



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

July 12, 2015 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

What is a eunuch, really? That's the first question I asked myself. But to ask that misses the point of how fascinating this person of faith is to God's great story. To ask that misses the point of how the Holy Spirit is so central to this text. The Ethiopian eunuch is a story about a man of great loyalty and devotion, in charge of the queen's entire treasury. He is a man of great faith and inquiry, traveling to Jerusalem to worship and studying Isaiah on his way home. And he is a man with great questions, asking, "How can I understand?" and "Why not me?"

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

God Welcomes All
God, We Honor You

Call to Worship

Rev. Diane Quaintance

O God, you have brought us
into the bright light of this new day.

**To the rising of this life itself,
bring us to the guiding light of your eternal grace.**

Out of the waters of our baptism you have claimed us,
and graciously accepted us, and said to us,
"You are my Beloved!"

**To turn away from you is to fall,
to turn toward you is to rise,
and to stand before you is to live forever.**

Let every heart sing praises to the Lord!

*Hymn

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty
LOBE DEN HERREN

**Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
joining in glad adoration!**

**Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been
granted in what he ordaineth?**

**Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
gladly forever adore him.**

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

We think we know our way, completely.

We think we are certain of your ways.

We want to hold our own hand.

We continue to prefer the ways of the world to your ways,

we reject the wisdom of your guidance,

we have gotten lost altogether,

and lost others along the way.

Forgive us for what we have been,

help us to change what we are,

and direct what we shall be,

that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways.

Forgive and restore us through Christ Jesus, our Lord. (Silent prayer)

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

*Passing of the Peace

Words of Welcome

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call to Prayer

Come, Bring Your Burdens to God

Come, bring your bur-dens to God; come, bring your
bur - dens to God; come, bring your bur - dens to God, for
Je - sus will nev - er say no.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 6/8. The lyrics are: 'Come, bring your bur-dens to God; come, bring your bur - dens to God; come, bring your bur - dens to God, for Je - sus will nev - er say no.'

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.

Musical Offering

Andante Tranquillo (8 a.m.)

music: Gerald Finzi; Bruce Williams, viola

Simple Gifts (9:30, 11 a.m.)

19th Century Shaker Hymn, arr. by Aaron Copland; Doug Jones, tenor

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn

Help Us Accept Each Other
BARONITA



1 Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept - ed us;
2 Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life
3 Let your ac - cep - tance change us, so that we may be moved
4 Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,



teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em - brace.
we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.
in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;
who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for jus - tice and for bread,



Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve
Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,
to prac - tice your ac - cep - tance un - til we know by heart
we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on:



we are our - selves ac - cept - ed, and meant to love and live.
to love them as we find them, or as they may be - come.
the ta - ble of for - give - ness, and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.
re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us; make us one!

Offertory

Andante (8 a.m.)
music: G. F. Handel; Bruce Williams, viola

Shall We Gather At the River (9:30, 11 a.m.)
19th Century Gospel Song, arr. by Aaron Copland; Doug Jones, tenor

*Response

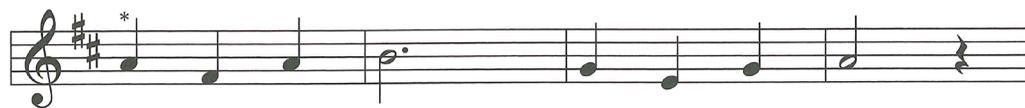
God, We Honor You



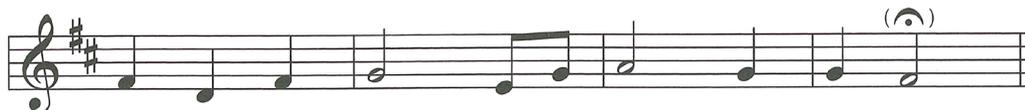
God, we hon - or you. God, we trust in you.



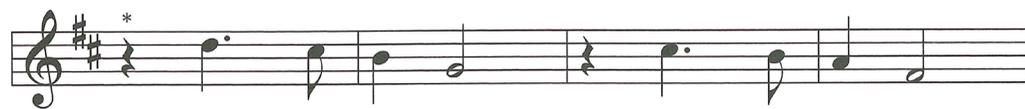
God, we wor - ship and a - dore you.



