kidron valley, where there was a garden which they entered. Now Judas, who betrayed Jesus, also knew the place; for they often met there.

So Judas, procuring a band of soldiers and some officers from the religious leaders went to the garden with weapons and lanterns and torches. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen, came forward and said,

WHOM DO YOU SEEK?

They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth," and Jesus said to them,

I AM JESUS OF NAZARETH.

Judas, who betrayed Jesus, was standing with them. When he said, "I am Jesus of Nazareth," they drew back and fell to the ground. Again Jesus asked them, "Whom do you seek?" And they said "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus answered,

I TOLD YOU THAT I AM JESUS OF NAZARETH; SO IF YOU SEEK ME. LET THESE OTHERS GO.

This was to fulfill the word Jesus had spoken, “Of those whom thou gavest me, I lost not one.” Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s slave and cut off the slave’s right ear. Jesus said to Peter,

PUT YOUR SWORD IN ITS SHEATH; SHALL I NOT DRINK THE CUP WHICH GOD HAS GIVEN ME?

So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the religious leaders seized and bound Jesus. First they led him to Annas, the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was the high priest that year. It was Caiaphas who had given counsel that it was expedient that one should die for the many.

Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. The maid who kept the door said to Peter, “Are you not one of Jesus’ disciples?” Peter said, “I am not....”

The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and teaching. Jesus answered,

I HAVE SPOKEN OPENLY TO THE WORLD; I HAVE ALWAYS TAUGHT IN SYNAGOGUES AND IN THE TEMPLE, WHERE EVERYONE COMES TOGETHER; I HAVE SAID NOTHING SECRETLY. WHY DO YOU ASK ME? ASK THOSE WHO HEARD ME, WHAT I SAID TO THEM; THEY KNOW WHAT I SAID.

When Jesus had said this, one of the officers standing nearby struck him, saying, “Is that how you answer the high priest?” Jesus answered,

IF I HAVE SPOKEN WRONGLY, BEAR WITNESS TO THE WRONG; BUT IF I HAVE SPOKEN RIGHTLY, WHY DO YOU STRIKE ME?

Annas then sent Jesus bound to Caiaphas the high priest. Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself by a fire out in the court. Someone said to him, “Are you not one of Jesus’ disciples?” Simon Peter denied it and said, “I am not.” One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the servant whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, “Did I not see you in the garden with Jesus?” Peter again denied it; and at once the cock crowed.

Then Jesus was led from the house of Caiaphas to the praetorium. Pilate came out and said, “What accusation do you bring against this Jesus?” Those guarding Jesus answered, “If he were not an evildoer, we would not have handed Jesus over.”

Pilate then said to them, “Take Jesus yourselves and judge by your own law.” The people said to Pilate, “It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death.” This was to fulfill the word which Jesus had spoken to show by what death he was to die. Pilate entered the praetorium and called Jesus, and said, “Are you a king—a ruler?” Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” Pilate answered, “Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me; what have you done?” Jesus answered,

MY REIGN IS NOT OF THIS WORLD; IF MY REIGN WERE OF THIS WORLD, MY SERVANTS WOULD FIGHT, THAT I MIGHT NOT BE HANDED OVER, BUT MY REIGN IS NOT FROM THIS WORLD.

Pilate said, “So you are a Ruler?” Jesus answered,

YOU SAY THAT I AM. FOR THIS I WAS BORN, AND FOR THIS I HAVE COME INTO THE WORLD, TO BEAR WITNESS TO THE TRUTH. EVERYONE WHO IS OF THE TRUTH HEARS MY VOICE.

Pilate responded, “What is truth?”, and went out to the crowds again and told them, “I find no crime here. But you have a custom that I should release someone for you at the Passover; will you have me release for you your Ruler?” They cried out, “Not Jesus, but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a robber.

+ Solo

Then Pilate had Jesus scourged. And the soldiers plaited a crown of thorns, and put it on Jesus' head, and arrayed Jesus in a purple robe; they came up saying, "Hail O Ruler!" and struck Jesus with their hands.

Then Pilate went out again and said, "See, I am bringing Jesus out to you, that you may know that I find no crime here." So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe.... When the religious leaders and officers saw Jesus, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate responded, "Take Jesus and crucify him yourselves, for I find no crime here." The people responded, "We have a law and by that law Jesus ought to die, because he has blasphemed."

When Pilate heard this, he was the more afraid; going into the praetorium again Pilate said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave no answer. Pilate then said, "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have the power to release you, and power to crucify you?" Jesus answered,

YOU WOULD HAVE NO POWER OVER ME UNLESS IT HAD BEEN GIVEN YOU FROM ABOVE. THEREFORE THE ONE WHO DELIVERED ME TO YOU HAS THE GREATER SIN.

Upon this Pilate sought to release Jesus, but the people cried out, "If you release Jesus, you are not Caesar's friend; anyone who makes himself a ruler sets himself against Caesar." Upon hearing these words, Pilate brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgement seat at a place called The Pavement, and in Hebrew, Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about the sixth hour.

