



# *A Bigger Cycle of Life*

**March is Women's History Month**

## **SUNDAY, MARCH 17**

- ✦ **5th Sunday in Lent**
- ✦ **3rd Sunday in Women's History Month**
- ♣ **St. Patrick's Day!**
- ✦ **Deacon Les LaRue, preaching**  
(Jeremiah 31:31-34. & John 12:20-33)

8:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 9am  
9:00 am **Traditional Liturgy**  
10:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 11am  
11:00am **Celebration Liturgy**  
9:00 pm Sylvia's Place Youth Shelter

## **Monday, March 18: Office Closed**

- ✦ **Orthodox Lent begins**
- 5:00 pm The Gary Skala Drop-in Clinic (HYS—to 8pm)
- 9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

## **Tuesday, March 19**

- ✦ **Feast of St. Joseph**
- 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, March 20**

- ♣ **National Native American AIDS Awareness Day**
- 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, March 21: ♣ Internat'l Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination**

- ✦ **Global Day of Prayer to End Famine**
- ♥ **Happy Birthday Rev. Tawnee Walling!**

## **2024: We are the Church Alive!**

### **Thursday, March 21 (continued)**

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, March 22: World Water Day**

#### ♥ **Happy Birthday Chan Tak!**

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, March 23**

#### ♥ **Happy Birthday Tracie & Deacon Tressie!**

1:00 pm The Freedom Room at MCCNY  
9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

## **SUNDAY, MARCH 24**

- ✦ **Palm Sunday!**
- ✦ **4th Sunday in Women's History Month**
- ✦ **Blessing of Palms at all Services**
- ♣ **Purim ♣ World TB Day**
- ✦ **Anniv. of Archbishop Oscar Romero (1980)**
- ♥ **Happy Birthday Stella Marie Serpinetto!**
- ✦ **The Rev. Dr. Jim Merritt, preaching**  
(Mk. 11: 1-10 • Is. 50: 4-7 • Mk. 14: 1-11)

8:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 9am  
9:00 am **Traditional Liturgy**  
10:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 11am  
11:00 am **Celebration Liturgy:**  
12:30 pm Choir Brainstorming Meeting  
9:00 pm Sylvia's Place Youth Shelter

**\* 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**

**MCCNY**   
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NEW YORK

March 17, 2024

✚ 3rd Sunday in Women's History Month

✚ Lent V

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



## PRELUDE

Udi Gershuni, Music Director  
Ammon Taylor, Accompanist  
Heidi Siegel, Song Leader

## PROCESSION

"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"

#212/Hymnal

*Please stand as able*

## WELCOME

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

## THE LESSON

La Lección Primera

The First Lesson

Jeremías 31: 31-34

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

Dios afirma: "Vendrá un día en que haré una nueva alianza con Israel y con Judá. Esta alianza no será como la que hice con sus antepasados, cuando los tomé de la mano para sacarlos de Egipto; porque ellos quebrantaron mi alianza, a pesar de que yo era su dueño. Yo, Dios, lo afirmo. Ésta será la alianza que haré con Israel en aquel tiempo: Pondré mi ley en su corazón y la escribiré en su mente. Yo seré su Dios y ellos serán mi pueblo. Yo, Dios, lo afirmo. Ya no será necesario que unos a otros, amigos y parientes, tengan que instruirse para que me conozcan, porque todos, desde el más grande hasta el más pequeño, me conocerán. Yo les perdonaré su maldad y no me acordaré más de sus pecados. Yo, Dios, lo afirmo."

+ Esta es la Palabra de Dios

TE ALABAMOS, O DIOS

"The days are surely coming," says God, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their spouse," says God. "But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days," says God: "I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, 'Know God,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," says God, "for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more."

