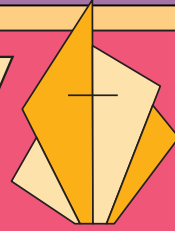
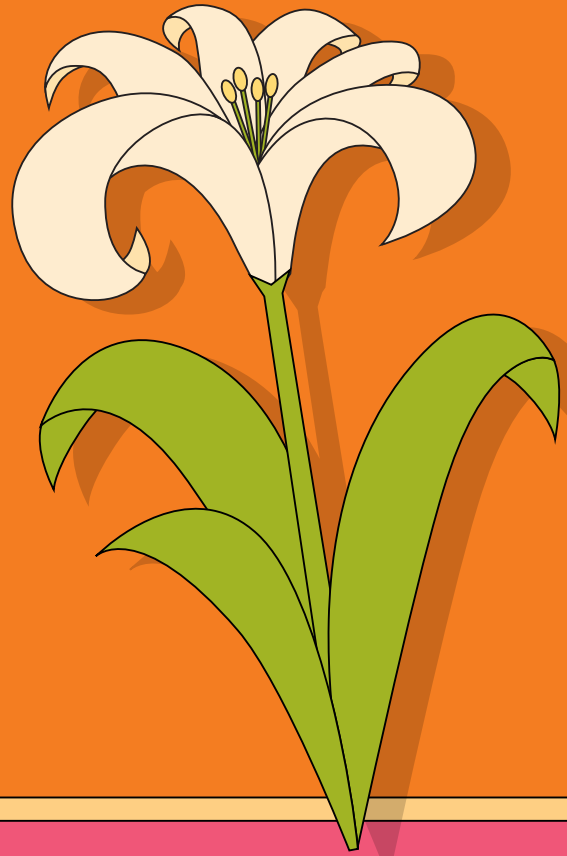




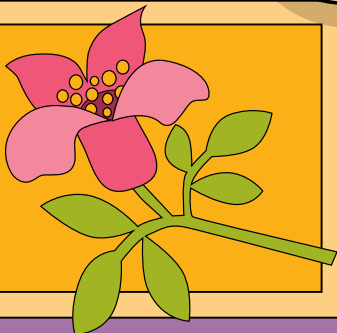
MCCNY



*Holy
Week
and*



Easter



Journal of 2026
Holy Week and
Easter Celebrations

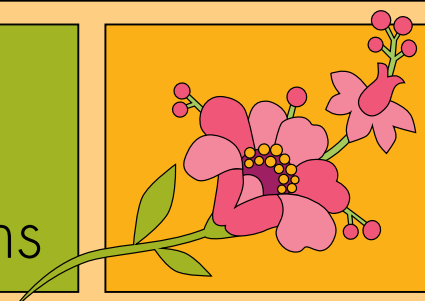


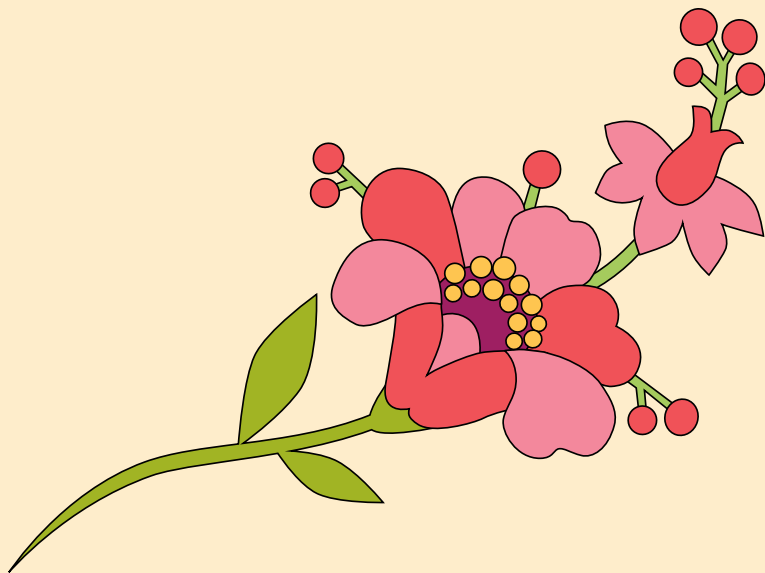
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MCC[®]

METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCHES

Easter 2026

Dear Saints at MCCNY:

I love your theme this year ~ Resilience! It is the ability to bounce back, or as your Pastor likes to say, “bounce forward.” No matter the obstacles that come your way, you always push forward in faith and hope and with courage and creativity. You are what the Resurrection is all about, and Phillip and I give thanks for your faithfulness and witness.

Know that Phillip and I wish we could be with you in body. MCCNY is one of our “home” churches. We will, though, be with you in spirit as you both celebrate and live out the promise of the Resurrection.