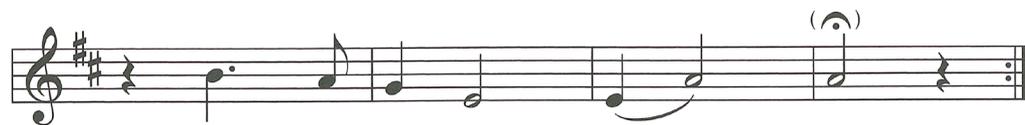
Take what we bring, of - fered to you.



Teach us to show your a - bun - dant bless - ings.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, a - men.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn

There Is Now a New Creation
STUTTGART

1 There is now a new cre - a - tion through the grace of Je - sus Christ,
2 Call the lost and found to - geth - er; tell the news to ev - ery - one;
3 Wrap the prod - i - gal in wel - come; run to greet the way - ward child.
4 Come and join the cel - e - bra - tion; come and join this hap - py feast;
5 There is now a new cre - a - tion through the grace of Je - sus Christ.

peace and rec - on - cil - i - a - tion with the God of end - less life.
now the past is gone for - ev - er and a new life has be - gun.
All is fin - ished and for - giv - en; let us now be rec - on - ciled.
Je - sus makes an in - vi - ta - tion to the great - est and the least.
Sing, with thanks and ad - o - ra - tion, to the God of end - less life!

*Benediction

*Response

**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*

THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of July 13, 2015)

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, July 13

Philippians 4:4-5

Rejoice always? What do the circumstances need to be for you to rejoice? For Paul, it was the knowledge that "the Lord is near." Joy is not the same as being chipper or jovial. Joy is a deeper, more foundational orientation... a confidence that even on the worst day, God's love remains steadfast.

Tuesday, July 14

Philippians 4:6-7

"In" everything give thanks; not "for" everything give thanks. Prayers of thanksgiving "in" every circumstance are pathways to peace. Tell God the truth. Tell God what you want. Tell God what you believe you need. This honesty in prayer is a pathway to peace.

Wednesday, July 15

Philippians 4:8-9

Here Paul goes again, sounding like an arrogant apostle. But remember, he is holding himself up as a recipient of grace. It is this grace that has empowered him to choose day by day that which is honorable, true, etc. You will have choices today. Keep doing the things on this list and at the end of the day you will be at peace with yourself. It is a great feeling.

Thursday, July 16

Philippians 4:10-14

I have learned the secret... Paul says. The way to rejoice with much or with little is to ensure that other people are the priority. Paul speaks of how the Philippians care for him. That care gives him joy; but it also gives the Philippians joy. When we love our neighbor, when we care for other people, the circumstances of plenty and want mean little.

Friday, July 17

Philippians 4:15-20

Paul speaks to the Philippians about a gift they sent to him to support his ministry. Money and ministry always go together. We invest all of our money in something. Paul knows that when it is invested in the work that God is doing in the world, it brings a kind of satisfaction that is not known elsewhere. What is the most meaningful monetary gift you have ever given? How did it make you feel?

Saturday, July 18

Philippians 4:21-23

Saints... when Paul speaks of saints, he is not referencing the spiritually elite. A "saint" is one who has been touched by God's grace. In other words, a saint is a way to describe any Christian. Paul closes the letter by reminding the Philippians of the connection they have with other Christians. When you are in prison like Paul or facing whatever storm we face in life, Paul knows we have to walk through it ourselves; but we never have to walk through it alone. Who are the saints of God for you?

TODAY AT VILLAGE

WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH! Please join us every week. Coffee and lemonade are available in Rooms 232 and 233 following worship services.

TAIZÉ WORSHIP SERVICE, TODAY - Are you looking for a quiet, contemplative worship experience? If so, join us for our Taizé worship service. The service includes simple songs, silence, and scripture. We also share communion together. Taizé worship takes place on the second Sunday of every month in the Chapel at 5 p.m.

6 P.M. TODAY IN THE VILLAGE CHAPEL - Alannah Garnier, soprano, Devin Burton, baritone, and Mark Ball, piano, present an evening of beautiful songs and duets. Both singers have been graduate students at The UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance, studying singing with acclaimed tenor, Vinson Cole. Alannah will be returning to Los Angeles this fall to continue her studies there. Both have been active at Village Church, serving internships in Music Ministry.

