



MCCNY



METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NEW YORK

Holy Week
and

Easter

Journal of 2024

Holy Week and

Easter Celebrations



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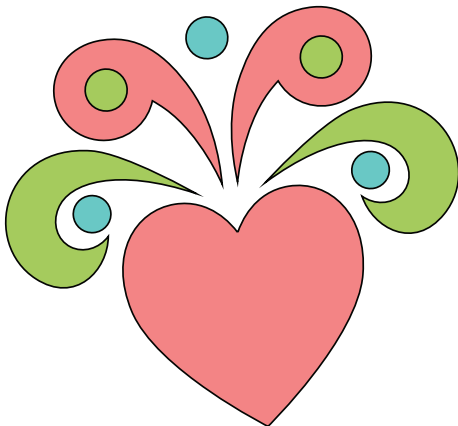
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MCC[®]

METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCHES

Easter 2023

Dear Saints:

YOU ARE the Church Alive! I love this year's theme, because it speaks so clearly to who you as a community are and to the great needs of the world around us.

You are alive with the Good News preached every week from your pulpit.

Alive with the offer of food and shelter and a spiritual home to all who come your way.

Alive with your witness to justice from the streets of New York City to the narrow roadway through Mtito Andei.

Salvation for all, community for all and social justice for all is the foundation we built on and will forge a future with as the Church alive!

Have a blessed Holy Week and Easter, and know that Phillip and I will be with you in spirit.

In Christ's love,

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



*After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning,
Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb....
~ Matthew 28*

Easter 2024

Dear friends ~

Jesus is not on the cross! He's not in the stone-sealed tomb, according to Matthew. ~ He's on the loose! Go tell the others, the angel who appears will tell the two Marys ... "Jesus is going ahead of you."

When the Easter Gospel is proclaimed this year, some ~ perhaps most ~ will focus on a message of eternal life and a promise beyond our earthly existence. What pulls at my heart, though ~ what resonates with me this Easter of 2024, in what we hoped would be the aftermath of a global pandemic, only to be bombarded with newer viruses springing up in major cities like ours, and as the world faces the resurgence of genocidal onslaughts from a small sliver of land in the Middle East to the borders of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and places like Sudan; as whatever we conceived the promise of America to be, whether a vision worthy of global aspiration or a great experiment to be emulated, seems to daily be farther and farther from the reach of those for whom Emma Lazarus penned the words, "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free," ~ what pulls at my hearts are those words of the Risen Christ, "I go before you," as if to say it's what's ahead of us, not behind us that matters.

Moving forward—always—never turning back or getting stuck in what has happened. There's nothing behind us that can save us or open the door to a better future. That is in front of us. Christ goes before us ~ that's Matthew's message.

In Matthew's view, Jesus' resurrection signals the time when God breaks into the world and challenges us to push forward. Something bigger is happening in Jesus' resurrection, Matthew is saying; something bigger than just one person experiencing eternal life. Those of us who follow the Presence in front of us are moving into a new period of history in which God's reign is unfolding with every step we take forward.

Matthew's story focuses not on describing what happened to Jesus ~ but on what can happen to us, if we will keep our eyes and hearts and spirits attuned to what is always in front of us: the loving and life-giving presence of Jesus the Christ.

The issue guiding Matthew's Gospel is what direction to head in. With the story of the appearances of the Risen Christ, Matthew is saying ~ head in the direction of the one who taught love over every other option—always; the one who taught unending forgiveness—70 times 7; who said the only thing we'll ever be asked about when we are ourselves raised up and stand before the throne of God is how often we fed the hungry or visited the sick and imprisoned.

The point of Matthew's resurrection story is there's always someone in front of us, whose teaching and ways promise a better life for everyone. Follow that one's lead.

...Four years ago this March, the World Health Organization declared a global pandemic, and our lives as we knew them, much like those of the earliest disciples, were turned upside down. We had to learn how to relate, how to play, how to access health care, how to shop, even how to worship—how to do almost everything—on our own. And to many of us, even to those of us who adjusted well, I think it felt like things would never be the same again ~ that things we centered our lives in were forever gone. Matthew is saying, perhaps somewhat more gently than I am here, what's gone is gone. In another Gospel, an angel will say to the grieving women, "Why look for the living among the dead?" Focus on what's right in front of you: a Presence that promises to lead you into a future that holds nothing but hope and possibility.