In Christ’s love,

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



Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark . . .
~ John 20

Easter 2026

Dear friends ~

It's Easter again ~ a time to celebrate new life and to renew our hope for the future; a time to rejoice in the victory over death and all the forces of destruction in this world. Yet, here we are —2026—surrounded by a lot of what seems like the victory of death and destruction over life and a brighter future.

It's a very challenging time to celebrate anything, let alone the victory of life over death, a “dark” time as in John's story. And, before going any further, I must ask that we think of darkness in terms of Scripture's connotation ~ the time before dawn ~ and lay aside, or better yet, consciously purge ourselves, our associations, our language and its connotations connecting darkness with evil and thereby justifying race-based and racist judgments aside. I want to talk about the dark before the dawn and what happened while it was yet still dark on that first day of the week.

It's a very challenging time, as I said, to celebrate Resurrection and new life:

- A man mad with power and self-aggrandizement taking us to war, murdering fishers for oil, supplying the weapons to annihilate an entire population in the Middle East.
- A government ending practically every program that ever saved the life of the female embodied or a person living with AIDS or a child exposed to numerous diseases once thought eradicated.
- Legislators decimating years and years of labor for the causes of civil right, Queer rights, women's rights, immigrants' rights.
- The destruction of earth and sky and water.
- The commandeering of the arts and humanities.
- The dismantling of public education.
- The confusion of freedom with faith.

The list is long. I keep going back, though, to how the Easter story begins in John's 20th chapter: while it was still “dark.” Mary Magdalene will shortly, perhaps as only a flicker of the dawn's light is on the horizon, but while it is still “dark” have one of the most profound and life-changing experiences recorded in Scripture. She will see the Risen Christ and realize in that moment the truth Jesus proclaimed with every word spoken and every miracle worked: Love is stronger than death, and death cannot contain those who choose love.

Darkness, according to the late John Mogabgab, signals to us that God is “rearranging the structures of life at the deepest levels of existence.” It's in darkness, he says, that God awaits Moses on Mt. Sinai with a life-changing revelation. I seem to recall, too, that God led those once enslaved under a tyrannical yoke out of bondage into freedom with a pillar of fire . . . by night/in the dark.

Mary Magdalene was grieving in our story. She thought everything she'd believed in and worked for was gone with the death of the one she'd put her hope and trust in; that her life had lost its sense of meaning and purpose. Things were different, for sure, but as is often the case in life, it's in the places of greatest distress that we find our deepest, truest selves and renewed purpose. Mary will become the 1st Apostle carrying a message that will become the foundation of a movement of faith that will change the world.

St. John of the Cross, writing in 16th century Spain, will speak of the “dark” night of the soul as the time when the “light” is actually closest to us. Perhaps a way to understand this, writes Jean Bloomquist, is thinking about the fact that we don’t turn the lights on unless it’s dark— which makes me think, perhaps that’s the call and hope and promise of Easter this year: Turn the lights on wherever we are, whatever we are facing, however “dark” it seems. Be like Mary and run as fast as you can, work as faithfully as possible, live as mindfully as you are able for the sake of all that’s good and life-giving and restoring, because that’s what Easter is all about ~ new life springing up like crocuses from the cracks of a New York City sidewalk; new life where you’d least expect to find it waiting to be released ~ in the graveyard, in the places where dawn has yet to arrive.

That’s the story now with the launch of the Caribbean LGBTQI Fund ~ resources scrounged together perhaps, but nonetheless made available in a scaled back and decimated giving climate.

That’s the story in Poland, amidst all the backtracking of neighboring nations, recognizing the rights of “significant others” as the “constitutional minimum” necessary in a “civilized” country.

That’s the story in Hong Kong, with the ever-increasing repression of Beijing in play, and Jimmy Sham calling for the reintroduction of a same sex partnership bill.

It’s the story all over the globe, where it is yet still “dark” but nonetheless people take up the role of Mary of Magdala and run with the possibility of new life.

Be a Mary this Easter season (easier for some than others 😊) and we’ll all have good reason to sing and shout the victory of life over death.

With love,



Rev. Pat

Holy Week and Easter at MCCNY

Palm Sunday, March 29th	11am	+ Blessing of Palms + The Rev. Dr. David Williams, preaching
Holy Thursday, April 2nd	7pm	+ Footwashing Ceremony
Good Friday, April 3rd	7pm	+ Stations of the Cross/Reading of the Passion + Lavender Light Gospel Choir + The Rev. Dr. DeWayne Davis, preaching
Holy Saturday, April 4th	7pm	+ Easter Vigil Liturgy/Lighting of the New Fire + Reading of Salvation History/String Ensemble + The Rev. Kristen Orion, preaching
Easter Sunday, April 5th	11am	+ Celebration of the Resurrection! + Heart Awards/Gala Reception + The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner, preaching

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



March is Women's History Month • April is Fair Housing/Arab American Heritage/STD Awareness Month

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

+ PALM SUNDAY!

