



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

January 10, 2016 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

Before it was anything else, the cross was an instrument of torture. It is on the cross that Jesus died. And yet it has become the symbol of Christianity. In our sanctuary, it is a focal point of our worship. Every week we gather beneath the cross of Jesus. There are a variety of theological interpretations of the cross; some are life-giving and some are not. This week, we will be reminded that Jesus did not die on the cross to save us from God, for God's love has never been in question. Jesus died on the cross to save us from ourselves and show us what a life of faithfulness looks like. Jesus died on the cross to save us from the brokenness of the world so that we, too, might join in the work of salvation.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Raindrop Prelude
by Frederick Chopin

Call to Worship

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

Come to me, Jesus said.

**"Come to me all you who are weary and carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."**

Follow me, Jesus said.

**"Deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow me.
Those who lose their life for my sake, will find it."**

Trust in me, Jesus said.

**"To trust in me is to trust in God,
so do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."**

*Hymn, No. 619

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven
LAUDA ANIMA

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

**When we see clearly the path we should follow,
yet still choose our own way, forgive us.**

**When we recognize you in the suffering of others,
yet still turn our backs, forgive us.**

**When our loved ones need words of encouragement,
yet we speak with anger, forgive us.**

**When we want you to heal us and make us new,
but doubt that you can or will, forgive us.**

**We often fail to be true to who we are, O God,
so we have no right to ask this,
but we ask you to be true to who you are,
and forgive us once again. (Silent prayer)**

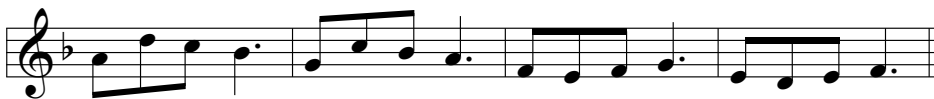
*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response

Glory to God
GLORIA



Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!



Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*Passing of the Peace

Words of Welcome

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

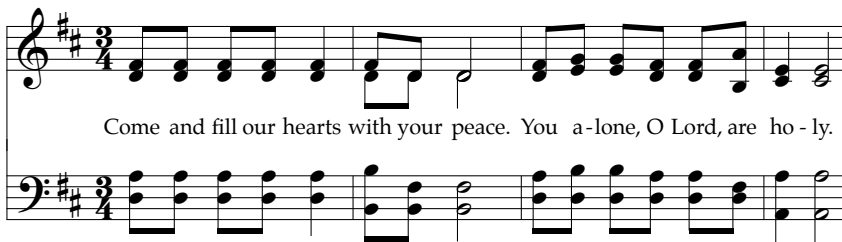
Prayer for Illumination

Diann Markley (8 a.m.); Cindy Kueck (9:30a.m.); Kim Higgins (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Philippians 2:1-11

Call to Prayer



Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You - a - lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.



Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

**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, forever. Amen.**

Anthem *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*
music: 19th Century Gospel Song; setting: Eric Nelson; The Village Choir

Scripture Reading *Philippians 4:4-7*

Sermon *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* Rev. Jenny McDevitt

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*
ST. CHRISTOPHER

**Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,
the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land;
a home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.**

**Upon the cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see
the very dying form of One who suffered there for me;
and from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess:
the wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.**

**O safe and happy shelter, O refuge tried and sweet,
O sacred place where heaven's love and heaven's justice meet;
the cross protects then sends us out to share the holy word,
to live a life of faithfulness for the glory of the Lord.**

Commissioning of Stephen Ministers (9:30 a.m.)

Offertory *Rejoice in the Lord Always*
music: Henry Purcell; words: Phil. 4:4-7; The Village Choir

*Response *Doxology with Alleluias*
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below; Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn, No. 826

Lift High the Cross
CRUCIFER

*Benediction

*Response

Go With Us Lord
TALLIS CANON

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and

The first system of musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a treble and bass staff. The melody in the treble staff begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords. There are two asterisks above the treble staff, one above the second measure and one above the eighth measure.

ev - ery com - ing day, that in your Spir - it

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff melody includes a quarter note G4, quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, followed by quarter notes D5, E5, and F5. The bass staff continues with chords. There is one asterisk above the treble staff, positioned above the first measure.

strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.