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 outside of Friendship Hall.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

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

KIDS' KINGDOM CHURCH SCHOOL – Grades K-5 - Parents may check in their elementary-aged students (K-5) in Room 203 for a broadly-graded class. 9:30-10:30 a.m.

GRADUATED 6th GRADE - Join Middle School Youth in the Youth Loft. 9:30-10:30 a.m.

TRAVELING DAY CAMP - July 27-31. Due to construction will be at Southminster Presbyterian Church at 6306 Roe Ave. in Prairie Village. There are still a few spots open for this all-day fun! Call 913-671-2355 or 913-671-2359 for more info.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY - The Most Fascinating People - There are lots of fascinating people in the Bible. You will recognize some of their names; some will not be familiar at all. Their stories will give you glimpses of God, and perhaps of yourself. Some of them are ordinary folks, and some do extraordinary things. Our SUMMER SUNDAYS class — a combined class for youth and adults — will follow Tom Are's sermon series. Leaders will rotate, offering their own perspective on the biblical character of the week. **Now through Aug. 23, 11 a.m.-noon in Rooms 126 and 127.** The upcoming classes include:

Today – The Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8:26-40) – taught by Rev. Sally Wright

July 19 – Mary (Luke 1,2) – taught by Rev. Diane Quaintance

July 26 – Naaman (2 Kings 5) – taught by Rev. Dwight Tawney

Aug. 2 – Barabbas (Mark 15: 6-15) – taught by Rev. Zach Walker

Watch for the NEW FALL 2015 VILLAGE U Catalog - The fall 2015 Village U catalog is a wide umbrella encompassing all our learning opportunities in one, easy-to-find location. Some things you will discover right away are that: we have shortened the name to Village U; we've broadened the umbrella to include ALL that's offered for adults; we've dropped the "Registration Fee,;" child care will be available for most classes for a one-time \$40 fee for the fall term, and reservations will be required in advance; some classes will have a small fee for materials, resources, etc.; you will be able to register online, by telephone, by fax or by email.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

AGE 40'S & 50'S DINNER JULY 17 - We'll meet at the Red Snapper Pan-Asian Bistro at 8430 Ward Parkway at 6 p.m. Friday, July 17. Check out the menu at kcreditsnapper.com. Reservations are under "Village Church." Each person is responsible for his/her own tab. RSVP to Stacy at 913-671-2334 or stacy.fischer@villagepres.org.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY - Summer is here, gardens are growing and because of the wonderful influx of produce, the Food Pantry is requesting salad dressings, oils and vinegar – and for the babies, diapers and pull-ups in all sizes. Shampoo is scarce this summer, and the demand is great. Large bottles are cheaper, and the Pantry can break them down into smaller amounts. The Clothes Closet needs sheets, towels and larger sized clothing. Thank you!

SEEKING HABITAT FOR HUMANITY VOLUNTEERS - The Habitat for Humanity house at 1261 Osage Avenue in Kansas City, Kansas, sponsored by the Village Church, is entering the second phase of construction and offers numerous volunteer opportunities to those who have the time and interest to become involved in that construction. The Tuesday-Thursday Crew would welcome your help on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays until the house is complete. All tools, materials and supplies will be provided by Heartland Habitat for Humanity. Work begins around 8 a.m. and ends around 3 p.m. Contact Dave Lillard at 913-649-8930 if you would like to volunteer or have any questions.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

FAMILIES FOR MENTAL HEALTH MEETING JULY 16 - Families for Mental Health will meet at 3 p.m. Thursday, July 16, in Rooms 126/127 to celebrate "Christmas in July" with dinner, carols and a white elephant gift exchange. This is in place of our December meeting which due to weather has been canceled the last two years in a row. No snow in July! Families for Mental Health meets on the third Thursday of each month at Village Church for a speaker and sharing and caring, all confidential. All are welcome. Call 913-676-7170 for more information.