+ 5th Sun. Women's History Month

+ Blessing of Palms! + Holy Week Begins!

♥ **Happy Birthday Paula Hart, Makailah Hayes, Anthony Reindhart, and Simon Fishburn!**

♥ **Happy Anniversary Rev. Mona West & Deb Elder!**

+ The Rev. Dr. David Williams, preaching
(Mt. 21: 1-11, Is. 50: 4-7 & Mt. 26: 1-13)

10:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 11am

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

9:00 pm Sylvia's Place Youth Shelter

Monday of Holy Week, March 30: Office Closed

♥ **Happy Birthday Danny Gonzalez!**

♥ **Happy Anniversary Rev. Uthasyo & Pastor Robai!**

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

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Tuesday of Holy Week, March 31

+ Anniversary of Sylvia's Place (2003)

+ International Trans Visibility Day

♥ **Happy B'day Rev. Nancy Radcliffe & Jeremy Kwan!**

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 of Holy Week, April 01

+ Passover begins

♥ **Happy Birthday Rev. DeWayne Davis!**

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 02: Holy Thursday

9:00 am Food Pantry

1:00 pm Lunch Distribution (until 3pm)

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 **Holy Thursday Service**

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

2026: A Year of Resilience!

Friday, April 03: Good Friday

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

♥ **Happy 1st Birthday June Crowley-McAdams!**

12:00 pm Sanctuary open for Prayer & Meditation (until 3pm)

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. Dr. DeWayne Davis, preaching

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Saturday, April 04: Holy Saturday

+ Founding of NATO (1949)

+ Anniv. of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King (1668)

♥ **Happy B'day First Lady Mary Jane Gibney and Rev. Renée McCoy!**

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, APRIL 05

+ EASTER SUNDAY!

+ Special offering for Global Justice Institute

♣ **Gala Reception!**

♥ **Happy Birthday Maribelle Vazquez!**

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

10:00 am Choir Rehearsal for 11am

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

9:00 pm Sylvia's Place Youth Shelter

The Community at Worship 11am

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

Pat Dash



PRELUDE

John Fischer, Director of Music
Carolyn Traore, Song Leader and Soloist
Heidi Siegell, Soloist

PROCESSION

"All Glory, Laud and Honor"

Page 6

Please stand as able

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

Matteo 26: 1-13

The Second Lesson

Matthew 26: 1-13

Cuando Jesús terminó toda la enseñanza, dijo a los discípulos: "Como ustedes saben, dentro de dos días es la fiesta de la Pascua, y el Niño de la Humanidad será entregado para que lo crucifiquen." Por aquel tiempo, los jefes de los sacerdotes y los ancianos de la gente se reunieron en el palacio de Caifás, el sumo sacerdote, e hicieron planes para arrestar a Jesús mediante algún engaño, y matarlo. Pero decían: "No durante la fiesta, para que no se alborote la gente." Jesús estaba en Betania, en casa de Simón, la persona que llamaban el leproso; en esto se le acercó una mujer que llevaba un frasco de alabastro lleno de un perfume muy caro. Mientras Jesús estaba a la mesa, ella le derramó el perfume sobre la cabeza. Los discípulos, al verlo, se enojaron y comenzaron a decir: "¿Por qué se desperdicia esto? Pudo haberse vendido por mucho dinero, para ayudar a los pobres." Jesús lo oyó, y les dijo: "¿Por qué molestan a esta mujer? Ha hecho una obra buena conmigo. Pues a los pobres los tendrán siempre entre ustedes, pero a mí no siempre me van a tener. Lo que ha hecho esta mujer, al derramar el perfume sobre mi cuerpo, es prepararme para mi entierro. Les aseguro que en cualquier lugar del mundo donde se anuncie esta buena noticia, se hablará también de lo que hizo esta mujer, y así será recordada."

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

When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to the disciples, “You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Child of Humanity will be handed over to be crucified.” Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the courtyard of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, and they conspired to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. But they said, “Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.” Now while Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment, and she poured it on Jesus’ head as he sat at the table. But when the disciples saw it, they were angry and said, “Why this waste? For this ointment could have been sold for a large sum and the money given to the poor.” But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, “Why do you trouble the woman? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. By pouring this ointment on my body she has prepared me for burial. Truly I tell you, wherever this good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.”