+ This is the Word of God

THANKS BE TO GOD

## MUSICAL RESPONSE

MCCNY Choir

La Lección Segunda

The Second Lesson

Juan 12: 20-33

John 12: 20-33

Entre la gente que había ido a Jerusalén a adorar durante la fiesta, había algunos griegos. Éstos se acercaron a Felipe, que era de Betsaida, un pueblo de Galilea, y le rogaron: "Queremos ver a Jesús." Felipe fue y se lo dijo a Andrés, y los dos fueron a contárselo a Jesús. Jesús les dijo entonces: "Ha llegado la hora en que el Niño de la Humanidad va a ser glorificado. Les aseguro que si el grano de trigo al caer en tierra no muere, queda él solo; pero si muere, da abundante cosecha. La persona que ama su vida, la perderá; pero la persona que desprecia su vida en este mundo, la conservará para la vida eterna. Si alguno quiere servirme, que me siga; y donde yo esté, allí estará también la persona que me sirva. Si alguno me sirve, Dios lo honrará. ¡Siento en este momento una angustia terrible! ¿Y qué voy a decir? ¿Diré: 'O Dios, líbrame de esta angustia'? ¡Pero precisamente para esto he venido! O Dios, glorifica tu nombre." Entonces se oyó una voz del cielo, que decía: "Ya lo he glorificado, y lo voy a glorificar otra vez." La gente que estaba allí escuchando, decía que había sido un trueno; pero algunos afirmaban: "Un ángel le ha hablado a Jesús." Jesús les dijo: "No fue por mí por quien se oyó esta voz, sino por ustedes. Éste es el momento en que el mundo va a ser juzgado, y ahora será expulsado la persona que manda en este mundo. Pero cuando yo sea levantado de la tierra, atraeré a todos a mí mismo." Con esto Jesús daba a entender de qué forma había de morir.

+ Esta es la Palabra de Dios

TE ALABAMOS, O DIOS

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to Philip, "We wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew, then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Child of Humanity to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain, but if it dies it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, God will honor. Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say: 'O God, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. O God, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to Jesus." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

## **SELECTION**

## **SERMON**

**Deacon Les LaRue**  
**Metropolitan Community Church of New York**

## **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**

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

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

"On a Hill Far Away"

#12/Purple Pages

"Were You There"

#14/Purple Pages

## **CLOSING SONG**

**"Pueblo Libre"**

**#189/Hymnal**  
*Please stand as able*

## **BENEDICTION**

❖ *Everyone is welcome to a reception following the service!*

✚ *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://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](mailto:lambseeker@hotmail.com)

## SUPPORT MCCNY!

*Options abound!*

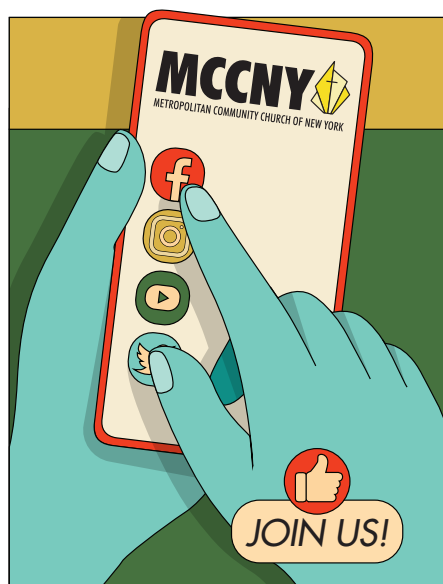


- Sign up for one time or recurring giving at [www.easytithes.com/mccny](https://www.easytithes.com/mccny)
- Donate by text message by sending any numerical amount to **646-681-7445**

**MCCNY E-Prayer Ministry:** If you would like to participate in the prayer ministry or send prayer requests, please contact [prayers@mccny.org](mailto: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](https://www.mccny.org)

**Facebook:** MCCNY

**Instagram:** @m\_c\_c\_n\_y

**Youtube:** @MCCNewYork

**Twitter:** MCCNewYork

# 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

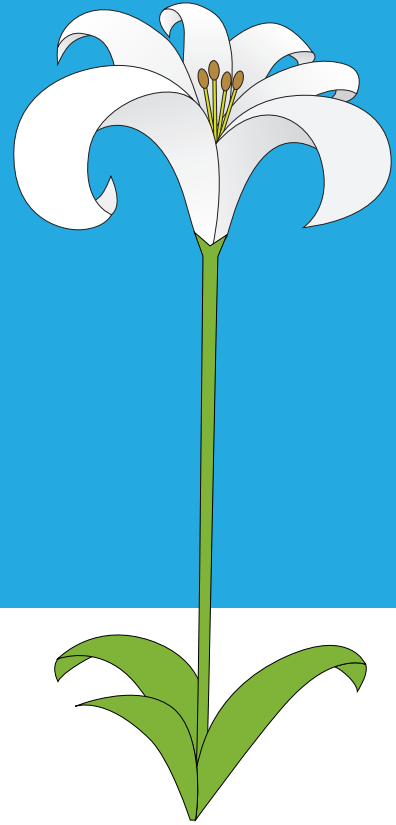
- with Lavender Light Gospel Choir at 7pm
- + Carolyn Traore and MCCNY Choir!
- + The Rev. Gale Jones, preaching

*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!*



## 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



## 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 Siegel	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

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

## PROGRAMMING

### Religious Education/Membership

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

Live-streaming	John Phelps
Virtual Worship Leader	Bob Ferrara

### Web Sites

	John Phelps
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### ASL Interpreter

	Pat Dash
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### Instagram and Facebook