Pilate said, "Behold your Ruler!" the people cried out, "Away with this one, crucify him!" Pilate responded, "Shall I crucify your Ruler?" The religious leaders answered, "We have no ruler but Caesar." Then Pilate handed Jesus over to be crucified.

So Jesus went out bearing his own cross, to a place called The Place of the Skull, which is called in Hebrew Golgotha. There Jesus was crucified, and two others, one on either side...



The soldiers who had crucified Jesus took his garments and divided them among themselves, casting lots for his tunic. This was to fulfill the scripture, "They parted my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots."

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and her sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said, "Woman, behold your child!" Then to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

After this Jesus, knowing all was now finished, said to fulfill the scripture, "I thirst." A bowl of vinegar stood there; so they put a sponge full of the vinegar on hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, "It is finished," bowed his head and gave up the spirit.

Since it was the day of Preparation, the bodies were removed from the crosses. The soldiers broke the legs of those crucified with Jesus, but when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead they did not break his legs. But one pierced Jesus' side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. The one who saw it has borne witness — this testimony is true, and this witness tells the truth — that you may also believe. For these things took place that the scripture might be fulfilled, "Not a bone shall be broken." And again another scripture says, "They shall look on the one whom they have pierced."

After this Joseph of Arimathea, who was a secret disciple of Jesus, asked Pilate for the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him leave to take it. So Joseph took the body. Nicodemus also, who had at first come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds weight. They took the body of Jesus, and bound it in linen cloths with spices. Now in the place where the crucifixion had taken place, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb. So because of the day of Preparation, as the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

+ Selection

MCCNY Choir

SERMON

The Rev. Jermaine Green
Unity Fellowship of Christ Church

+ THE OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

+ SPECIAL MUSIC

BENEDICTION

+Please receive the light as it is passed to you

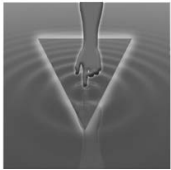
+ Lifting up of the names

(Following the final words by our Pastor, you are welcome to meditate briefly, extinguish your candle and join in the third floor reception.)

POSTLUDE

+ Deacons are available to pray privately with you +

Please join in a light repast immediately following our worship celebration.



Lavender Light

The Black and People of All Colors Lesbian and Gay Gospel Choir



Founded in 1985 and celebrating its 33rd anniversary, Lavender Light is a mixed chorus (welcoming women, men and transgender individuals).


Although the group encompasses many ethnic and spiritual backgrounds, the choir provides a special ministry to black lesbians and gays, who have historically been pressured by their communities to choose between their blackness and their gayness.

Our repertoire includes gospel (traditional and contemporary), spirituals, and anthems.

For more information visit www.lavenderlight.com.

To book Lavender Light for performances or to audition: call (212) 714-7072 or email us at lavenderlight85@gmail.com.

Follow us:  Lavender Light Gospel Choir  @LAVLIGHT

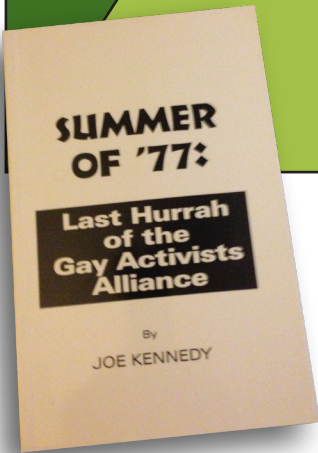




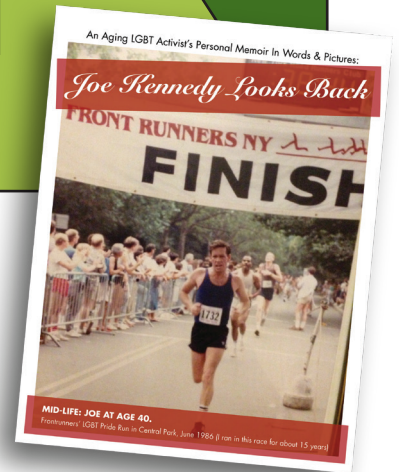
Thank GOD for the Church of LGBTQ+ People



With gratitude from Joe Kennedy



See the live performance of "Stonewall Was a Riot" at MCCNY plus Joe's book and Joe's memoir for free at:
www.gaynewsandviews.com



The
MCCNY
Board of
Directors

wishes you a

Happy Easter

and is grateful for the opportunity to serve you!