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

SELECTION

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. David Williams
Pastor, Christ the Liberator MCC
Hamilton, New Jersey

SPECIAL MUSIC

THE OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

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

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

Soloist
Offering Call

THE CELEBRATION AND SHARING OF COMMUNION

The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner
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

“Dame, Mi Büen Cristo”

#48/Hymnal

“All to Jesus . . .”

#7/Hymnal

“It is Well”

#116/Hymnal

CLOSING SONG

“I’ve Got a Feeling” by Larry Roberts & Albertina Walker

Please Stand as Able (Verses solo)

I’ve got a feeling everything’s gonna be alright

Oh— I’ve got a feeling everything’s gonna be alright

Oh— I’ve got a feeling everything’s gonna be alright, be alright, be alright, be alright, be alright

God whispered to me, everything’s gonna be alright . . .

BENEDICTION

✚ Deacons are available to pray privately with you.

✚ Everyone is welcome to a reception 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

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

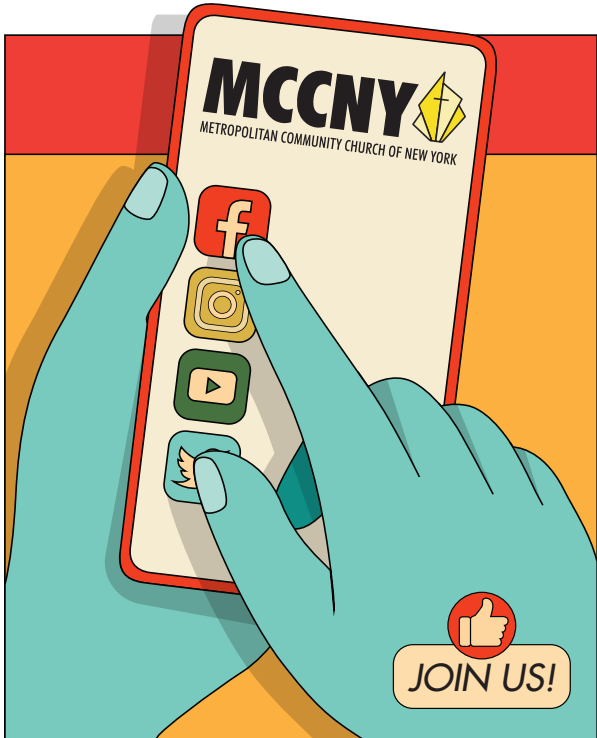
GIVE TO GJI →



GIVE TO MCCNY →



TRANSGENDER SUICIDE HOTLINE (Trans Lifeline): 877-565-8860



CONNECT with MCCNY

Website: www.mccny.org
Facebook: MCCNY
Instagram: @m_c_c_n_y
Youtube: @MCCNewYork



Are you anxious about the intensified hostility toward marginalized communities following the election?

REMEMBER THIS:

MCCNY is here.
We will love you,
celebrate you,
and support you
as we
work together to
build God's infinitely
diverse commonwealth.

MCCNY is here and
we're Queer as ever.

WHAT TO DO IF ICE COMES TO YOUR DOOR



DO NOT OPEN DOORS

ICE cannot come in without a signed warrant by a criminal court judge. They can only come in if you let them.



REMAIN SILENT

ICE can use anything you say against you in your immigration case so claim your right to remain silent!

*Say "I plead the fifth amendment and choose to remain silent".



DO NOT SIGN

Don't sign anything ICE gives you without talking to an attorney.



REPORT & RECORD!

Report immediately: UWD hotline 1-844-363-1423.

Take pictures & video unless you're on federal government property.
 Take notes of badge numbers, number of agents, time, type of car and exactly what happened!



FIGHT BACK!

Get a trustworthy attorney & explore all options to fight your case. If detained, you may be able to get bail - don't give up hope!
 Join your local team to defend yourself from enforcement!

unitedwedream.org/end
 @UnitedWeDream



Know Your Power



Record and Report:

Step 1 - Ensure Audio and recording is on and ready to be used and linked to a cloud.

Step 2 - Get information of the officer's, name, badge and agency.

Step 3 - Narrate the date, time and location of event.

Step 4 - Do not disclose the information of your loved ones or yourself to the agents.

Step 5 - Report it to the **MigraWatch** Hotline and send your video/pics to migrawatch@unitedwedream.org

Always remember you have the power to make choices, you have a choice over your safety, how you respond and what you choose to share.