We must always push forward, if for no other reason than we cannot have a better past. There is always the promise of a better future, because Christ goes before us. And that is the Good News we will be celebrating as the Church Alive this Holy Week and Easter. I hope you will be here.

With love,



The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner

- ✦ Holy Thursday at 7pm. Footwashing Ceremony with Rev. Brett, Sam Davis & Tonie Boykin
- ✦ Good Friday at 7pm Stations of the Cross and Choral Reading of the Passion with Lavender Light Gospel Choir, the MCCNY Choir and Carolyn Traore, and The Rev. Gale Jones preaching
- ✦ Holy Saturday at 7pm the Easter Vigil with the lighting of the New Fire, the Exultet and Reading of Salvation History, and The Rev. Kristen Orion preaching
- ✦ Easter Sunday at 11am (only) Celebration Service with wonderful music, The Rev. Pat Bumgardner preaching, and a gala reception to follow!

CONGRATULATIONS
MCCNY
ON
52 YEARS

Mary Jane Gibney
MA, LC
PSYCHOTHERAPY

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Suite 11Z
New York, NY 10011*

646 265 8139

gibneymsw@aol.com

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

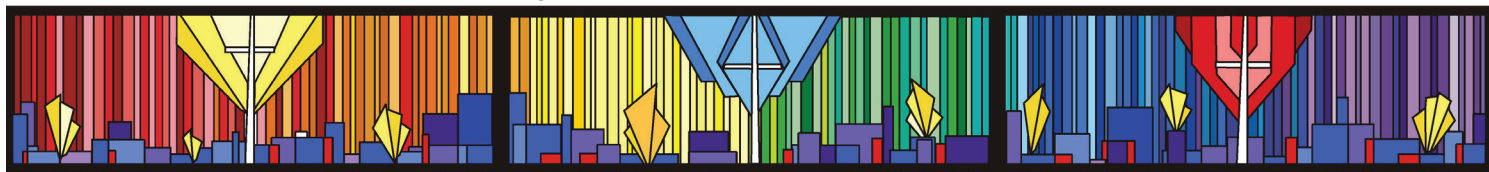


1. Ho-san-na in the high-est our ea-ger hearts ac-claim The
2. Te re-ci-bio con pal-mas el pue-blo he-bre fiel, no-
3. O one of Yah-weh's Pro-phets who comes of sim-ple folk, To
4. Te dier-on a-la-ban-zas poco an-tes de mo-rir, no
5. Re-store our eyes from blind-ness Make clear the life, the way, That



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



“In times like these”

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

- + **PALM SUNDAY!** Holy Week begins!
- + **Blessing of Palms** at all services!
- ♣ **Purim** ♣ **World TB Day**
- + **Anniv. of Archbishop Oscar Romero (1980)**
- ♥ **Happy Birthday Stella Marie Serpineto!**
- + **The Rev. Dr. Jim Merritt, preaching**
(Mk. 21: 1-10, Is. 50: 4-7, Mk. 14: 1-11)

8:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 9am

9:00 am **Traditional Liturgy:** Blessing of Palms

10:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 11am

11:00am **Celebration Liturgy:** Blessing of Palms

9:00 pm Sylvania's Place Youth Shelter

Monday, March 25: Monday of Holy Week/ Office Closed

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

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvania's Place

Tuesday, March 26: Tuesday of Holy Week

- ♥ **Happy Birthday Christopher Bramfitt & Rev. Kerri Mesner!**

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 Sylvania's Place

Wednesday, March 27: Wed. of Holy Week

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) re-opens April 3rd**

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvania's Place

Thursday, March 28: Holy Thursday

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

6:00 pm **Covenanted Bible/Theology Study w/Rev. Reg via Zoom resumes April 4th**

7:00 pm Restoration Temple Rehearsal resumes April 4th

7:00 pm **Holy Thursday Service with Rev. Brett, Sam Davis, and Tonie Boykin**

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvania's Place

2024: We are the Church Alive!