Bp. Pat Bumgardner Moderator
Jessie Daniels Member at Large
Matthew Dempsey Special Events
Mike Easterling Fiscal Manager/Strategic Growth
Lyndsey Jones-McAdams. Member at Large
Theresa Pascoe. Member at Large
Rob Franek Member at Large

Holy Saturday



Metropolitan Community Church of New York

+ Calendar for Holy Saturday – the 1st Week of Easter

Saturday, April 08:

+ *Holy Saturday*

+ **Vesak/Buddha's Birth**

♥ **Happy Birthday Jaz Buchanan!**

7:00 pm **Easter Vigil Liturgy:**

+ Lighting of the New Fire

+ Chanting of Exultet + Salvation History

+ The Ordination of Candidate Mike Easterling

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

SUNDAY, APRIL 09

+ *Easter Sunday*

+ **Gala Reception provided by Mike and Casey Easterling!**

+ **The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, preaching**
(Acts 10: 34-43 & John 20: 1-9)

8:00 am **Choir Rehearsal for 9am** resumes April 16th

9:00 am **Traditional Liturgy** resumes April 16th

10:00 am **Choir Rehearsal for 11am**

11:00 am **Celebration Liturgy** Live-streamed!

12:30 pm **Genderpeople w/Moshay Moses is on break**

9:00 pm Sylvia's Place Youth Shelter

Monday, April 10

Monday of Easter Octave/Office Closed

* **National Youth AIDS Awareness Day**

5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Tuesday, April 11

Tuesday of Easter Octave

♥ **Happy Anniversary Thomas & JoJo Scaringelli!**

♥ **Happy Birthday Keegan Campbell!**

1:00 pm Lunch Distribution (until 3pm)

5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Wednesday, April 12

Wednesday of Easter Octave

♥ **Happy Anniv. Yolanda & Montel Cherry-Holmes!**

1:00 pm Lunch Distribution (until 3pm)

5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)

6:00 pm **Q Clinic (3rd floor)**

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Thursday, April 13

Thursday of Easter Octave

5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)

6:00 pm **Covenanted Bible/Theology Study w/Rev. Reg via Zoom**

7:00 pm Restoration Temple Rehearsal

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Friday, April 14

Friday of Easter Octave

♥ **Happy Birthday Robert King!**

12:15 pm **Taize Prayer w/Rev. Brett & Tonie Boykin (Facebook)**

5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Saturday, April 15

Saturday of Easter Octave

♥ **Happy Birthday Noble Wilson-Eiden!**

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

SUNDAY, APRIL 16

+ **2nd SUNDAY of EASTER!**

+ **The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, preaching**

8:00 am **Choir Rehearsal for 9am**

9:00 am **Traditional Liturgy** Live-streamed!

10:00 am **Choir Rehearsal for 11am**

11:00am **Celebration Liturgy** Live-streamed!

9:00 pm Sylvia's Place Youth Shelter

+ *Easter Vigil Liturgy* +

PRELUDE

String Ensemble
Evan Swanson, Director of Music

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, Pastor
Metropolitan Community Church of New York

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Genesis 1

In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless wasteland, and the darkness covered the abyss, while a mighty wind swept over the waters.

THEN GOD SAID, "LET THERE BE LIGHT," AND THERE WAS LIGHT. GOD MADE THE SKY AND THE OCEANS AND THE DRY LAND. GOD COMMANDED THE EARTH BE FILLED WITH FOLIAGE AND VEGETATION, AND GOD WAS HAPPY.

God allowed for the sun, the moon, and the stars, to give us light, and to mark our seasons and years. And all this was very pleasing to God. Then God said, "Let us make humanity in our image, in the likeness of ourselves..."

GOD CREATED US IN GOD'S OWN IMAGE; LIKE GOD DID GOD MAKE US, ALL GENDERS GOD CREATED US.

+ *The Lighting of the New Fire* +

When the new fire, sign of God's creation and of the victory of life over death, has been lit, it shall be passed from candle to candle, starting at the rear of the church. As the church is illumined by the congregation's candles, the Exultet, the ancient hymn which proclaims the Easter message, will be sung.

The Easter Proclamation (Exultet)

+ The Story of God's Covenant with the People of God +

Throughout history, you, loving God, have been faithful to your people.

SPEAKING TO US, NURTURING US, TESTING US, GUIDING US.

Long ago, in a time of great wickedness, when the people had defaced the image of God which they bore, God's heart was grieved. And God set aside the family of Noah and two of every living creature, preserving the righteous. God sent a great flood on the face of the earth, destroying those who had forgotten their promise to the God who gave them life. And God saw what God's judgment had done, and God's heart was broken. Then God said to Noah and those with him:

“BEHOLD, I ESTABLISH MY COVENANT WITH YOU AND YOUR DESCENDANTS; AND WITH EVERY LIVING CREATURE THAT IS WITH YOU, AS MANY AS CAME OUT OF THE ARK. I ESTABLISH MY COVENANT WITH YOU, THAT NEVER AGAIN SHALL THERE BE A FLOOD TO DESTROY THE EARTH. THIS IS THE SIGN OF THE COVENANT WHICH I MAKE BETWEEN ME AND YOU AND EVERY LIVING CREATURE: I SET MY RAINBOW IN THE CLOUDS AND IT SHALL BE A SIGN OF THE COVENANT BETWEEN ME AND THE EARTH.”