The third system of musical notation concludes the hymn. The treble staff melody includes quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5, followed by quarter notes D5, E5, and F5. The bass staff continues with chords. The system ends with a double bar line.

*Postlude

Allegro in C Major
by W. A. Mozart

*All who are able may stand

© A-705103 for all hymns

THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of January 11, 2016)

The following are daily Bible readings offered for your own personal devotion. You are invited to read the text, think about the reflection and questions and allow these to lead you in a time of prayer. Pray for your own journey of faith. Pray for Village Church and our mission. Pray for God's world.

Monday, Jan. 11

Acts 8:14-17

Recently we ordained and installed new elders, deacons and trustees. In that ceremony there is typically a time when we do a "laying on of hands." This tradition may be older than The Apostle's Creed. The idea behind the laying on of hands is not a symbol that we have the power to transfer God's Spirit through us to others. Rather, it is a sign that we as the church celebrate the activity of God's Spirit already present in people's lives, and that we are praying for them as they accept the task of their calling.

Tuesday, Jan. 12

Luke 3:21-22

This past Sunday was the Baptism of the Lord Sunday. There is one specific detail of Jesus's baptism in Luke's gospel the others do not point out. In both Matthew and Mark we know that the Holy Spirit descends from heaven as Jesus rises from the water. But in Luke, he adds that the Holy Spirit comes in "bodily form." One of our confessional claims of God is that God is revealed in three distinct persons, "without confusion and without change, without separation and without division." What does God's Holy Spirit in bodily form mean for us?

Wednesday, Jan. 13

Isaiah 43:1-7

Isaiah is the prophet of old who reminds us that Israel is Yahweh's beloved people. While they were exiled from their land and their temple destroyed, Isaiah was there to tell them that God is the one who says, "I am with you" always. God is the one who has formed us and made us. God is the one who calls us by name. God is the one who says "you are mine" and "I love you." God delivers us from troubled waters and rivers, and walks with us through fire and flame.

Thursday, Jan. 14

Psalms 29

The startling image of this Psalm is the voice of God breaking into and claiming power over and through all earthly elements of force. As in Genesis, this passage magnifies the sovereignty of God over all created things. But all of this seems to happen for two reasons. One - so we can be reminded that there is something much bigger than us, and the things around us. Two - our response to the power and presence of God is to give God "Glory." And with our offering of praise and glory to God, we are given strength and peace.

Friday, Jan. 15

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Again this is a text of delivery from exile. But why do we hear so many of these kinds of texts at Christmas? Perhaps it's because this is exactly the darkness we anticipate God's light shining into. The darkness of abandonment and defeat, of dehumanizing despair and deadliness. These are the things that the words "Christ is born," and Christmas hope to alleviate. Christmas is a defiant act against expulsion.

Saturday, Jan. 16

Psalm 150

This Psalm starts off saying give God praise "in his sanctuary." Well, wouldn't that be every place in Her Creation? But what is so wonderfully rich about the instruments of praise used in this passage is how diverse they are. Use a trumpet, which is meant for fanfares and announcements. Use lute and harp, which are melodic and harmonious and are played softly and rhythmically. Use strings and pipes, which create waves and vibrations that resonate through our senses. Use tambourine and dance, because who plays a tambourine and doesn't dance. Use clanging cymbals, which anyone will know, make loud noises. "Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!" Because it is going to take a lot of breath to play all those instruments.

**T.A.K.E. Defense for Girls and Women Saturday, Jan. 30
10 a.m.-noon in Friendship Hall**

We have all been there; in a situation that makes you feel just a bit uneasy. Sometimes it's walking to your front door at night — darkness can play some scary tricks on you. Other times it's in bright daylight, when that stranger walking toward you gives you an unwarranted stare that throws your sense of comfort a little out of whack.

T.A.K.E. Defense Training provides girls and women of all ages with unique reality-based, hands-on self-defense training. Such training provides safety awareness that everyone needs and deserves.