Friday, March 29: Good Friday

- ♥ **Happy Birthday Kaliah Hayes, Anthony Reinhardt, and Simon Fishburn!**

12:15 pm Taize Prayer w/Rev. Brett (Facebook Live)

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. Gale Jones,

Long Island Community Fellowship, preaching

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvania's Place

Saturday, March 30: Holy Saturday

- ♥ **Happy Birthday Danny Gonzalez!**

- ♥ **Happy Anniv. Rev. Uthasyo & Pastor Robai!**

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

+ Lighting of the New Fire

+ Chanting of Exultet + Salvation History

+ The Rev. Kristen Orion, preaching

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvania's Place

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

+ **EASTER SUNDAY!**

+ **Anniversary of Sylvania's Place (2003)**

+ **5th Sunday in Women's History Month**

+ **Trans Day of Visibility!**

♣ **Gala Reception!**

- ♥ **Happy Birthday Jack Waddell, Jeremy Kwan, and Rev. Nancy Radcliffe!**

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

(Acts 10: 34-43 & Mt. 28: 1-10)

8:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 9am resumes April 7th

9:00 am **Traditional Liturgy** resumes April 7th

10:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 11am

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

9:00 pm Sylvania's Place Youth Shelter

WELCOME

Bishop Pat Bumgardner, Pastor
Metropolitan Community Church of New York

+The Blessing of the Palms
Matthew 11: 1-10

PRELUDE

Udi Gershuni, Director of Music
Carolyn Traore, Song Leader and Soloist

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**

Marcos 14: 1-11
Mark 14: 1-11

CHORAL RESPONSE

Morning Choir

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Jim Merritt
Staff Clergy, Metropolitan Community Church of New York

+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.*

+CELEBRATION AND SHARING OF COMMUNION

The Rev. Dr. Brett Degoldi

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

"It is Well"

#116/Hymnal
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
Udi Gershuni, Director of Music
Carolyn Traore, Song Leader and Soloist

PROCESSION

Please stand as able

“All Glory, Laud and Honor”

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WELCOME

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

+ **The Blessing of Palms (Mark 11: 1-10)**
+ **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

Marcos 14: 1-11

The Second Lesson

Mark 14: 1-11

Faltaban dos días para la fiesta de la Pascua, cuando se come el pan sin levadura. Los jefes de los sacerdotes y los maestros de la ley buscaban la manera de arrestar a Jesús por medio de algún engaño, y matarlo. Pues algunos decían: “No durante la fiesta, para que la gente no se alborote.” Jesús había ido a Betania, a casa de Simón, la persona que llamaban el leproso. Mientras Jesús estaba sentado a la mesa, llegó una mujer que llevaba un frasco de alabastro lleno de perfume de nardo puro, de mucho valor. Rompió el frasco y derramó el perfume sobre la cabeza de Jesús. Algunos de los presentes se enojaron, y se dijeron unos a otros: “¿Por qué se ha desperdiciado este perfume? Podía haberse vendido por el equivalente al salario de trescientos días, para ayudar a los pobres.” Y criticaban a aquella mujer. Pero Jesús dijo: “Déjenla; ¿por qué la molestan? Ha hecho una obra buena conmigo. Pues a los pobres siempre los tendrán entre ustedes, y pueden hacerles bien cuando quieran; pero a mí no siempre me van a tener. Esta mujer ha hecho lo que ha podido: ha perfumado mi cuerpo de antemano para mi entierro. Les aseguro que en cualquier lugar del mundo donde se anuncie la buena noticia, se hablará también de lo que hizo esta mujer, y así será recordada.” Judas Iscariote, uno de los doce discípulos, fue a ver a los jefes de los sacerdotes para entregarles a Jesús. Al oírlo, se alegraron y prometieron darle dinero a Judas, que comenzó a buscar el momento más oportuno de entregar a Jesús.

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

It was two days before the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him, for they said, "Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people." While Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on Jesus' head. But some were there who said to one another in anger, "Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor." And they scolded her. But Jesus said, "Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish, but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her." Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray Jesus to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased and promised to give Judas money. So Judas began to look for an opportunity to betray Jesus.

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

SELECTION

SERMON

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

+ *The Installation of Rev. Merritt as Auxiliary Bishop
for the Global Justice Institute*

SPECIAL MUSIC

Richie Torres, Soloist

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
The Rev. Dr. Brett Degoldi
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

"Cristo, Cristo"

#47/Hymnal

"Nearer, My God, to Thee"

#142/Hymnal

"It is Well"

#116/Hymnal

CLOSING SONG

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

Please Stand as Able

*Ain't gonna let nobody turn me 'round, turn me 'round turn me 'round"
Ain't gonna let nobody turn me 'round, marching up to freedom land . . .*

BENEDICTION

+ *Deacons are available to pray privately with you.*

+ *Join us for fellowship time 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: All worship celebrations (9am Traditional and 11am Celebration) are now 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

SUPPORT MCCNY!