Long ago, God spoke to Abraham and Sarah, calling them forth from the familiar to the unknown, to leave the country of their childhood, to go into a new land which God had promised. And God said to them:

“I WILL BLESS YOU AND WILL MULTIPLY YOUR DESCENDANTS AS THE STARS OF HEAVEN AND AS THE SAND WHICH IS ON THE SEASHORE; AND BY YOUR DESCENDANTS SHALL ALL THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH BLESS THEMSELVES BECAUSE YOU HAVE OBEYED MY VOICE.”

Long ago, when the people of God had been sold into slavery, God called forth witnesses to justice. When the Pharaoh ordered the midwives to slay the Hebrew children, they heard the call of life more strongly than the call of death, and the midwives refused to follow the tyrant's commands. When God called Moses to lead the people out of familiar slavery into unknown freedom, Moses was afraid, but he felt the call of life more strongly than the call of death, and he led the people from bondage. And the people wandered in the desert, not knowing where they were going, but trusting that God would not abandon them. These are the words of the covenant which God commanded Moses to make with the people of Israel:

“FOR THIS COMMANDMENT WHICH I COMMAND YOU THIS DAY IS NOT TOO HARD FOR YOU, NEITHER IS IT FAR OFF. BUT THE WORD IS VERY NEAR YOU. IT IS IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART, SO THAT YOU CAN DO IT. I CALL HEAVEN AND EARTH TO WITNESS FOR YOU THIS DAY THAT I HAVE SET BEFORE YOU LIFE AND DEATH, BLESSING AND CURSE: THEREFORE, CHOOSE LIFE, THAT YOU MAY DWELL IN THE LAND I PROMISED TO SARAH AND ABRAHAM.”

Long ago, God called forth judges and prophets, wise-women and kings, to remind the people of their covenant with God, and of God's loving-kindness. God called Deborah, a mighty warrior, to lead her people in battle against their enemies, and to deliver them from oppression. God called Esther to work for the freedom of her people, to risk her life so that God's people would not be harmed. And when the people turned away, God called Amos to speak the word of justice saying, “I hate, I despise your feasts; but let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever flowing stream.” And God did not forget them, even though their sin became great, and God promised once more:

“BEHOLD, THE DAYS ARE COMING WHEN I WILL MAKE A NEW COVENANT WITH YOU, NOT LIKE THE COVENANT WHICH I MADE WITH YOUR ANCESTORS. I WILL PUT MY LAW WITHIN YOU AND I WILL WRITE IT UPON YOUR HEARTS; AND I WILL REMEMBER YOUR SIN NO MORE.”

The Covenant of Metropolitan Community Church of New York

As the People of God throughout the ages have covenanted with God, we, too, renew our covenant with God on this holy night:

**WE, THE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NEW YORK,
AFFIRM AND CELEBRATE THE FREEDOM
AND RESPONSIBILITY OF GOD'S LOVE IN OUR LIVES,
IN OUR COMMUNITY, AND IN THE WORLD.
HERE WE HAVE ENCOUNTERED THE POWER OF GOD'S LOVE.
HERE WE HAVE BECOME SURVIVORS THROUGH OUR FAITH.
WE AFFIRM OUR CALL TO BE A PEOPLE OF GOD.
WE CELEBRATE OUR LIVES AS INDIVIDUALS AND AS A COMMUNITY.
WE CELEBRATE OUR DIVERSITY.
WE REJOICE IN OUR OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN
GOD'S CREATION AND SALVATION.
WE DECLARE OURSELVES ACCOUNTABLE TO ONE ANOTHER
AS WE SEEK TO EMBODY THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST.
WE PLEDGE OURSELVES TO CREATING NEW STRUCTURES
AND WAYS OF BEING THE CHURCH,
WHICH WILL BREAK THROUGH ALL FORMS OF ALIENATION.
WE PLEDGE OURSELVES TO THE VISION OF INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY
IN WHICH OUR INDIVIDUAL GIFTS WILL FIND EXPRESSION.
WE PRAY FOR THE RADICAL OPENNESS NECESSARY
TO HEAR ONE ANOTHER'S NEEDS,
SHARE ONE ANOTHER'S BROKENNESS,
AND SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER'S DREAMS.
WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO REDISCOVERING THE FULLEST MEANING
OF THE GOSPEL OF GOD'S JUSTICE IN THE WORLD.
WE COVENANT OURSELVES TO BE EXPLORERS, PEACEMAKERS,
PROPHETS, A PEOPLE INVOLVED, A PEOPLE AT RISK,
WHO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE WORLD.
WE BIND OUR LIVES TOGETHER IN THE WITNESS TO GOD'S JUSTICE,
FINDING STRENGTH FOR THIS JOURNEY IN GOD'S LOVE
AND OUR LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER.**