To learn more about your power and your rights visit:

unitedwedream.org/knowyourpower

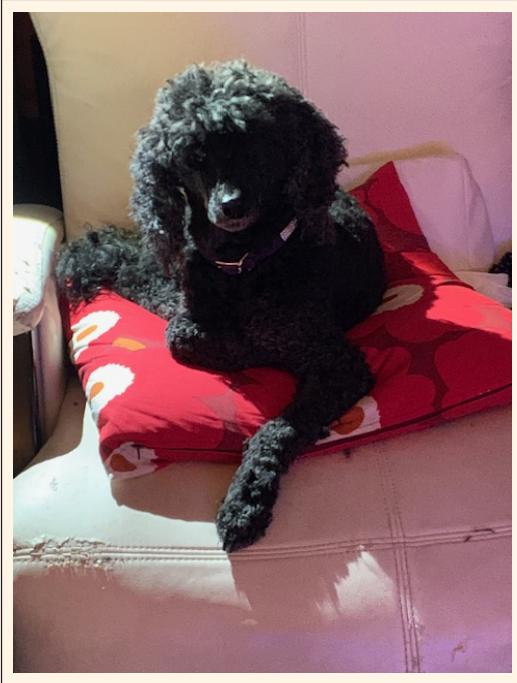
While asserting our rights does not guarantee the stop of arrest at the moment, it is important to exercise our rights to facilitate our defense. You are not alone. Our movement is ready to support you, fight for your freedom, and reclaim the humanity of our community.



unitedwedream.org/knowyourpower

Text **KnowYourPower 877-877**

Isabella Rose



Congratulations
MCCNY
on
54 YEARS

Mary Jane Gibney
First Lady of MCCNY

Happy Easter

Charles W. Bumgardner
Creative Services
Creative Direction & Design

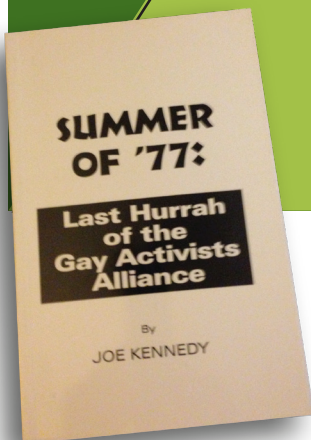
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cbcs601@aol.com



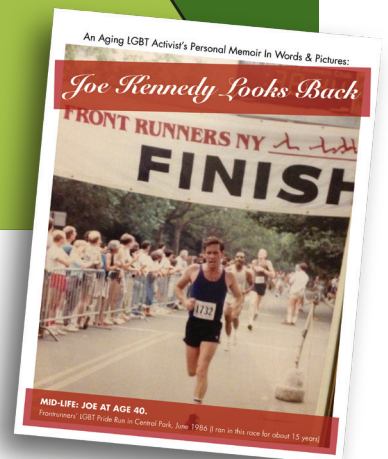
Thank GOD for the Church of LGBTQ+ People



With gratitude from Joe Kennedy



Friends of MCCNY can get a copy of Joe's book or Joe's memoir gratis by asking Joe.





Global Justice Institute

Metropolitan Community Churches

Lenten and Easter Season 2026

Dear friends and supporters of the Global Justice Institute:

2025 was a challenging year for the Global Justice Institute (GJI). The political scene around the world, especially in the United States, reshaped the battle for LGBTQIA equality, not only removing many funding sources but also silencing many former allies and partners in this work.

We are, however, a strong and resilient people, and so the challenges, though many and strident, have not deterred us or our partners around the globe.

In Botswana (*at right*) a water project had to be recalibrated, but continues to take shape so that our allied community there can serve as a hub for the wider community, fostering supportive and just relationships. A heartfelt thanks to John Hassel and the Seekers Community Church for their generous support of this work.

In Kenya our community in Mtito Andei continues to grow and flourish. The stability Global Justice and its partners have achieved in maintaining our site, offering emergency housing to pastors who are outed, providing a community garden and fresh water source along with stocking fish, offering an annual retreat to gay clergy, and continuing community programming in the midst of not only dwindling outside support but local government hostility is amazing. We give thanks to The Rev. Uthasyo Kimindu, Pastor Robai and our partner Stan Kimer for your faithfulness.



In Central and Latin America our work with refugees in Costa Rica under the leadership of Denis, with the HIV and AIDS community in Mexico, with people like Ana Ruth and Ecumenicas crusading for cis and trans women's rights and equality, with Celio in Brazil and a shelter for homeless Queer people and those struggling with addiction, with Rev. Cristiano throughout the region and ICM Sao Paolo, along with the overarching work and supervision of The Rev. Elder Margarita Sanchez de Leon continues to push forward forging new partnerships. Deep and abiding gratitude to Rev. Margarita for her pioneering efforts with seminaries and colleges around racism, Queer rights and women's rights.