Your T.A.K.E. training, an integral element in the comprehensive safety awareness program, will take place in a two-hour session held at various facilities. When you attend a class, you'll receive priceless awareness education and practical application of the skills demonstrated and learned in the session. We will also cover internet safety, community safety, home safety, safe travel and much more. It's our goal to give you the advantage if you're ever in a situation that makes you question your safety.

So whether you're in search of that advantage to feel in control of everyday situations, or you want to make sure a bad experience is never repeated, take part in T.A.K.E Defense Training.

A \$12 donation is requested but not required. This is a special event being offered through Village U.

Email marianne.weber@villagepres.org or call 913-671-2333 to register.



TODAY AT VILLAGE

WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH! Please join us every week. Refreshments in Friendship Hall following the worship service.

NEW STEPHEN MINISTERS COMMISSIONED - Today in worship we commission six new Stephen Ministers who have completed 50 hours of training in order to provide confidential, one-on-one Christian care to those who need it. They are: Ruth Biggs, Jean Butler, Peggy Friedman, Laura Lutz, Julie Xiong, and Patty Zender. For more information or to request a Stephen Minister, contact Rev. Len Carrell at 913-671-2347 or len.carrell@villagepres.org.

WORSHIP BAGS are available for children to use as tools in worship. At the end of the worship service, please return the bags to the baskets located in the narthex.

TAIZÉ WORSHIP SERVICE TODAY - Join us for an evening worship service at 5 p.m. today in the Chapel. The service includes song, silence, scripture and communion, all experienced at a quiet, reflective pace.

SUNDAY FLOWER DELIVERY SCHEDULE AVAILABLE TODAY - If you are a volunteer who helps deliver flowers on Sunday, come by and pick up your 2016 schedule today. Nancy Skidmore will be handing out schedules - and a doughnut - at a table in the hallway by the Children's Library.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

PRESCHOOL CHURCH SCHOOL - Parents may check in their preschool-age child on the first floor in the Preschool wing. Church school classes are available 9:30 a.m and 11 a.m.

KIDS' KINGDOM CHURCH SCHOOL - Parents may check in their elementary (K-5) aged students on the 3rd floor. 9:30-10:30 a.m. Grades 2-5 start a new unit today, "Disciples: Then and Now."

CLUB V6 (6TH GRADE) - Fun and relevant discussions for today's "tweens. 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Room 302. They start a new unit today, "Freedom," which follows the Exodus story.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING - Children are encouraged to bring cans of soup every Sunday through January. The Village Food Pantry will receive all donations.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR SPRING 2016 VILLAGE U CLASSES - You may enroll for all courses online at villagepres.org, by email (marianne.weber@villagepres.org), by calling 913-671-2333 or in person in Room 119 at Village Church. There is a one-time only child care fee of \$40.

UPCOMING VILLAGE U CLASSES:

Breakfast and Bible with Your Buddies - Join Rev. Tom Are for a morning men's Bible study and Chef Emily's hot breakfast. To make a reservation for breakfast, call 913-671-2333. Cost: \$6. Child care is not available. 7:30-8:30 a.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 19-March 8, in Room 228.

Funding College Expenses and the Benefits of 529 College Savings Plans - We will discuss estimating the costs of college expenses and how to allocate resources to help cover the costs, as well as the features and benefits of 529 College Savings Plans. Taught by Peter Vrooman, first vice president, investment officer, Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC. 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 19, in Room 232.

Transforming Your Basic Store-bought Flowers into an Extraordinary Display - Bring a vase and store-bought arrangement, and we will use provided materials to create something beautiful. Additional cost: \$5 for materials. Taught by Katherine Taylor. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 20, in Room 232.

Short Stories by Jesus - The renowned biblical scholar, Amy-Jill Levine, interweaves history and spiritual analysis to explore Jesus' most popular teaching parables. In *Short Stories by Jesus*, she analyzes these "problems with parables," taking readers back in time to understand how their original Jewish audience understood them. Taught by Gus Breytspraak. 5-6 p.m. Wednesdays, Jan.20-Feb. 3, in Room 232.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER JAN. 13 - Smothered pork chops, mashed potatoes, vegetarian entrée, salad bar, dessert. Price is \$7 for full buffet, \$6 for salad bar, dessert & drink, \$3 – children ages 3-10, ages 2 & under are free. Reservations no later than this evening. Call 913-671-2331 or email cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org, or go to villagepres.org under Connectional Ministries to make a reservation.