PARKINSON'S 101: UNDERSTANDING THE DISEASE - All are welcome to attend a presentation by Jane Ann Gorsky, executive direction of the National Parkinson Foundation of Heartland, at 5 p.m. on Thursday, July 23, in Room 228. This presentation is sponsored by Stephen Ministry.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

WOMEN OF WISDOM MID-SUMMER LUNCHEON - Please join us at noon on Thursday, July 16, at The Tavern in Mission Farms, 10681 Mission Road in Leawood. All women are invited to share warm fellowship and good food at this popular restaurant that features classic American cuisine served in a stylish, comfortable setting. RSVP to Diane Lee at 913-432-4321 or dianelee@att.net, or Marvie Sneegas, at 913-209-9608 or sneegi@kc.rr.com by Tuesday, July 14. Whether you have been a long-time attendee at WOW get-togethers or are considering attending for the first time, please know that you are warmly welcomed.

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

TUESDAY MIDDLE SCHOOL "PIX & POP" - Graduated 6-8th graders are invited from 1:30-3:30 p.m. every Tuesday, in Room 304 to watch the Pixar movie we will focus on the following Sunday.

TUESDAY HIGH SCHOOL "LATE NITE" - 8-10 p.m. Tuesday evenings in the Youth Loft (Room 333). Graduated 9-12th graders are invited to enjoy the late summer nights. Each week we'll have a different adventure!

WEDNESDAY MIDDLE SCHOOL "MISSION DAY" - 9:30 a.m. -1 p.m. every Wednesday in the Youth Loft (Room 333). Graduated 6-8th graders, join us for different and exciting volunteer activities, followed by lunch.

THURSDAY HIGH SCHOOL "BREAKFAST CLUB" - 8-9 a.m. Thursday morning sites will vary (see website for location each week). Join us for a little devotional and some delicious food!

THURSDAY MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL "CRAFTERNOONS"- 3-4:30 p.m. Thursdays in the Youth Loft (Room 333). All youth are invited.

MONTREAT CONFERENCE – Many of our high school youth left yesterday for the Montreat Youth Conference in beautiful North Carolina. Help us pray for safety during their time at Montreat, and for their return home on Saturday, July 18.



The Summer Sings at Village Church Music to Enliven the Spirit and Refresh the Soul

6 p.m. TODAY in the Village Chapel: Alannah Garnier, soprano, Devin Burton, baritone, and Mark Ball, piano, present an evening of beautiful songs and duets. Both singers have been graduate students at The UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance, studying singing with acclaimed tenor, Vinson Cole. Alannah will be returning to Los Angeles this fall to continue her studies there. Both have been active at Village Church, serving internships in Music Ministry.

7 p.m. Wednesday, July 15, in the Village Chapel: Sing the Faith III Hymns, Songs, and Spirituals for Everyone to Sing

7 p.m. Wednesday, July 22, in Friendship Hall: Sing Masterworks – Handel’s Messiah (selected choruses). This event is for singers who love to sing The Messiah. Members of the wider musical community are encouraged to participate. Dr. Stephanie Henry, a long-time leader in our choral music community, will conduct. Accompaniment will be provided by stringed instruments and harpsichord. RSVP to mark@villagepres.org to reserve your score (and please tell Mark your voice part). If you prefer to sing from your own score – you may do so, but still RSVP so you will have a place to sit!

SUMMER SERMON SERIES

The Bible is filled with stories of ordinary people. Some of them are good. Many of them are surprisingly selfish. Most are afraid, yet some show courage in the face of fear. Some accomplish big things, but most we know only for a moment. Some have strange names, like Onesimus and Rizpah, and others bear names we give to our children, like Mary and James. And yet, the most fascinating thing about these people is that we know their names because they, at least for a moment, were part of God's story. This list is long of those who have been part of God's work of redemption in this world. As we consider these fascinating people from the Bible, we may discover how our name is on the list of God's good work as well.

May 31	Eve	July 19	Mary
June 7	Onesimus	July 26	Naaman
June 14	Amos	Aug. 2	Barabbas
June 21	Joseph of Arimathea	Aug. 9	The Widow at Zarephath
June 28	James	Aug. 16	The Beloved Disciple
July 5	Samson	Aug. 23	Mattithaiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah and Hilkiah
July 12	The Ethiopian Eunuch		

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 ❖ Len Carrell, pastor of pastoral care

Cheryl Couch-Thomas, director of children and family ministry ❖ Marjean Lindquist, director of child care

Kathy Lueckert, director of finance and administration ❖ Rev. Jenny McDevitt, pastor of pastoral care

Elizabeth Nolen, interim coordinator for young adult ministry ❖ 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 9:30 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.