From Belarus to Romania to Lithuania we continue to hold our ground in Eastern Europe, maintaining a hub office in Lithuania. Many thanks to Bishop Jim Merritt and Florin Bucheanu for your continued efforts pursuing legal battles

there, and to our partners at Journalists For Tolerance (J4T), who continue to strive for just coverage of LGBTQIA life. Many thanks to Bishop Robert and Bishop Durrell for reviving work in Pakistan, and developing a partnership with a community working with the transgender population. It is no secret that trans people around the globe are being targeted in more and more violent and destructive ways, and this new partnership will further the work of GJI on behalf of trans people.

It may seem like 2 or 4 or 6 or more steps backward for every step forward on behalf of Queer rights and equality in the United States, but we at the GJI have not given up. Our work through the legislative and policy efforts spear headed by Kareem Murphy and with the Council for Global Equality where Bishop Robert Griffin holds a seat has been relentless in challenging executive orders, judicial set backs and legislative efforts to eliminate our history and rescind our rights as a people.

The Lenten Season, Holy Week and Easter all testify to God's faithfulness in the fight for life, and call us to be resilient and lift high hope for the future. And so I want to thank every individual and congregation who has continued to stand firm in the fight for just and right relationship the world over, and all who have continued to support the work of GJI. You are keeping hope alive, and as The Rev. Elder Troy Perry likes to say ~ we can live a little while without food or water or air, but we can't live one second without hope!

GJI is doing the work of keeping hope alive, and to my way of thinking there is no more crucial effort worth supporting at this time in history. Every dime and dollar given goes directly to work on the ground. All our partners, all our team members donate their time and effort, with MCCNY and the Sunshine Cathedral assuming overhead costs for the Institute.

With gratitude for all I trust you are doing in the fight for equality and justice, I ask you to give to this vital work and ministry this season. To make a contribution to the GJI go to globaljusticeinstitute.org and click the donate button or mail your offering to GJI, 446 West 36th Street, NY, NY 10018.

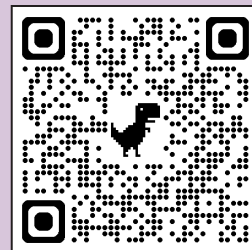
With gratitude and in hope for the future,



Rev. Pat
Executive Director
Global Justice Institute

To make a donation to the work of the Global Justice Institute, go to **globaljusticeinstitute.org** and click the "Give Now" button (or scan the code at right).

Or mail your gift to:
Global Justice Institute
446 West 36th Street
New York, New York 10018



Good Friday: "No Shortcut Through the Valley"



Good Friday, April 03, 2026
54th Anniversary Year at MCCNY: A Year of Resilience!

ASL Interpreter

Pat Dash

PRELUDE

MCCNY Choir
John Fischer, Director of Music
Carolyn Traore, Soloist
Heidi Siegell, Soloist

THE LAVENDER LIGHT BLACK AND PEOPLE OF ALL COLORS GOSPEL CHOIR

Eric Williamson, Artistic Director • Maria-Elena Grant, President • Dr. Kenneth Thornton, Accompanist

+ + +

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

SERMON

**The Rev. Dr. DeWayne Davis
Metropolitan Community Churches**

+ 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 reception.)*

POSTLUDE

+ Deacons are available to pray privately with you +

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

UNBREAKABLE! Lavender Light Celebrates 40 years!



THE BLACK AND PEOPLE OF ALL COLORS LESBIAN AND GAY GOSPEL CHOIR.

We welcome all who share our love for gospel music and inclusion.



Thank you,
**Metropolitan
Community
Church!**

**FOR STANDING
UP TO ADVERSITY IN
EXTRAORDINARY
TIMES AND
BEING A BEACON
OF HOPE.**

Auditions Now Open. Visit us at lavenderlight.com

Holy Saturday



Metropolitan Community Church of New York

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 04

+ Holy Saturday

+ **Founding of NATO (1949)**

+ **Anniv. of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King (1668)**

♥ **Happy B'day First Lady Mary Jane Gibney and Rev. Renée McCoy!**

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, APRIL 05

+ Easter Sunday

♣ **Gala Reception!**

♥ **Happy Birthday Maribelle Vazquez!**

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

(Acts 10: 34-43 & John 20: 1-9)

8:00 am **Choir Rehearsal for 9am** resumes April 27th

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

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

9:00 pm Sylvia's Place Youth Shelter

Monday, April 06

Monday of the Easter Octave/Office Closed

♥ **Happy Birthday Ursula Kwong & Peter Kwong!**

♥ **Happy Anniversary Restoration Temple Ministries!**

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

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Tuesday, April 07

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 08

Wednesday of the Easter Octave

♥ **Happy Birthday Kirsten Homblette-Allen, Jazz, and Venson Matthews!**

1:00 pm Lunch Distribution (until 3pm)

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

6:00 pm **PASTORAL STAFF MEETING** via Zoom!

