



MARBLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH

...Here for You

Ascension Sunday, May 12, 2024

PLEASE SILENCE ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

PRELUDE Taiwanese SuiteChelsea Chen
I. Hills in the Springtime

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE
Tim Lee, *deacon*

INTROIT I Will Worship the Lord John Rutter

HYMN **Hymn of Unity** *Hymn to Joy*; Text: Janet Yieh, 2024

- 1. God of love and God of nature, source of beauty, spark of life, help us care for your creation, building bridges, ending strife.**
Refrain: Grant us grace to come together, bearing witness, breaking bread. Give us hearts to love and serve you, courage for the days ahead.
- 2. God of peace and God of justice, hear our fervent prayers to you, in the face of war and anger, Jesus, keep us fair and true. Refrain.**
- 3. God of hope and God of wisdom, take our lives and let them be, Spirit filled and ever blessing those around us joyfully. Refrain.**

INVOCATION BASED ON EPHESIANS 4:4-6
Jenny Chan

SOLO In Your Own Way Paulo Tiról
Michael Protacio, *tenor*; Chris Tefft, *flute*

Millions of prayers are lifted each day, millions of questions are asked for favors and futures, for healing and hope; for trials and tests to pass. And I wait and I wonder when answers will come, wonder if You've even heard, times that I find myself yielding to doubt I call to mind these words. *Refrain: In Your own way, in Your own time, in Your own wisdom, not in mine. By Your love, by Your Holy will all pray'rs will be answered in Your own time.* I've had my moments of darkness, O Lord. I've had my share of pain. I've felt abandoned, unloved and alone with no shelter from the rain. Yet at times when I feel I'm about to give up Your love takes me by surprise. In ways unexpected, Your goodness unfolds before my very eyes.

PRAYER LITANY *Please stand as you are able.*
Gloria Cheng, Sooknam Choo, Harry McSween

All: God, we thank you for those who have gone before us, on whose shoulders we stand:

One: For the earliest Filipinos who settled in Morro Bay in 1587. For the South Asian immigrants who worked as tenant farmers. For the Chinese laborers who built the Transcontinental Railroad.

Continues on next page.

One: For the Japanese American soldiers who fought oppression abroad and discrimination at home. For the Southeast Asian refugees who built new lives in America. For the Hmong and Mien fighting to preserve their heritage.

One: For those who have welcomed Asian adoptees as their own family. For the artists, the dreamers, the revolutionaries, and movement leaders. We thank you, God.

All: We honor those who have fought for justice and continue to do so today:

One: For our South Asian brothers and sisters who face racial profiling. For Native Hawaiians who continue to fight for sovereignty and for sacred lands. For undocumented Korean youth, unafraid to stand up for immigration reform.

One: For Japanese Americans fighting against immigration detention – both past and present. For Asian workers who have fought for dignity and fair labor. For the women who fought against patriarchy and gender-based violence.

One: For those tired of hearing “What are you?” and “Where are you from?” For LGBTQ+ siblings, fighting for their right to live and to love. For those who are fighting anti-Asian or anti-Pacific Islander discrimination in all its forms.

All: We thank you God, for the beautiful diversity of your people. Teach us how to live in solidarity. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Sabine Yu – *Korean*; Victor Chin – *Cantonese*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

CHORAL AMEN

READING OF THE SCRIPTURE Ecclesiastes 7:8-12

Oanfa Quan, *reader*

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Living Life Backwards*
BEGIN WITH THE END Dr. Michael Bos
Part 1 of Sermon Series

HYMN **Here I Am, Lord** Daniel Schutte
Please refer to insert.

POEM Things We Carry on the Sea. Wang Ping
Michele Wong McSween, *reader*

CALL FOR OFFERING
Please click “GIVE” at MarbleChurch.org or use Donate QR Code on card in the pews, to take you to secure website, Realm, to give. Donation boxes also placed by Sanctuary doors. You may also mail a check. We are grateful for your faithful support.

