God can be found anywhere. The fingerprints of God are evident in creation. The Spirit of God is sensed in other people. But there is something about us that benefits from having a particular place—a place set aside for the purpose of being with God. We call those places sanctuaries. A true sanctuary does not separate us from discovering God elsewhere, but rather trains our eyes to notice the presence of God anywhere.
GOD’S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Call to Worship

God came to Moses in a burning bush, and led the Israelites through the wilderness.

God sat with Sarah in her grief, and found Jonah in the belly of a whale.

Jesus came to us as a baby in a manger, and broke the power of death on a cross.

Jesus called to his disciples at the Sea of Galilee, and fed thousands gathered on a hillside.

God meets us where we are.
Surely God will meet us here!

*Hymn, No. 394
Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation
REGENT SQUARE

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,
Our brokenness so often gets the best of us.
You ask for our best,
    and we offer whatever energy and imagination is left at the end of the day.
You offer us grace,
    and we assume it is for people more deserving than we are.
You welcome us into your love,
    and we resist making room for others.
Forgive us.
Make use of what faith we have,
    and teach us to trust you. (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

Sandy Linson (8 a.m.)
Jeff Busche (9:30 a.m.)
Sharolyn Molle (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Exodus 40:1-15

Call to Prayer

Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind. Jesus whispers, “Peace, be still.” Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In stillness, hear his voice.
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.

Scripture Reading
Exodus 40:16-34

Sermon
Holy Places: Sanctuary
Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 404
What Is this Place
KOMT NU MET ZANG

Offertory
House of Our God, With Cheerful Anthems Ring (from ‘Melodious Accord’)
19th Century American Hymn, arr. by Alice Parker; The Village Choir

House of our God, with cheerful anthems ring
While all our lips and hearts his goodness sing:
With sacred joy his wondrous deeds proclaim,
Let every tongue be vocal with his name;
The Lord is good, his mercy never ending;
His goodness in perpetual showers descending.

Thou, earth, enlightened by his rays divine,
Pregnant with grass and corn and oil and wine.
Crowned with his goodness, let thy nations meet,
And lay themselves at his paternal feet;
With grateful love that liberal hand confessing,
Which through each heart diffuseth every blessing.

Zion, enriched with his distinguished grace,
Blessed with the rays of thine Immanuel’s face;
Zion, Jehovah’s portion and delight,
Graven on his hand, and hourly in his sight,
In sacred strains exalt that grace excelling,
Which makes thine humble hill his chosen dwelling.
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

SERVICE OF ORDINATION

The Ordination and Installation of Deacons (9:30 a.m.) and Elders and Elder Trustees (11 a.m.)

Those being ordained and/or installed as Deacons (Y signifies Youth Deacon):

Becky Anderson       Fred Meek            Nola Swedin
Peggy Friedmann      Patsy Meek           Annette Zimmerman
Jean Jennings        Denise Ray           Bob Zimmerman
JoAnne Kelley        Kyle Stephens         Anna Dierks - Y
Bob Krenzel          Sandra Stephens       Joe Early - Y
Niki Krenzel

Those being ordained and/or installed as Elders (Y signifies Youth Elder):

Phil Aitken          Rex Joyce             David Parks - Y
Lisa Barnett         Tom Lasley            Robbie Veglahn - Y
Linda Fuchs          Lisa Wright

Those being ordained and/or installed as Elder Trustees:

Gary Anderson        Kathy Collins         Tyler Nottberg

The Constitutional Questions for Officers

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confession as you lead the people of God?

Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?
Will you be governed by our church’s polity, and will you abide by its discipline?
Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God’s Work and Spirit?
Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbor and work for the reconciliation of the world?
Do you promise to further the peace, unity and purity of the church?
Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination and love?
(For Elders) Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?
(For Deacons) Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

The Constitutional Questions for the Congregation

Do we, the members of the church, accept these brothers and sisters as elders or deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?
Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

*Hymn, No. 69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky
HERE I AM

*Benediction

*Response

Doxology with Alleluias
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day, that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.