MISSION

FOOD PANTRY - We are hoping that you made a New Year's Resolution to bring a couple of Food Pantry items with you to church with each visit! If not, it's not too late to make that resolution. This week we are requesting items that cannot be purchased with food stamps: bars of soap; toothpaste; small bottles of dish soap, hand lotion or shampoo and kleenex. The Clothes Closet needs warm winter clothing.

BLOOD DRIVE - Village will host a blood drive from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 19, in Rooms 132 and 133. To make an appointment online, visit esavealifenow.org and use the sponsor code of "villagepres" or stop by our registration table in Friendship Hall from 9 a.m. -noon today and Jan. 17. Contact Ann Colston at 913-722-0165 or acolston1113@gmail.com for more information.

JANUARY LUGGAGE DRIVE FOR DRMP - Village's Dominican Republic Medical Partnership (DRMP) is looking for large used suitcases in which to pack medical supplies and equipment to take to the Dominican Republic. If you have any large (25" or larger) suitcases that you no longer need, we would love to take them off your hands! You can drop them off at Reception or at the International Mission Office, Room 212c. For more information, contact Andrea Huffman, director of international mission, at andrea.huffman@villagepres.org. We will be collecting luggage through Jan. 31.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

IT'S A NEW YEAR – DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE IS? – Come by the Bride's Room between 10:30-11 a.m. on Sundays where a Village Nurse will check your blood pressure.

CAREER CENTER CLASSES – If you are looking for a new job, come to the next Career Center class. You'll learn how to plan a step-by-step search. Class is at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 25, in Room 232. Contact Linda Alley at linda.alley@villagepres.org or 913-671-2327 if you are interested.

GROWING THROUGH GRIEF – If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, please know that you are not alone. Growing Through Grief, a five-week class, is designed to help discover God's healing presence during a difficult time of life. There is no cost but registration is required. This series will be Jan. 13-Feb. 10, every Wednesday from 4:30-5:45 p.m. in Room 124. Contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org to register.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

MISS CAROL'S ART IN THE ATTIC - Join Women With Spirit inside Miss Carol's Attic Studio at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 21, to explore our more creative side. With Valentine's Day right around the corner, get set to create a large, modern metal heart perfect to warm up your front door or any special spot in your home! The cost is \$30 per person. Bring a salty or sweet treat to share as well as a drink for yourself, if desired. RSVP to Shelby Krumm at shelbykrumm@yahoo.com. For child care, email pam.southerland@villagepres.org or call 913-671-2352 by Jan. 14 (space is limited). For more information, go to: misscarolsartintheattic.com.

WOW (Women of Wisdom) opens the New Year with lunch at Café Provence, 3936 W. 69th Terr. in Prairie Village, at noon on Thursday, Jan. 21. All women are invited. RSVP by Tuesday, Jan. 19, to Diane Lee, 913-432-4321 or dianelee@att.net, or to Marvie Sneegas, 913-209-9608 or sneegi@kc.rr.com.

AMAZING GRACES WINTER EVENT AT THE NELSON - Join us at the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art for our winter event from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 4. We'll meet in the lobby of the Bloch building for refreshments followed by a docent guided tour featuring religion in art. Your \$10 Check by Jan. 18 is your reservation. Send to Kathy Collins, 4716 W. 86th St., Prairie Village, KS 66207. Drinks are an additional charge and museum parking is \$8.

YOUTH MINISTRY

HIGH SCHOOL & MIDDLE SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL - Meet in the Youth Loft at 9:30 a.m. Room 333.

CHEER H.S. YOUTH GROUP - Meets tonight from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Youth Loft.

ODD MONDAYS BIBLE STUDY – This is a new high school girls bible study that meets on odd dated Mondays (eg. Jan. 11, Jan. 25, Feb. 1) from 3-4 p.m. in the Upper Room. Join us for this great time together!