ANTHEM God Is Gone Up. Gerald Finzi (1901-1956)
God is gone up with a triumphant shout: the Lord with sounding trumpets’ melodies: Sing praises out, unto our King sing praise seraphic-wise! Lift up your flakes of Glory down him to attend, and hear heart-cramping notes of melody surround his chariot as it did ascend; Mixing their music, making ev’ry string more to enravish as they this tune sing. – *Edward Taylor*

DOXOLOGY *Lasst uns erfreuen (The tune is that of Hymn 4.)*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God with saints in heav’n above,
Praise Jesus Christ who shows God’s love,
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

SPOTLIGHT ON LIFE AT MARBLE

HYMN 61 **Now Thank We All Our God** *Nun Danket*

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE **Now Thank We All Our God** Sigfrid Karg-Elert

PARTICIPATING IN THE SERVICE

Dr. Michael Bos, Dr. Elise Brown

Patricia Johnson, M.A. (*pastoral care and counseling*); Harry McSween, *cross bearer*
The Marble Choir, Michael T. C. Hey, *director of music*

FLOWERS ARE PLACED IN THE SANCTUARY
In loving memory of **Dorothy Marsh** for her birthday
by the Foster Erickson Family – Pam, Phil, Abigayle and Gavin



THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED PLAN TODAY'S SERVICE IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITY.



AFTER WORSHIP TODAY



SPECIAL TEA TASTING

Please join us in the Labyrinth Room (*downstairs*) and welcome our neighbors from across 5th Ave, YXT Health - Herbal Store, as they provide a Tea Tasting for us as part of our AAPI Celebration.



Purchase *The False White Gospel*, the new book by Rev. Jim Wallis, who is our special guest on Sunday, May 19; see page 5. BOOKS AVAILABLE TODAY in 29th Lobby after Worship or Labyrinth Room after the Tea Tasting and at marblegiftshop.com. You are encouraged to purchase in advance, then remember to bring with you to be signed by Rev. Wallis following Worship next Sunday.

UPCOMING WORSHIP

If you can't join us live, view anytime at MarbleChurch.org/Watch

 **Sunday, May 19 – 11:00am**
2024: A Test of Democracy AND Faith – Rev. Jim Wallis
Pentecost
See page 5 for more about Rev. Wallis

NYC Street Closings: *Please plan ahead for your time at Marble. For details, visit www.nyc.gov/events/index or call 311.*

Life at Marble

Visit MarbleChurch.org for more events, details, and up-to-date information.

BEFORE WORSHIP



Prayer Circle – 10:00am, Children’s Chapel (2nd floor, access via elevator/stairs off 29th St lobby) & **Zoom**. Weekly time of prayer and music. The Circle is always open – all you need is a willing heart!

10:00 O’Clock Hour: The Motherhood and Mobility of Jarena Lee, Black Woman Itinerant Preacher in the 19th Century – Labyrinth Room (downstairs) & live streamed. Led by **Dr. Nathan Jérémie-Brink**, New Brunswick Theological Seminary. View archive at MarbleChurch.org/Watch.

CYF CORNER – CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES MINISTRY



Sunday School, Youth Group & Childcare – Infant/Toddler childcare: 10:00am-12:30pm, (when possible, for staffing purposes, please contact Brian a week in advance). Pre-K – 6th Grade: Early Drop-Off, 10:00am; Classes, 11:00am. 7th-12th Grade: Youth Group Bible Study during Worship. **All children and youth welcome to join us any time!** Register at MarbleChurch.org/cyf or contact

CYF Director Brian Hampton, BHampton@MarbleChurch.org.

JOIN US!



Are you searching for a place to belong, to connect with others, and to grow in your faith? We welcome you for who you are, wherever you are on your faith journey. We’d love to have you join us! To learn more, contact Kim Sebastian-Ryan, KRyan@MarbleChurch.org, talk to someone wearing a red carnation or visit MarbleChurch.org/become-a-member.

ENGAGE



3rd Annual Asian Experience Art Exhibit / thru May – The Marble Arts Ministry honors AAPI Month. View downstairs outside the Labyrinth Room and at MarbleChurch.org/arts. Archive of previous exhibits also available.

Arts Ministry / Most Mondays, 6:30pm – Join us on Zoom for a time of fellowship and nurturing as we discover how to use our God-given gifts, talents, and skills. For professional and non-professional artists. Visit MarbleChurch.org/arts.

Afternoon Prayer / Tuesdays, 4:00-4:20pm – Wind down your day with a brief time of sharing and prayer via Zoom or phone. Link available at MarbleChurch.org/calendar.