*Postlude

*All who are able may stand
© A-705103 for all hymns
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. 4**

Ephesians 1:3-14

This passage speaks of a question common in the early church: how do you talk about the significance of Jesus’ defeat of death? Clearly people still die; so what does the resurrection mean? Paul says it is God’s ultimate plan that there be life, not death. One creed of the Presbyterian church begins, “In life and in death we belong to God.” Christianity professes that death has no power to pull us from God’s love.

**Tuesday, Jan. 5**

Ephesians 3:1-12

One of Paul's favorite ways to describe himself is “servant” or “slave” of the gospel. Why would he use such negative terms to describe his life? The significance for Paul is that he believes he is part of something much larger than himself. Therefore to be a slave of the Gospel is not a bad thing, but the source of his greatest joy.

**Wednesday, Jan. 6**

Mark 1:1-13

Repent is the heart of John's sermon. It is a gracious word. To repent means to live differently than you have in the past. John and Jesus were convinced that we could be freed from old patterns of living and empowered to live new life. That’s why they call us to repent.

**Thursday, Jan. 7**

Isaiah 40:1-8

The word of our God shall stand forever. We hear these words in our worship service every Sunday. They were the promise of the old prophet Isaiah, spoken to God’s children when they were in exile. They were away from the temple, the land and their home. All they had was God’s word. Isaiah promises, God’s word is always enough. It will stand.

**Friday, Jan. 8**

John 2:1-12

Wine is a rich symbol in scripture: it is a symbol of life and of joy. So, the story in this chapter reveals more than poor planning on the part of the wedding host. It is a story about their being an absence of joy in the moment you might expect it most: a wedding. In a plain reading of the text, among the many works of Jesus is to inspire joy in our lives.

**Saturday, Jan. 9**

Psalm 138

This psalm, like so many, is a song of thanksgiving. But read it carefully and you can tell that the singer of this song has problems in his or her life (v. 7). Sometimes it is from the place of difficulty that we are able to recognize most clearly the faithfulness of God… and give thanks with a whole heart.
TODAY AT VILLAGE

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

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.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

BROADLY GRADED SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR GRADES K-5TH - 9:30-10:30am. Room 307. (today only)

PRESCHOOL CLASSES check-in on the first floor.

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 Marianne at 913-671-2333 or in person in Room 119 at Village Church. There is a one-time only child care fee of $40. You can pay with cash, check or credit card (Discover, Visa or Master Card). Contact the Adult Ministry Office at 913-671-2333 with any questions.

UPCOMING VILLAGE U CLASSES:

Sing Before Supper - “The only thing better than singing is MORE singing!” So said the great Ella Fitzgerald. Come to the Chapel for a fun and lively time of singing – old favorites and new treasures. 5-5:45 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 6, in the Chapel. Led by Mark Ball.

Date Nights - Join us for a fun evening on the first Wednesday of the month with your spouse. We begin with a 30-minute discussion on a topic to help strengthen your marriage; then couples are free to leave on their own for some time away for dinner and discussion. Child care is available with an advance reservation to be made two weeks prior. A limited number of child care spaces are available. 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 6 through May 4, in Room 232. Led by Clint and Kim Carter.

They Were Just People: Lessons from the Holocaust - Our instructors will present stories of Jews in Poland who were rescued by non-Jews as described in their book, They Were Just People: Stories of Rescue in Poland during the Holocaust, and they will draw out lessons for all of us today. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 6-Feb. 3, in Room 126 & 127. Taught by Bill Tammeus and Rabbi Jacques Cukierkorn.

MISSION

FOOD PANTRY - This week the Food Pantry is asking for items that the clients cannot purchase with food stamps: bars of soap, toothpaste, small bottles of dish soap, shampoo or hand lotion and Kleenex. The Clothes Closet continues to need winter coats in all sizes, blankets and pants hangers. We hope that your New Year’s resolution is to bring a Pantry item to the church with each visit! Thank you.