THE LESSON**La Leccion**
The Lesson**Lucas 24: 1-12**
Luke 24: 1-12

El primer día de la semana las mujeres regresaron al sepulcro muy temprano, llevando los perfumes que habían preparado. Al llegar, se encontraron con que la piedra que tapaba el sepulcro no estaba en su lugar; y entraron, pero no encontraron el cuerpo de Jesús. No sabían qué pensar de esto, cuando de pronto vieron a dos personas de pie junto a ellas, vestidos con ropas brillantes. Llenas de miedo, se inclinaron hasta el suelo; pero los dos les dijeron: “¿Por qué buscan ustedes entre los muertos a la persona que está vivo? Jesús no está aquí, sino que ha resucitado. Acuérdense de lo que Jesús les dijo cuando todavía estaba en Galilea: que el Niño de la Humanidad tenía que ser entregado en manos de pecadores, que lo crucificarían y que al tercer día resucitaría.” Entonces ellas se acordaron de las palabras de Jesús, y al regresar del sepulcro contaron todo esto a los once apóstoles y a todos los demás. Las que llevaron la noticia a los apóstoles fueron María Magdalena, Juana, María madre de Santiago, y las otras mujeres. Pero a los apóstoles les pareció una locura lo que ellas decían, y no querían creerles. Sin embargo, Pedro se fue corriendo al sepulcro; y cuando Pedro miró dentro, no vio más que las sábanas. Entonces Pedro volvió a casa, admirado de lo que había sucedido.

+Esta es la Palabra de Dios
TE ALABAMOS, O DIOS

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two people in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the two said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? Jesus is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while still in Galilee, that the Child of Humanity must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” Then they remembered Jesus’ words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then Peter went home, amazed at what had happened.

+This is the word of God
THANKS BE TO GOD

The Ordination of Candidate Mike Easterling!

People’s Response: AMEN! THANKS BE TO GOD!

SELECTION**SERMON**

The Rev. Mike Easterling
Metropolitan Community Church of New York

COMMUNITY PRAYER

All are welcome to share aloud their celebrations and concerns with God and the community in prayer. It is our custom to join hands when we pray.

+ THE LITURGY OF THE MEAL +

THE OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Special Music

THE CELEBRATION AND SHARING OF COMMUNION

The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner
Deacon Brenton Buchanan
Deacon Len Richardson

God is with you
AND ALSO WITH YOU
Let us open our hearts
WE OPEN THEM TO GOD

Let us give God thanks and praise
IT IS A GOOD AND JOYFUL THING TO DO

Metropolitan Community Church of New York celebrates an OPEN COMMUNION. Everyone is welcome to share in the Gifts of God for the People of God. (Grape juice is used so that all may freely share in this meal. For those with health concerns, distributors sanitize their hands immediately before the service. Please let your server know if you have wheat or gluten allergies.) A prayer of blessing will be offered, unless you request the sacrament only.

CLOSING SONG

“Resucitó”

Printed below
Please Stand as Able

BENEDICTION

Postlude

*Please join in a wonderful reception in the rear of the sanctuary immediately following our worship celebration.
Thank you to all who prepared this weekend's repasts!*

Resucitó

***Resucitó, resucitó, resucitó, aleluya.
Aleyua, aleyua, aleluya, resucitó.***

***La muerte. ¿Dónde está la muerte?
¿Dónde está mi muerte? ¿Dónde su victoria?***

***Resucitó, resucitó, resucitó, aleluya.
Aleyua, aleyua, aleluya, resucitó.***

Aleyua, aleyua, aleluya, resucitó.

***La muerte. ¿Dónde está la muerte?
¿Dónde está mi muerte? ¿Dónde su victoria?***

***Resucitó, resucitó, resucitó, aleluya.
Aleyua, aleyua, aleluya, resucitó.***

Easter Sunday

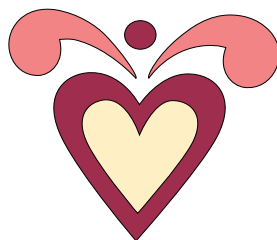
April 09, 2023
Easter Sunday

MCC globally celebrates "54 Years of Offering Our Light to the World"
51st Anniversary Year at MCCNY: Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round!

The Community at Worship 11am

ASL Interpreter (First, second and third Sundays of the month and special celebrations)

Pat Dash



All Rise!

PRELUDE

Evan Swanson, Director of Music
Carolyn Traore, Song Leader
The Little Big Band

PROCESSION

"Christ is Risen, Alleluia"

Page 34
Please Stand as Able

WELCOME

The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, Pastor
Metropolitan Community Church of New York