Chair Yoga / Thursdays, 10:00-10:45am – Center yourself physically and spiritually with this time of gentle movement via Zoom. Link available at MarbleChurch.org/calendar.

PrimeTime Lunch / Wednesday, May 29 – Gather for lunch (\$20, pre-register) and program with saxophone performance by **Josh Walker**. Contact Baleta McKenzie, BMckenzie@MarbleChurch.org.

New Small Group - Daniel: Way More Than a Lion Tamer / Tuesdays, June 4, 11 & 18, 7:00-8:00pm – Join Dr. Julie Faith Parker on Zoom as she teaches on the biblical book of Daniel. Register at MarbleChurch.org. See below about trip to Sight & Sound Theatre’s show, *Daniel*.

PrimeTime Outing / Friday, June 21 – All invited to return to the Sight & Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA to see their production of *Daniel*. Register soon at MarbleChurch.org. Before the show, get valuable insight through Dr. Julie Faith Parker’s Small Group.

HELP OTHERS



Prayer Shawl Ministry / First Mondays on Zoom, 5:00-6:00pm; third Mondays in person, 1:00-2:00pm – Gather for prayer and creating together to knit/crochet prayer shawls for the ill or homebound. Questions? Contact Judy Tulin, JTulin@MarbleChurch.org.

Marble Fights Hunger – We encourage you to bring canned/bottled food whenever you come to Marble. Donations benefit various organizations including Icahn House. Drop-off bins are in the 5th Ave Narthex and 29th St Prayer Room. Monetary donations also welcome.



Rev. Susanah Wade is taking a mini-sabbatical in June and July. She returns to us August 1. Please keep Rev. Susanah in your prayers during this time of renewal and refreshment for her. We look forward to her return!

Spotlight



ONLINE TEA TIME

Wednesday, May 15, 1:00-2:00pm

We gather on Zoom for a chance to connect and deepen relationships. This month we take a **virtual visit to Oman with special guest Dr. Michael Bos who shares about his time living there.** Register online by May 14.



WOMEN'S RETREAT

Navigating the Waters of Change

Weekend, May 31-June 2

May 17 is last day to register!

Join our keynote speaker Dr. Julie Faith Parker, plus Nina H. Frost, Rev. Kirsty DePree, Rev. Susanah Wade, Dr. Elise Brown, musician Ana Hernández, and members of the Marble Women's Leadership Team. At Wisdom House in Connecticut. Register at MarbleChurch.org.

Limited number of partial scholarships are available on a first come first serve basis.

10:00 O'CLOCK HOUR – In the Labyrinth Room (*downstairs*) or online.

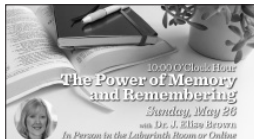


Sunday, May 19

DINAH AND SHECHEM: READER DISCRETION ADVISED

Dr. Julie Faith Parker, Marble's Biblical Scholar in Residence, continues her series, ***Scriptural Revelations: Surprising Insights on Familiar Bible Stories***, as we focus on the Ancestor Stories. Learn more at MarbleChurch.org.

Many people know about the twelve tribes of Israel who originate from Jacob's sons. But what about Jacob's daughter? We explore the story of Dinah, found in Genesis 34. This text deals with hard questions of sexual assault, as the Bible's unflinchingly grapples with some of life's most awful occurrences.



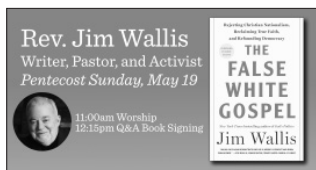
Sunday, May 26

THE POWER OF MEMORY AND REMEMBERING

Dr. J. Elise Brown

On this Memorial Day weekend, we gather to examine how memory and the way in which we remember the events of our lives matters. How can memories, even nostalgia, help us val-

ue and honor the past while also setting the stage for living life to its fullest today, and envisioning a strong future? How can memory sometimes hold us back from being all we are called to be today? We also look at collective memory, or how societies remember significant events in their histories and the way in which those memories impact societal identity and social cohesion.



THE FALSE WHITE GOSPEL WITH REV. JIM WALLIS

Sunday, May 19

Worship, 11:00am

Q&A and Book Signing, 12:15pm

We welcome Rev. Jim Wallis to Marble for a presentation of his newest book, *The False White Gospel: Rejecting Christian Nationalism, Reclaiming True Faith, and Re-founding Democracy*.