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

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Thursday, April 09

Thursday of the Easter Octave

9:00 am Food Pantry

1:00 pm Lunch Distribution (until 3pm)

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

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

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Friday, April 10

Friday of the Easter Octave

* **National Youth HIV/AIDS Awareness Day**

♥ **Happy Birthday Antoine!**

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

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

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

Saturday, April 11

Saturday of the Easter Octave

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

♥ **Happy Birthday Keegan!**

9:00 pm MCCNY HYS at Sylvia's Place

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

+ **2nd SUNDAY of EASTER!**

♥ **Happy Anniversary Montel & Yolanda Holmes!**

+ **The Rev. Dr. Robin Gorsline, preaching**

(Acts 2: 42-47 & John 20: 19-31)

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

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

9:00 pm Sylvia's Place Youth Shelter

ASL Interpreter

Pat Dash

+ *Easter Vigil Liturgy* +

PRELUDE

String Ensemble
John Fischer, Director of Music
Carolyn Traore, Song Leader

SELECTION

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****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 el ángel, los soldados temblaron de miedo y quedaron como personas muertas. 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 the angel's 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 he 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 him. 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**

Solo

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****THE CELEBRATION AND SHARING OF COMMUNION**The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner
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

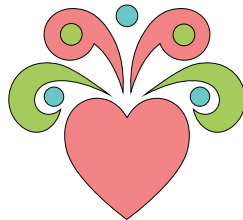
April 05, 2026
Easter Sunday

MCC globally celebrates “57 Years of Offering Our Light to the World”
54th Anniversary Year at MCCNY: A Year of Resilience!

The Community at Worship 11am

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

Pat Dash



Resilience!

PRELUDE

John Fischer, Director of Music
Colleen Sovory, Song Leader
Heidi Siegell, Soloist

PROCESSION

“Christ is Risen, Alleluia”

Page 30
Please Stand as Able

WELCOME

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

+ Heart Awards

+ 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

MCCNY Choir

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 discípulo se agachó a mirar, y vio allí las vendas, pero no entró. Detrás de él 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. This 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

MCCNY Choir

SERMON

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

+ SPECIAL MUSIC

THE OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offering Calls

+ Special Offering: Global Justice Institute

~ Giving envelopes available at the door

~ Please prayerfully consider direct donations through your bank or credit card giving: www.globaljusticeinstitute.org
(“Give Now”)

* Green “faithful giver” slips available at the door for credit card and automatic deduction givers.

THE CELEBRATION AND SHARING OF COMMUNION

Joshua Cherry-Holmes, Holding
The Rev. Elder Pat Bumgardner
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.**

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

John Fischer, Director of Music

CLOSING SONG

“Resucitó”

Page 25
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*

Come Ye Faithful Raise the Strain!

ST. KEVIN

ARTHUR SEYMOUR SULLIVAN, 1872

With animation

1 Come, ye faith - ful, raise the strain Of tri - umph - ant glad - ness;
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day; Christ hath burst his pris - on,

God hath brought his Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness;
And from three days' sleep in death As a sun hath ris - en;

Loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;
All the win - ter of our sins, Long and cold is fly - ing

Led them with un - moistened foot Through the Red Sea wa - ters.
From Christ's life to whom we give Laud and praise un - dy - ing. A - men.

3 Now the queen of seasons, bright
With the day of splendor,
With the royal feast of feasts,
Comes its joy to render;
Comes to glad Jerusalem,
Who with true affection
Welcomes in unwearied strains
Jesus' resurrection.

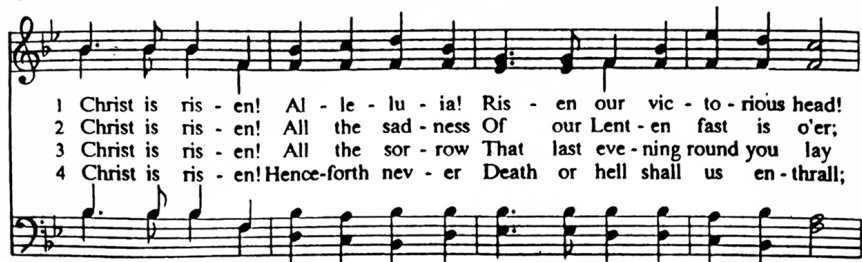
4 Neither might the gates of death,
Nor the tomb's cold portal,
Nor the watchers, nor the seal
Hold thee as a mortal:
But to-day amidst thine own
Thou didst stand, bestowing
That thy peace which evermore
Passeth human knowing. Amen.