Options abound!

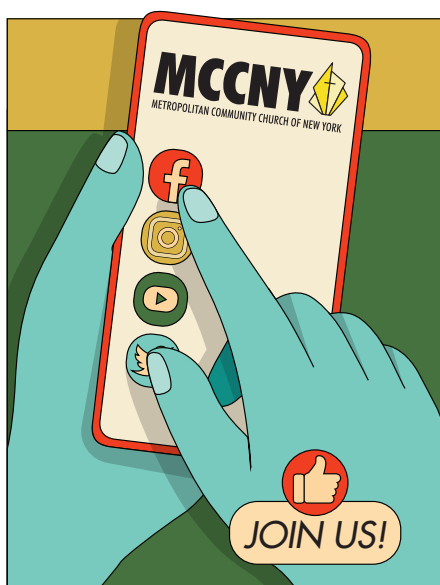


- Sign up for one time or recurring giving at www.easytithe.com/mccny
- Donate by text message by sending any numerical amount to **646-681-7445**

MCCNY E-Prayer Ministry: If you would like to participate in the prayer ministry 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.

PLEASE REMEMBER to list the Church and our phone number among those to be contacted in case of illness or an emergency. Church Pastors will contact and visit you.

MCCNY has a new phone number! 332-400-7488



Connect with MCCNY

Website: www.mccny.org

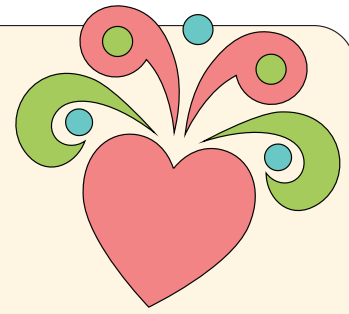
Facebook: MCCNY

Instagram: @m_c_c_n_y

Youtube: @MCCNewYork

Twitter: MCCNewYork

Why I Give to MCCNY



I give because I am grateful –
I am grateful for the people I have met in this place.

I give because I am thankful –
that the gospel of Jesus Christ is preached in this place in more ways than just words.

I give because I am thankful –
that MCCNY provides a safe space not just for gay men and lesbians, but also for our trans and bi siblings and our straight allies too.

I give because I am grateful –
that our trans siblings find a source of inspiration and community.

I give because I am grateful –
For the preaching and teachings that have taken place here.

I am grateful –
For our musicians and singers and choir who bring healing, joy, and awake our conscious with their notes and songs.

I give because I am thankful –
that I have had opportunities to volunteer time and skills in this space.

I give because I am thankful –
Not just for Easter and Christmas services, but for our unique Homecoming service when everyone returns and the hustle and bustle of new activities and old ones begin anew.

I give because God is alive and the Holy Spirit moves us in so many ways...in this space.

I give because I am grateful –
that as MCCNY'ers, along with our straight friends and allies...we are so diverse and we create many ways to show love, inspire and claim each other as children of God.

I give because I am thankful –
that at times I can give more and sometimes I can only give less and there is no guilt or shaming about it.

I give because I am grateful –
That I can connect with you, my siblings and we worship God and sing our praises
TOGETHER!!!!

—Maribelle Vazquez

Holy Thursday



Traditional Holy Thursday Service 2024
52nd Anniversary Year at MCCNY: We are the Church Alive!
7PM

Our Time together

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

WELCOME & INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The Rev. Dr. Brett Degoldi,
Staff Clergy, Metropolitan Community Church of New York
Sam Davis and Tonie Boykin

OPENING MUSIC

"Be With Me"

Instrumental

Bless my God

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

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

The image shows two systems of musical notation for the hymn "Bless my God". Each system consists of a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment line in the bass clef. The music is in 4/4 time and the key signature has one flat (B-flat major). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system. The first system's lyrics are "Bless my God, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name." and the second system's lyrics are "Bless my God, my soul, who leads me in - to life." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

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

2024 MCCNY EASTER OFFERING CAMPAIGN FOR THE GLOBAL JUSTICE INSTITUTE

Dear friends and supporters of the Global Justice Institute:

I want to begin by thanking you for all you have made possible in our very challenging world through your ongoing and faithful support. LGBTQI people and our allies are pushing forward despite the inflamed rhetoric and renewed legal and social opposition faced.