+ The Sign of Peace

THE LESSON

La Lección Primera
The First Lesson

Hechos 10: 34-43
Acts 10: 34-43

Pedro entonces comenzó a hablar, y dijo: "Ahora entiendo que de veras Dios no hace diferencia entre una persona y otra, sino que en cualquier nación Dios acepta a los que lo reverencian y hacen lo bueno. Dios habló a los descendientes de Israel, anunciando el mensaje de paz por medio de Jesucristo, que es el Soberano de todos. Ustedes bien saben lo que pasó en toda la tierra de Judea, comenzando en Galilea, después que Juan proclamó que era necesario bautizarse. Saben que Dios llenó de poder y del Espíritu Santo a Jesús de Nazaret, y que Jesús anduvo haciendo bien y sanando a todos los que sufrían bajo el poder del diablo. Esto pudo hacerlo porque Dios estaba con Jesús, y nosotros somos testigos de todo lo que hizo Jesús en la región de Judea y en Jerusalén. Después lo mataron, colgándolo en una cruz. Pero Dios lo resucitó al tercer día, e hizo que se nos apareciera a nosotros. Jesús no se apareció a todo el pueblo, sino a nosotros, a quienes Dios había escogido de antemano como testigos. Nosotros comimos y bebimos con Jesús después que resucitó. Y Jesús nos envió a anunciarle al pueblo que Dios lo ha puesto como Juez de los vivos y de los muertos. Todos los profetas habían hablado ya de Jesús, y habían dicho que quienes creen en él reciben por medio de él el perdón de los pecados.

+ Esta es la Palabra de Dios
TE ALABAMOS, O DIOS

Peter began to speak to the crowd: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who reveres God and does what is right is acceptable to God. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Sovereign of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how Jesus went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that Jesus did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put Jesus to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised Jesus on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with Jesus after he rose from the dead. Jesus commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about Jesus that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

**This is the Word of God
THANKS BE TO GOD**

*** CHORAL RESPONSE**

**La Lección Segunda
The Second Lesson**

**Juan 20: 1-9
John 20: 1-9**

El primer día de la semana, María Magdalena fue al sepulcro muy temprano, cuando todavía estaba oscuro; y vio quitada la piedra que tapaba la entrada. Entonces se fue corriendo a donde estaban Simón Pedro y el otro discípulo, aquel a quien Jesús quería mucho, y les dijo: “¡Se han llevado del sepulcro al Maestro, y no sabemos dónde lo han puesto!” Pedro y el otro discípulo salieron y fueron al sepulcro. Los dos iban corriendo juntos; pero el otro corrió más que Pedro y llegó primero al sepulcro. el otro se agachó a mirar, y vio allí las vendas, pero no entró. Detrás del otro llegó Simón Pedro, y entró en el sepulcro. Simón también vio allí las vendas; y además vio que la tela que había servido para envolver la cabeza de Jesús no estaba junto a las vendas, sino enrollada y puesta aparte. Entonces entró también el otro discípulo, la persona que había llegado primero al sepulcro, y vio lo que había pasado, y creyó. Pues todavía no habían entendido lo que dice la Escritura, que Jesús tenía que resucitar.

**+ Esta es la Palabra de Dios
TE ALABAMOS, O DIOS**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Teacher out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. The other disciple bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following, and went into the tomb. Simon saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’s head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and saw and believed, for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that Jesus must rise from the dead.

**+ This is the word of God
THANKS BE TO GOD**

SELECTION

SERMON

The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, Pastor
Metropolitan Community Church of New York

+ SPECIAL MUSIC

THE OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offering Calls
The Rev. Mike Easterling

+ Special Offering: Global Justice Institute

- ~ Giving envelopes available at the door
- ~ Please prayerfully consider direct donations through your bank or credit card giving.
- * Green “faithful giver” slips available at the door for credit card and automatic deduction givers.

THE CELEBRATION AND SHARING OF COMMUNION

Joshua Cherry-Holmes
The Rev. Mike Easterling
Deacon Brenton Buchanan
Deacon Len Richardson

God is with you
AND ALSO WITH YOU

Let us open our hearts
WE OPEN THEM TO GOD

Let us give God thanks and praise
IT IS A GOOD AND JOYFUL THING TO DO

Metropolitan Community Church of New York celebrates an OPEN COMMUNION. Everyone is welcome to share in the Gifts of God for the People of God. (Grape juice is used so that all may freely share in this meal. For those with health concerns, distributors sanitize their hands immediately before the service. Communion wafers for those with wheat or gluten allergies are available upon request. Please let your server know if you need this service.) A prayer of blessing will be offered, unless you request the sacrament only.

PLEASE OBSERVE THE SACREDNESS OF THIS SACRAMENT
by praying silently or by joining in the singing of hymns.

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

“Dame, mi Büen Cristo”	#48/Hymnal
“Es la Vida”	#62/Hymnal
“Sublime Gracia/Amazing Grace”	#14/Hymnal

CLOSING SONG

“Resucitó”

Page 29
Please stand as able

BENEDICTION

+ Deacons are available to pray privately with you.