ST. JOHN of Damascus, 8th cent.; Tr. J. M. NEALE, 1853

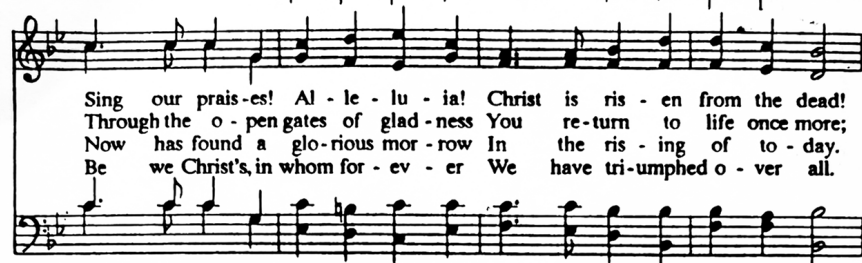
Christ is risen! Alleluia!

8.7.8.7.8.7.D.

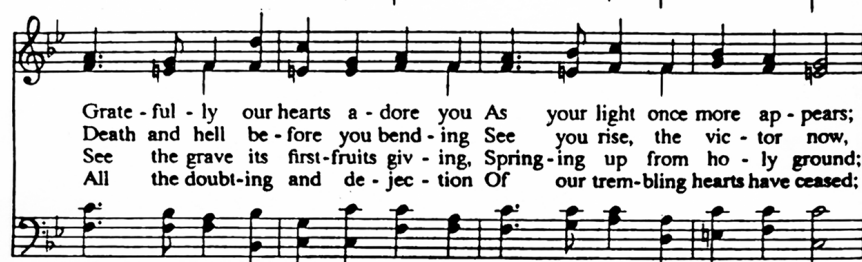
MORGENLIED



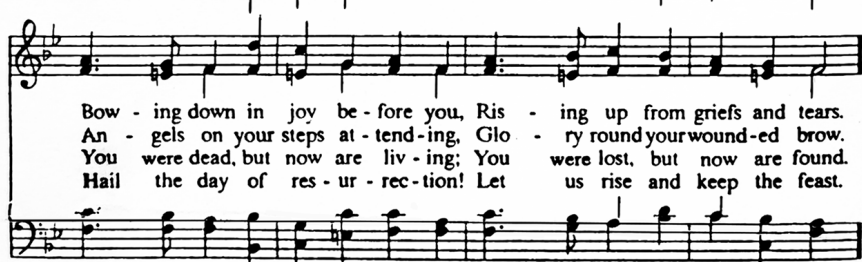
1 Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!
2 Christ is ris - en! All the sad - ness Of our Lent - en fast is o'er;
3 Christ is ris - en! All the sor - row That last eve - ning round you lay
4 Christ is ris - en! Hence - forth nev - er Death or hell shall us en - thrall;



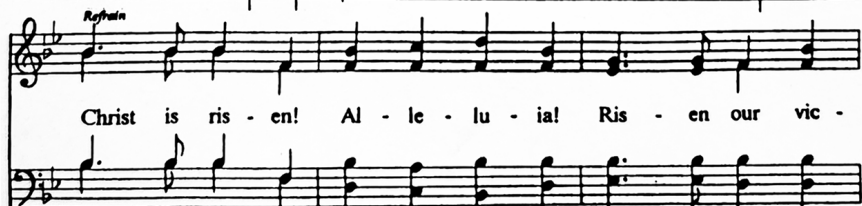
Sing our prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!
Through the o - pen gates of glad - ness You re - turn to life once more;
Now has found a glo - rious mor - row In the ris - ing of to - day.
Be we Christ's, in whom for - ev - er We have tri - umphed o - ver all.



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

The MCCNY
Board of Directors
wishes you a

HAPPY
EASTER

and is grateful for the opportunity to serve you!

Bp. Pat Bumgardner Moderator

Lyndsey McAdams Special Events

Rob Franek Finances

Sam Davis Scribe

Montel Cherry-Holmes Member at Large



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

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The Rev. Dr. Brett Degoldi	Staff Clergy
The Rev. Reg Richburg	Staff Clergy
The Rev. Dr. Jim Merritt	Staff Clergy
John Fischer	Director of Music
Carolyn Traore	Music Ministry
Heidi Siegell	Music Ministry

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LaDedra Brown	HYS Program Manager
Kailiah Hayes	Food Pantry Manager

LAY DELEGATES

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John Fischer	Mary Jane Gibney, alternate

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E-Prayer Group

Deacon Jen Heyward, Kay Osborn,
Mary Jane Gibney Facilitators

Hospitality Deacon Brenton Buchannan

Newsletter/Bulletin

Deacon Frances Wood *The Query* Editor
Deacon Les LaRue *The Query*, Bulletin Graphic Designer

Audio & Virtual Ministries John Phelps
Live-streaming Bob Ferrara
Virtual Worship Leader Margot Wagner

Web Sites Rev. Jim Merritt

ASL Interpreter Pat Dash

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**