In Kenya, in conjunction with Kimer Kumba Cultural Center and Neema MCC, support continues to be offered to widows and their families, weekly meetings for women are being facilitated, work proceeds on a rural economic empowerment program, weekly meetings for seniors are offered, Sunday celebrations are in place, and community gardens and the production of fresh fruits and vegetables is providing nourishment and in some cases income for the surrounding community in Mtito Andei. Thank you Stan Kimer for all you visionary support and leadership, and Rev. Uthasyo and Pastor Robai for your faithfulness and devotion.

In Costa Rica, a young man named Denis continues to partner with the Global Justice Institute in the work of sheltering and supporting refugees from Central America.

In Honduras, our partnership with Ecumenicas continues to enable cisgender and trans women in the fight for equality, safety and reproductive freedom.

In Mexico, our partner continues to address the fight against AIDS.

In Brazil our support of the work of Rev. Cristiano has helped make participation in Pride possible, as well as an LGBT retreat, the ongoing efforts of Sapphira, and a shelter in Maringa.

A deep debt of gratitude is owed to The Rev. Elder Margarita Sanchez-DeLeon for all her effort in coordinating so many ongoing projects in Central and Latin America.

In Eastern Europe, we remain indebted to Florin Bucheceanu and The Rev. Dr. Jim Merritt for sustaining our presence in Armenia, maintaining an office in Lithuania, continuing the fight for legislation in support of Queer families from Romania, and working to help secure safe passage for people endangered in Belarus. Our ongoing partnership with Journalists4Tolerance continues to work for equality and safety for LGBT people through the media.

All things are possible for them that believe ~ and we believe, with your help and support, it is possible to create a world where God's promise of peace on earth and goodwill among all is reality. We do a lot with

the gifts and support you offer, and are asking that you continue to give and support the work of the Global Justice Institute. Take a special offering or make a personal gift, knowing that every dollar raised goes to the work of justice.

With gratitude,



Rev. Pat

The Global Justice Institute holds 501(c)3 status, and all gifts are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law in the United States. Your gifts can be mailed to Global Justice Institute, 446 West 36th Street, New York, NY 10018 or sent electronically by visiting our website at www.globaljusticeinstitute.com and clicking the donate button. For more information about the Global Justice Institute please contact The Rev. Dr. Jim Merritt at RevJimMerritt@globaljusticeinstitute.org.



The Global Justice Institute was proud to sponsor ICM* Brazil's 2023 National Retreat in Teresina!

**ICM stands for Igrejas de Comunidad Metropolitana or "MCC" in Portuguese.*



Good Friday



Good Friday, March 29, 2024
52nd Anniversary Year at MCCNY: We are the Church Alive!

Good Friday: MCCNY and Long Island Community Fellowship Worshiping Together at 7pm!

ASL Interpreter

Pat Dash

PRELUDE

MCCNY Choir
Udi Gershuni, Director of Music
Carolyn Traore, Song Leader and Soloist

THE LAVENDER LIGHT BLACK AND PEOPLE OF ALL COLORS GOSPEL CHOIR

Eric Williamson, Artistic Director • Maria-Elena Grant, President

+ + +

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

“We Belong”

MCCNY Choir
Carolyn Traore and Philip Pares, Soloists

+ 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

“One of Us” by Joan Osborne

Sylvester McCracken, Soloist

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 "Everything's Alright" (*Jesus Christ Superstar*) Heidi Siegell and Samantha Shoffner, Soloists

SERMON **The Rev. Gale Jones**
Long Island Community Fellowship Church

+ THE OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

+ SPECIAL MUSIC "Long Train Running" Carolyn Traore, Soloist

BENEDICTION

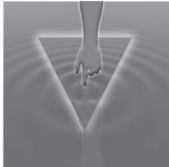
+Please receive the light as it is passed to you
+ Lifting up of the names

*(Following the final words by our Pastor, you are welcome to meditate briefly,
extinguish your candle and join in the 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 39th 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.