+ *Immediately following the Benediction, you are welcome to join in a gala celebration provided by Rev. Mike and Casey Easterling!*

+ *Stained Glass design by Jackson Hall*

Easter People, Raise Your Voices

William M. James, 1915-
Joyously

REGENT SQUARE
Henry Smart, 1813-1879

1. Eas - ter peo - ple, raise your voic - es, Sounds of heav'n in
2. Fear of death can no more stop us, From our press - ing
3. Ev - 'ry day to us is Eas - ter, With its Res - ur -

earth should ring. Christ has brought us heav - en's choic - es
here be - low. For the Christ has now em - pow'ed us
rec - tion song. When in trou - ble move the fast - er

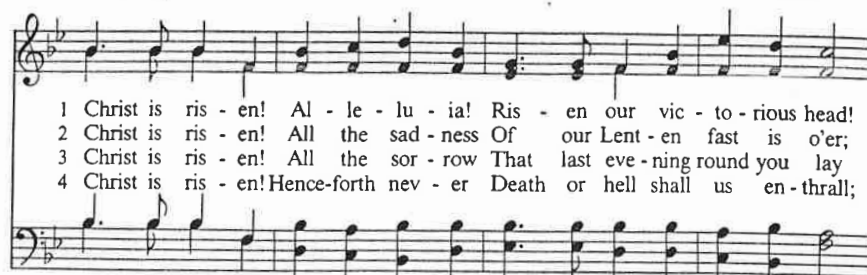
Heav'n - ly mu - sic, let it ring. Al - le - lu - ia!
To tri - umph o - ver ev - 'ry foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
To our God who rights the wrong. Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Eas - ter peo - ple, let us sing.
Al - le - lu - ia! On to vic - t'ry now we go.
Al - le - lu - ia! See the pow'r of heav'n - ly throngs. A - men.

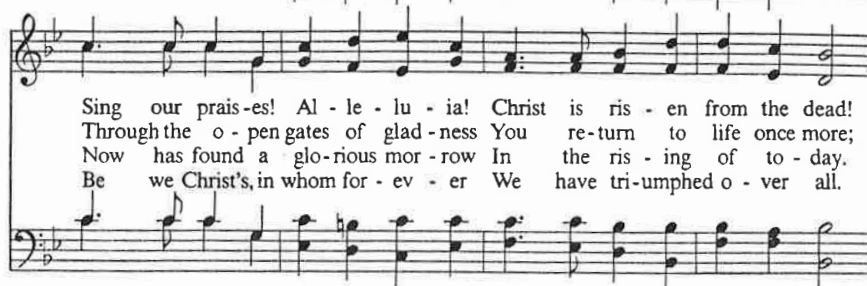
Christ is risen! Alleluia!

8.7.8.7.8.7.D.

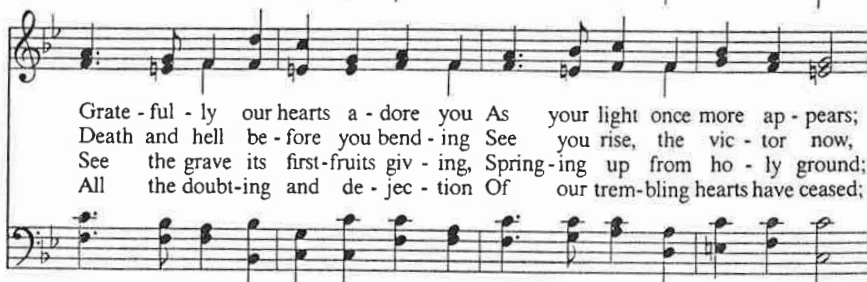
MORGENLIED




1 Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!
2 Christ is ris - en! All the sad - ness Of our Lent - en fast is o'er;
3 Christ is ris - en! All the sor - row That last eve - ning round you lay
4 Christ is ris - en! Hence - forth nev - er Death or hell shall us en - thrall;



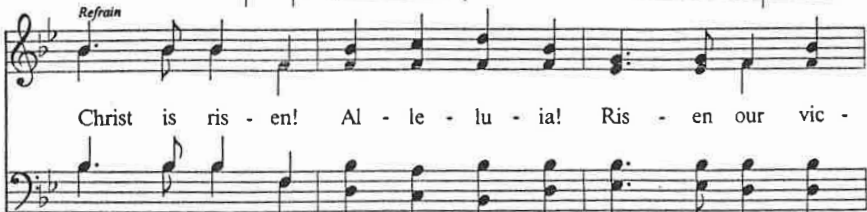
Sing our prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!
Through the o - pen gates of glad - ness You re - turn to life once more;
Now has found a glo - rious mor - row In the ris - ing of to - day;
Be we Christ's, in whom for - ev - er We have tri - umphed o - ver all.



Grate - ful - ly our hearts a - dore you As your light once more ap - pears;
Death and hell be - fore you bend - ing See you rise, the vic - tor now;
See the grave its first - fruits giv - ing, Spring - ing up from ho - ly ground;
All the doubt - ing and de - jec - tion Of our trem - bling hearts have ceased;



Bow - ing down in joy be - fore you, Ris - ing up from griefs and tears.
An - gels on your steps at - tend - ing, Glo - ry round your wound - ed brow.
You were dead, but now are liv - ing; You were lost, but now are found.
Hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.