Rev. Wallis says it's time to call out genuine faith specifically the "Christian" in White Christian Nationalism inviting all who can be persuaded to reject and help dismantle a false gospel that propagates white supremacy and autocracy. We need to raise up the faith of all of us and help those who are oblivious, stuck, and captive to an ideology that is leading us to such great danger.

This book isn't only for Christians but for all faith traditions, and even those with no faith at all. When we see a civic promotion of fear, hate, and violence for the trajectory of our politics, we need a civic faith of love, healing, and hope to defeat it. And that must involve all of us – religious or not. Learning to practice a politics of neighbor love will be central to the future of democracy in America.

You are encouraged to purchase the book TODAY in 29th Lobby after Worship or Labyrinth Room after the Tea Tasting and at marblegiftshop.com, then remember to bring with you to be signed by Rev. Wallis following Worship on May 19.



**MARBLE
COLLEGIATE
CHURCH**
...Here for You

1 West 29th Street
New York, NY 10001-4596
212 686 2770
MarbleChurch.org

Worship: Sundays, 11:00am

Keep the conversation going – visit Marble on Social Media



For staff list and email addresses, please visit MarbleChurch.org/staff



WALK THE LABYRINTH

Wednesday, May 15, 5:00-6:30pm

Feed your spirit with this walking meditation. Labyrinth Facilitators available to help guide you and answer questions, while allowing you the space to walk in your own way, at your own pace. Learn more about the Labyrinth at MarbleChurch.org/labyrinth.



PLANT POSITIVE FELLOWSHIP

**Sunday, May 19, Monthly Brunch, after Worship
Monday, May 20, Zoom Gathering, 5:30-6:30pm**

All welcome to join Plant Positive Fellowship's two May events. Sunday Brunch is a time for laughter, connection and good food at a plant-based restaurant. Meet in 29th St Lobby after Worship. At our monthly Zoom we

encourage and inform one another about how eating a plant-powered, whole foods diet benefits our bodies, as well as our beautiful planet. For more info and to get the link, please contact Robert DiCuio, marbleplantpositive@gmail.com.

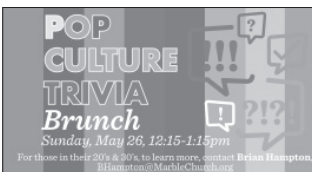


SHOWERS & FLOWERS

Marble Monthly Meet-Up

Thursday, May 23, 6:30-8:00pm

April showers bring May flowers. What do May flowers bring? Come find out! All invited for fellowship, fun, and invigorating conversation. At Marble. Lite bites and beverages on us.



POP CULTURE TRIVIA BRUNCH

for those in their 20's & 30's

Sunday, May 26, 12:15-1:15pm

Anyone in their 20's & 30's is invited to join us for this fun, free event. 307 Assembly Room. Please register in advance so we have a headcount for food. Contact Brian Hampton, BHampton@MarbleChurch.org.



IF YOU NEED HELP – PLEASE REACH OUT

Marble's Stephen Ministers may be able to help you with spiritual/emotional support in difficult times. **Speak to a Stephen Minister after Worship in the Children's Chapel (2nd flr)** or contact Rev. Susanah Wade, SWade@MarbleChurch.org. For more information, visit MarbleChurch.org/stephen-ministry.

The Marble Prayer Ministry Team is here to pray for you. Submit requests on top of any page at MarbleChurch.org.

Blanton-Peale Counseling Center – 212-725-7850, blantonpeale.org

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline – 988, call or text, available 24 hours

Use of photographic and recording devices is not permitted during the service. Assistive Listening System, Large print and Braille copies of bulletin available—ask an usher. The south central pews of our Sanctuary are equipped with an Induction Hearing Loop. If your hearing aid has a T-coil, please toggle to that setting to receive our audio signal directly without any headset needed.

By entering the Sanctuary, you grant Marble Collegiate Church unrestricted right to use and publish, transmit or telecast photographs or likenesses that might be taken of you this day for use in communications related to the church.

HERE I AM, LORD

Daniel Schutte



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo-ple's pain.
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin, my hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their bur-den light
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? ____
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? ____
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? ____



Here I am, Lord.____ Is it I, Lord?____ I have heard you



call-ing in the night.____ I will go, Lord,____ if you



lead me.____ I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.