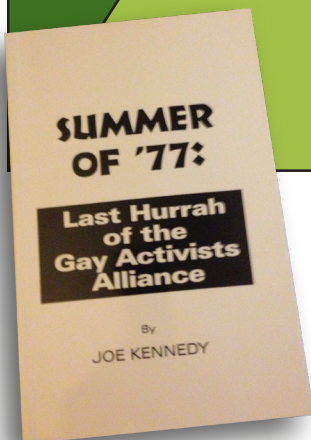
Follow us:  Lavender Light Gospel Choir  @LAVLIGHT



Thank GOD for the Church of LGBTQ+ People

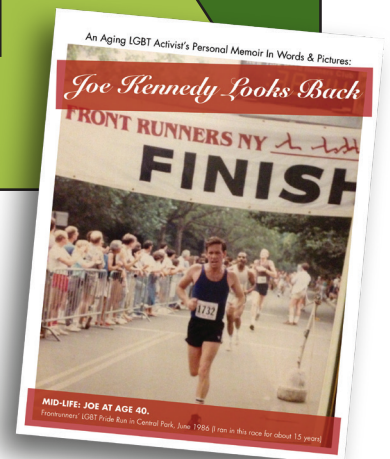


With gratitude from Joe Kennedy



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 Special Events
Lyndsey McAdams Special Events
Theresa Pascoe Finances
Rob Franek Public Relations/Outreach
Sam Davis Scribe

Holy Saturday



Metropolitan Community Church of New York

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

Saturday, March 30

+ Holy Saturday

- ♥ Happy Birthday Danny Gonzalez!
- ♥ Happy Anniv. Rev. Uthasyo & Pastor Robai!

7:00 pm Easter Vigil Liturgy:

- + Lighting of the New Fire
- + Chanting of Exultet + Salvation History
- + The Rev. Kristen Orion, preaching

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

+ Easter Sunday

- + Anniversary of Sylvia's Place (2003)
- + 5th Sunday in Women's History Month
- + Trans Day of Visibility!
- ♣ Gala Reception!
- ♥ Happy Birthday Jack Waddell, Jeremy Kwan, and Rev. Nancy Radcliffe!
- + The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, preaching
(Acts 10: 34-43 & Mt. 28: 1-10)

8:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 9am resumes April 7th

9:00 am Traditional Liturgy resumes April 7th

10:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 11am

11:00 am Celebration Liturgy Live-streamed!

9:00 pm Sylvia's Place Youth Shelter

Monday, April 01

Monday of the Easter Octave/Office Closed

- ♥ Happy Birthday Rev. DeWayne Davis!

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

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Tuesday, April 02

Tuesday of the Easter Octave

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 03

Wednesday of the Easter Octave

- ♥ Happy Birthday 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) resumes!

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Thursday, April 04

Thursday of the Easter Octave

- + Anniversary of Martin Luther King (1968)

- ♥ Happy Birthday First Lady Mary Jane Gibney and Rev. Reneé McCoy!

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

6:00 pm Covenanted Bible/Theology Study w/Rev. Reg resumes!

7:00 pm Restoration Temple Rehearsal

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Friday, April 05

Friday of the Easter Octave

- ♥ Happy Birthday Maribelle Vazquez!
- ♥ Happy Anniv. Rev. Pat & Mary Jane Gibney!

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

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

6:30 pm Queer Shabbat Service

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Saturday, April 06

Saturday of the Easter Octave

- ♥ Happy Birthday Ursula Kwong-Brown!

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

SUNDAY, APRIL 07

+ 2nd SUNDAY of EASTER!

- + The Rev. Dr. Brett Degoldi, preaching

(Acts 4: 32-35 & John 20: 19-31)

8:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 9am resumes!

9:00 am Traditional Liturgy resumes!

10:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 11am

11:00 am Celebration Liturgy Live-streamed!

6:00 pm Queer Muslim Gathering

9:00 pm Sylvia's Place Youth Shelter

The Community at Worship 7 pm: "Impossible Courage"

ASL Interpreter

Pat Dash

+ *Easter Vigil Liturgy* +

PRELUDE

String Ensemble
Udi Gershuni, Director of Music

SELECTION

"I am Light" ~*India Arie*

Carolyn Traore, Soloist

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****Marcos 16: 1-7
Mark 16: 1-7**

Pasado el sábado, María Magdalena, María la madre de Santiago, y Salomé, compraron perfumes para perfumar el cuerpo de Jesús. Y el primer día de la semana fueron al sepulcro muy temprano, apenas salido el sol, diciéndose unas a otras: “¿Quién nos quitará la piedra de la entrada del sepulcro?” Pero, al mirar, vieron que la piedra ya no estaba en su lugar. Esta piedra era muy grande. Cuando entraron en el sepulcro vieron, sentado al lado derecho, a un joven vestido con una larga ropa blanca. Las mujeres se asustaron, pero la persona les dijo: “No se asusten. Ustedes buscan a Jesús de Nazaret, la persona que fue crucificado. Jesús ha resucitado; no está aquí. Miren el lugar donde lo pusieron. Vayan y digan a los discípulos, y a Pedro: Jesús va a Galilea para reunirlos de nuevo; allí lo verán, tal como Jesús les dijo.”