VILLAGE CHURCH COOKS A MEAL AT CROSS-LINES - On Friday, Jan. 8, Village will for cook and serve a meal at the Cross-Lines kitchen in Kansas City, Kansas. We need four to five volunteers to help cook from 9:30-11:30 a.m., and three to four more to help serve from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. We also need cookie donations. They can be dropped off at the church reception desk from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 7. If you can help, contact Marianne Weber at 913-671-2333 or marianne.weber@villagepres.org.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

TAIZÉ WORSHIP SERVICE IS NEXT SUNDAY - Take a moment, relax, and reflect at the Taizé service. Join us for an evening worship service at 5 p.m. next Sunday, Jan. 10 in the Chapel. Modeled after worship from the Taizé community in France, the service includes song, silence, and scripture — all experienced at a quiet, reflective pace. We will also take communion together.
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 WILL BE HELD JAN. 25 – 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, 2016, 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.

SUNDAY FLOWER DELIVERY SCHEDULE AVAILABLE – If you are a volunteer who helps deliver flowers on Sunday, come by and pick up your 2016 schedule Sunday, Jan. 10. Nancy Skidmore will be handing out schedules - and a doughnut - at a table in the hallway by the Children's Library. Stop by for your dates and doughnuts anytime between services!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

FOR WOMEN AGES 25-32 - Presbyterian Women will host two gatherings in early January as the beginning of a new Stage Group. PW Stage Groups provide a caring, supportive group of women, approximately the same age, and at the same stage of life, to simply enjoy, have coffee with, meet after work, or plan a philanthropic or social event. We invite young women to either a coffee from 9:30-11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 6, or a wine and cheese event from 5-6 p.m., both at the home of Jennifer Burns at 6457 Verona in Mission Hills. Child care will be available at the church with advance reservation by contacting Pam Southerland at 913-671-2352 or pam.southerland@villagepres.org. Please share this invitation with daughters, granddaughters and other young women you know.

AMAZING GRACES WINTER EVENT FEB. 4 -Join us at the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art 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.

MISS CAROL’S ART IN THE ATTIC, 6:30 P.M., THURSDAY, JAN 21 - Join us inside Miss Carol's attic studio for an inspired adult evening to explore our more creative side. They say timing is everything so with Saint 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, to cover materials & Miss Carol's instruction. Please 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 childcare email Pam @ pam.southerland@villagepres.org or 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, including first-timers to a WOW event, are warmly invited to what is sure to be a pleasant lunch in a setting that has recently been named one of the nation’s Top 100 Restaurants by Open Table. 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.

YOUTH MINISTRY

YOUTH PROGRAMS ON WINTER BREAK – All regular programming will resume on Jan. 10. We hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and has a Happy New Year!

ANY ADULT interested in helping with this years confirmation class, please meet on the youth floor at 9:30 a.m. today or contact Zach Walker at zach.walker@villagepres.org.
THOUGHTS FROM VILLAGE COMMITMENT
I have been impressed with the urgency of doing. Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Being willing is not enough; we must do. — Leonardo da Vinci

TIME CHANGE FOR RADIO BROADCAST OF VILLAGE WORSHIP SERVICE
Today the 1660 AM radio broadcast time of our Sunday morning worship service 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.

Organ Builders Need a Temporary Home
Remember how Mary and Joseph had to scrounge around for a place to deliver the wee baby Jesus, because there was no room at the inn? Well, come early 2016, there will be about 15 organ builders coming to Kansas City to deliver our (not so) wee baby pipe organ, and they will need a place to stay, too! Do you have an empty nest, or a mother-in-law apartment, or a spare bedroom and would be willing to share such a space with the church during our organ installation? We will need to house the builders for spans of time ranging from one week to one month, and you don’t have to agree to a whole month!

If this sounds like something you could do, please contact Elisa Bickers (elisa.bickers@villagepres.org, 913-671-2339).

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), all begin rehearsals on Jan. 7. 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.
Missouri State University Chorale
Cameron F. LaBarr, conductor

with guest choir
Rockhurst High School Concert Choir
Sam Anderson, conductor

Wednesday
6 January 2016
Village Presbyterian Church
Prairie Village, KS
7:00pm
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.

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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.