Refrain
Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic -

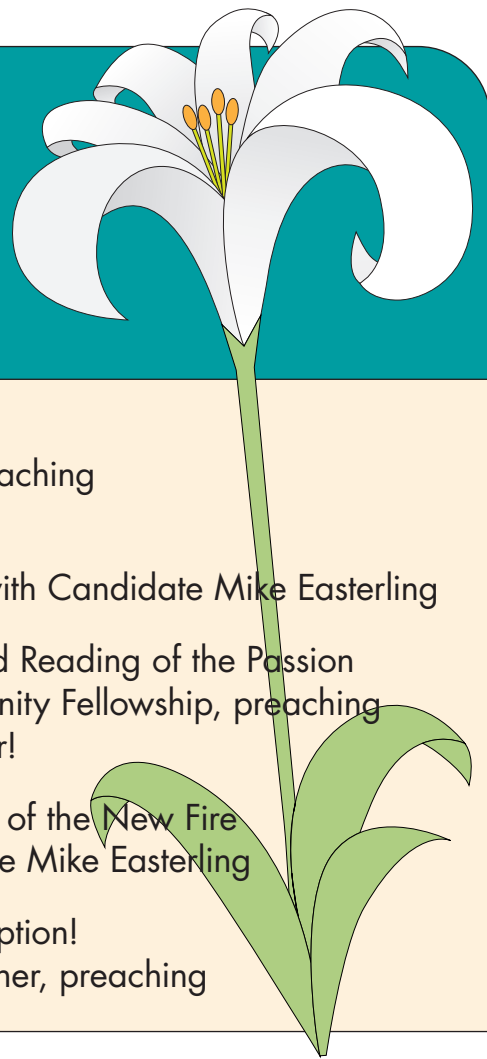


to - rious head! Sing our prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!



Christ is ris - en from the dead!

Easter



Palm Sunday, April 2nd

+ Blessing of Palms
+ The Rev. Dr. Jim Merritt, preaching
+ Holy Week Begins

Holy Thursday, April 6th

7pm Foot Washing Service with Candidate Mike Easterling

Good Friday, April 7th

7pm Stations of the Cross and Reading of the Passion
+ The Rev. Jermaine Green, Unity Fellowship, preaching
+ Lavender Light Gospel Choir!

Holy Saturday, April 8th

7pm Easter Vigil and Lighting of the New Fire
+ The Ordination of Candidate Mike Easterling

Easter Sunday, April 9th

11am Celebration! Gala Reception!
+ The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, preaching

Happy Easter

Charles W. Bumgardner
Creative Services
Creative Direction & Design

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212.870.7805.
cbcs601@aol.com



PASTORAL STAFF

The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner	Pastor
Michael Easterling	Pastoral Operations Manager
The Rev. Dr. Brett Degoldi	Staff Clergy
The Rev. Reg Richburg	Staff Clergy
The Rev. Dr. Jim Merritt	Staff Clergy
Evan Swanson	Director of Music
Carolyn Eufrazio-Traore	Music Ministry
The Little Big Band	

MCCNY Charities

LaDedra Brown	HYS Program Manager
Kailiah Hayes	Food Pantry Manager

LAY DELEGATES

Deacon Brenton Buchannan	Mike Easterling
John Fischer	Deacon Jen Heyward
Casey Easterling	Mary Jane Gibney, alternate

BOARD OF DEACONS

Deacon Brenton Buchannan	Deacon Philip Pares
Deacon Tressie Carter	Deacon Len Richardson
Deacon Jen Heyward	Deacon Frances Wood
Deacon Les LaRue	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bp. Pat Bumgardner	Moderator
Jessie Daniels	Member at Large
Matthew Dempsey	Special Events
Mike Easterling	Fiscal Manager/Strategic Growth
Howard Herrera	Scribe
Lyndsey Jones-McAdams	Member at Large
Theresa Pascoe	Member at Large
Rob Franek	Member at Large

PROGRAMMING

Religious Education/Membership

Bishop Reg Richburg	Facilitator
Michael Easterling	Membership
Deacon Tressie Carter	Membership

Christians of African Descent

Deacon Brenton Buchannan	Facilitator
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E-Prayer Group

Deacon Jen Heyward	Facilitator
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Hospitality	Esmerelda and Camilla
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Newsletter/Bulletin

Deacon Frances Wood	<i>The Query</i> Editor
Deacon Les LaRue	<i>The Query</i> /Bulletin Design

Audio & Virtual Ministries

John Phelps	
Live-streaming 9am	Bob Ferrara, audio
Live-streaming 11am	Shelby Sparks
Virtual Worship Leader	Casey Easterling

Web Sites	John Phelps
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ASL Interpreter	Pat Dash
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Instagram and Facebook	Casey Easterling
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*** 9am & 11am CELEBRATION LIVE-STREAMED EVERY SUNDAY!**

*** Pantry and shelter remain open. † For pastoral calls: 332-400-7488**

CHANGE:

MCCNY has a new phone#:

332-400-7488

Please make sure the Church has your cell phone number and email address!
Send to: RvPatMCCNY@aol.com