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

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus' body. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young person dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. But the person said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid Jesus. But go, tell the disciples and Peter that Jesus is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as Jesus told you.”

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

Solo

“Can the Dead Rise Up to Praise”

Asa Orion, Soloist

SERMON**The Rev. Kristen Orion****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**

“Beautiful City”

Philip Pares, Soloist

THE CELEBRATION AND SHARING OF COMMUNION

The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner
The Rev. Dr. Brett Degoldi
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.

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

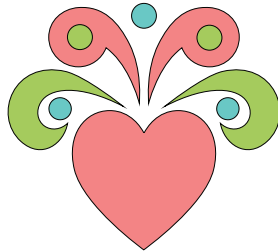
March 31, 2024
Easter Sunday

MCC globally celebrates "55 Years of Offering Our Light to the World"
52nd Anniversary Year at MCCNY: We are the Church Alive!

The Community at Worship 11am

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

Pat Dash



Forward Ho!

PRELUDE

"I'm Blessed"

Udi Gershuni, Director of Music
Heidi Siegell, 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 acepta a los que lo reverencian a Dios y hacen lo bueno de Dios. 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. 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 Jesús reciben por medio de Jesús 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

“Oh Happy Day”

MCCNY Choir
Sylvester McCracken, Soloist

**La Lección Segunda
The Second Lesson**

**Matteo 28: 1-10
Matthew 28: 1-10**

Pasado el sábado, cuando al anochecer comenzaba el primer día de la semana, María Magdalena y la otra María fueron a ver el sepulcro. De pronto hubo un fuerte temblor de tierra, porque un ángel de Dios bajó del cielo y, acercándose al sepulcro, quitó la piedra que lo tapaba y se sentó sobre ella. El ángel brillaba como un relámpago, y la ropa del ángel era blanca como la nieve. Al verlo, los soldados temblaron de miedo y quedaron como muertos. El ángel dijo a las mujeres: “No tengan miedo. Yo sé que están buscando a Jesús, la persona que fue crucificado. Jesús no está aquí, sino que ha resucitado, como dijo. Vengan a ver el lugar donde lo pusieron. Vayan pronto y digan a los discípulos: ‘Jesús ha resucitado, y va a Galilea para reunirlos de nuevo; allí lo verán.’ Esto es lo que yo tenía que decirles.” Las mujeres se fueron rápidamente del sepulcro, con miedo y mucha alegría a la vez, y corrieron a llevar la noticia a los discípulos. En eso, Jesús se presentó ante ellas y las saludó. Ellas se acercaron a Jesús y lo adoraron, abrazándole los pies, y Jesús les dijo: “No tengan miedo. Vayan a decir a mis hermanos y mis hermanas que se dirijan a Galilea, y que allá me verán.”

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

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of God, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. The appearance of the angel was like lightning and its clothing white as snow. For fear of the angel the guards shook and became like dead people. But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. Jesus is not here, for Jesus has been raised, as Jesus said. Come, see the place where Jesus lay. Then go quickly and tell the disciples, ‘Jesus has been raised from the dead, and indeed is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell the disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to Jesus, took hold of his feet, and worshiped. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

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

SELECTION

“Did You Feel the Mountains”

MCCNY Choir

SERMON

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

+ SPECIAL MUSIC

“Blessed Assurance”

Sylvester McCracken and Heidi Siegell

+ 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. Dr. Brett Degoldi
 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!*

+ *Stained Glass design by Jackson Hall*

Sing with all the saints in glory

8.7.8.7.D.

HYMN TO JOY

1. Sing with all the saints in glo - ry, Sing the res - ur -
 2. O what glo - ry, far ex - ceed - ing All that eye has
 3. Life e - ter - nal! heav'n re - joic - es: Je - sus lives who
 4. Life e - ter - nal! O what won - ders Crowd on faith; what

rec - tion song! Death and sor - row, earth's old sto - ry,
 yet per - ceived! Ho - liest hearts for a - ges plead - ing,
 once was dead; Shout with joy, O death - less voic - es!
 joy un - known, When, a - midst earth's clos - ing thun - ders,