TWOSDAYS - Middle schoolers join us Tuesdays after school from 4-5:30 p.m. in the Youth Loft, Room 333.

GPS M.S. YOUTH GROUP – Meets this Wednesday evening from 6:30-8 p.m. In the Youth Loft.

AN INVITATION TO SING!

There is no better time than January to begin something new, challenging (in a good way), connecting (to other people, and to God), and life-giving – and nothing accomplishes this better than singing. Village Church has four adult choral ensembles ready to welcome new singers. More Love Chorale – which only sings one Sunday per month – begins rehearsals on Jan. 13. Village Choir, Chamber Choir, and Alegría (for young adults), have begun rehearsals. To learn more about which would be the best musical “fit” for you, call Mark Ball at 913-671-2345. There are no auditions required for most of our choral ensembles.



WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY - If weather is predicted to have 4 inches or more snowfall during Saturday night, the 8 a.m. service will be cancelled.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING/DINNER – Instead of gathering after a Sunday worship service, this year's Annual Meeting follows dinner in Friendship Hall on Tuesday, Feb. 16. Rev. Tom Are will provide a review of 2015 and plans for 2016. The Session will present the budget for 2016. Dinner begins at 6 p.m. Seating is limited. If you plan to attend, advise Marsha Hansen no later than Friday, Feb. 5, at 913-671-2341 or marsha.hansen@villagepres.org.

Second Thursday Recital • 12:15 p.m. Jan. 14
Guest Artists: Elizabeth Suh Lane and Elisa Bickers

The Jan. 14, 2016 Second Thursday Recital Series will feature violinist Elizabeth Suh Lane and harpsichordist Elisa Bickers performing selections from Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*. This free concert will take place at 12:15 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 14, in the chancel of our freshly renovated sanctuary!



TIME CHANGE FOR RADIO BROADCAST OF VILLAGE WORSHIP SERVICE

The 1660 AM radio broadcast time of our Sunday morning worship service has switched from 9:30 a.m. to 8 a.m. The time change is a result of the radio station's format change making the 9:30 a.m. time slot no longer available.



THOUGHTS FROM VILLAGE COMMITMENT

A gift opens the way and ushers the giver into the presence of the great. — Proverbs 18:16

SERMON SERIES

The House of God and Our Home

God is not tied to any particular place. It is true that God can be worshipped anywhere. But we have learned that it is important to have a place, a holy place where we worship. We, at Village, have a room that on one hand is like any room; and on another hand is like no other room. Join us in January as we consider what makes this room holy.

Jan. 3	Holy Places: Sanctuary
Jan. 10	Beneath the Cross of Jesus
Jan. 17	Ordinary Water and Holy Promise: The Font
Jan. 24	A Reservation at the Table: The Lord's Table
Jan. 31	Standing on the Promises: A Pulpit In this Room
Feb. 7	The Soundtrack of Worship

MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Thomas L. Are, Jr., senior pastor ❖ Mark Ball, director of music

Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist ❖ Rev. Len Carrell, pastor of pastoral care

Cheryl Couch-Thomas, director of children and family ministry ❖ Rev. Hallie Hottle, pastor of young adult ministry

Marjean Lindquist, director of child care ❖ Kathy Lueckert, director of finance and administration

Rev. Jenny McDevitt, pastor of pastoral care ❖ Matthew C. Shepard, associate director of music

Rev. Diane Quaintance, interim director of adult educational ministry

Molly Sirridge, director of stewardship & endowments ❖ Rev. Zach Walker, pastor of youth ministries

Deborah White, director of mission ❖ Cindy A. Wilcox, director of connectional ministries

Rev. Dr. Robert H. Meneilly, pastor emeritus

The 8 a.m. service is broadcast live on 1660 AM KMBZ, The Business Channel.

Streaming video of all the Sunday morning Sanctuary services is available at villagepres.org. Click the Quick Link "Live Service Broadcasts."

We kindly request that cell phones be turned off during worship.

Large-print Bibles and hymnals are available for worship. Ask an usher if you need these items.

Please note that additional parking is available across Mission Road in the Prairie School parking lots.

If you are not taking your bulletin with you, please hand it to an usher so it may be recycled.