To the for - mer days be - long. All a - round the
 Nev - er that full joy con - ceived. God has prom - ised,
 Child of God, lift up your head! Men and wo - men
 Saints shall stand be - fore the throne! O to en - ter

clouds are break - ing, Soon the storms of time shall cease;
 Christ pre - pares it, There on high our wel - come waits;
 from the a - ges, Saints all long - ing for their heaven,
 that bright por - tal, See that glow - ing fir - ma - ment,

In God's like - ness, we a - wak - en, Know - ing ev - er - last - ing peace.
 Ev - 'ry hum - ble spir - it shares it, Christ has passed the e - ter - nal gates.
 Proph - ets, psalm - ists, seers, and sag - es, All a - wait the glo - ry giv'n.
 Know, with you, O God im - mor - tal, Je - sus Christ whom you have sent!

TEXT: William J. Irons, 1873, alt.

MUSIC: from Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; arr. Edward Hodges, 1864

From *Worship*, © 1986 G.I.A. Publications

EASTERTIDE

The Hymnal Project, © 1990 MCC San Francisco

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!

TEXT: John Samuel Bewley Monrell, 1863, alt.

MUSIC: Frederick C. Maker, 1876

From *The Lutheran Book of Worship*, © 1978 Augsburg Fortress

The Hymnal Project, © 1990 MCC San Francisco

EASTER

Celebrate Holy Week & Easter!

Palm Sunday, March 24th

- + Blessing of Palms
- + The Rev. Dr. Jim Merritt, preaching

Holy Thursday, March 28th

- Footwashing Service at 7pm
- + The Rev. Dr. Brett Degoldi *Potluck to follow!*

Good Friday, March 29th

- with Lavender Light Gospel Choir at 7pm
- + Carolyn Traore and MCCNY Choir!
- + The Rev. Gale Jones, preaching

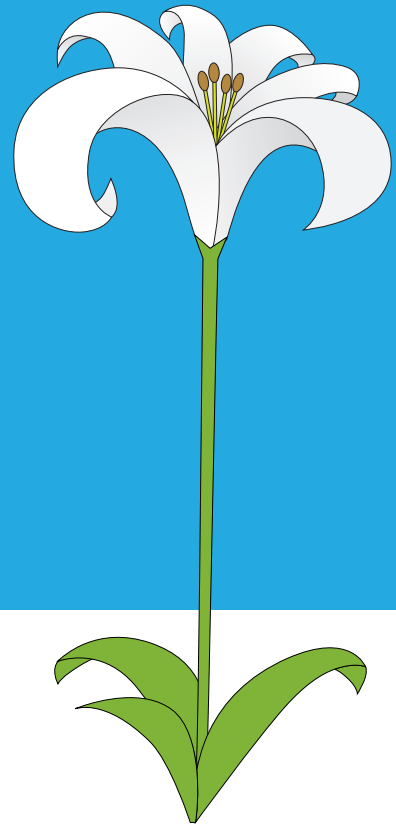
Holy Saturday, March 30th

- with Lighting of the New Fire at 7pm
- + Carolyn Traore and MCCNY Choir!
- + The Rev. Kristen Orion, preaching

Easter Sunday, March 31st

One service at 11am!

- + Carolyn Traore and MCCNY Choir!
- + The Rev. Pat Bumgardner, preaching
- Gala Reception and Easter Egg Hunt for Children!*



Happy Easter

Charles W. Bumgardner
Creative Services
Creative Direction & Design

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New York, NY 10001
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MCCNY is a member of Metropolitan Community Churches, a global movement of faith with congregations in 40 nations.
The Rev. Elder Troy D. Perry, Founder

PASTORAL STAFF

The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner	Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Brett Degoldi	Staff Clergy
The Rev. Reg Richburg	Staff Clergy
The Rev. Dr. Jim Merritt	Staff Clergy
Udi Gershuni	Director of Music
Heidi Siegell	Music Ministry
The Little Big Band	

MCCNY Charities

LaDedra Brown	HYS Program Manager
Kailiah Hayes	Food Pantry Manager

LAY DELEGATES

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

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Deacon Tressie Carter	Deacon Len Richardson
Deacon Jen Heyward	Deacon Frances Wood
Deacon Les LaRue	

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Bishop Reg Richburg	Facilitator
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

Deacon Brenton Buchannan	
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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	Bob Ferrara
Virtual Worship Leader	

Web Sites

John Phelps	
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ASL Interpreter

Pat Dash	
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Instagram and Facebook



* 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**

