



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

August 2, 2015 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

Barabbas or Jesus? The crowds chose Barabbas. Ironically, the name Bar-Abbas means "Son of the Father." I suppose the choice made by the crowd was informed by whom they thought the true son of the Father might be. Had Jesus been given the option, he would have made the same choice as the crowd. His reason would also be informed by who he knew the Father to be.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Gathering Songs

**Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth.
Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to every heart.
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!**

Call to Worship

Rev. Jenny McDevitt

The world says be afraid, stay in the safe places.

Christ calls us to be daring and faithful.

The world says there is not enough, hold on to what you have.

Christ calls us to be courageous and generous.

The world says the problems are too big, there is too much to be done.

Christ calls us to be people of hope and imagination.

The world needs the good news.

Christ calls us to share the stories, break the bread, and be changed for the better.

*Hymn

God Is Calling through the Whisper
POLISH CAROL

**God is calling through the whisper
of the Spirit's deepest sighs,
through the thrill of sudden beauties
that can catch us by surprise.
Flash of lightning, crash of thunder;
hush of stillness, rush of wonder:
God is calling—can you hear?
God is calling—can you hear?**

**God is calling through the voices
of our neighbors' urgent prayers,
through their longing for redemption
and for rescue from despair.
Place of hurt or face of needing;
strident cry or silent pleading:
God is calling—can you hear?
God is calling—can you hear?**

**God is calling through the music
of sublime and human arts,
through the hymns of earth and angels,
and the carols of our hearts.
Lift of joy and gift of singing;
days and nights our praises bringing:
God is calling—and we hear!
God is calling—and we hear!**

*Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,

We are constantly making choices:

about our words,

our actions,

our resources,

our neighbors.

Sometimes we choose poorly.

We choose caution over boldness.

We choose gossip over silence.

We choose silence over truth.

**We forget that “no” can be a holy word,
and that “yes” can help raise the dead.**

**Remind us, O God, how even our smallest choices
can make big differences.**

Direct our hearts, that our lives might reflect yours. (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

Prayer for Illumination Carol Tucker (8 a.m.); Kevin Hennessy (9:30 a.m.); Katherine Caputo (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading Mark 15:6-15

Musical Offering (11 a.m.) *Panis Angelicus*
Caesar Franck; Jenny Hull, cellist

Sermon *Barabbas* Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn

There Is a Balm in Gilead
BALM IN GILEAD

Refrain:

**There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin-sick soul.**

**Sometimes I feel discouraged,
and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again.** (Refrain)

**Don't ever feel discouraged,
for Jesus is your friend,
and if you lack for knowledge,
he'll not refuse to lend.** (Refrain)

**If you cannot preach like Peter,
if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus
and say, "He died for all!"** (Refrain)

Offertory

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound
setting: Luigi Zaninelli; Jenny Hull, cellist

*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

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.**

Words of Institution

Sharing the Elements

(At the indication of the pastor, we will all be invited to partake of the bread together, giving visible expression to the unity we share as Christ's body. You are invited to partake of the cup as it is served to you.)

Music during Communion (8, 9:30 a.m.)

Panis Angelicus
Caesar Franck; Jenny Hull, cellist

Prayer of Response

*Hymn

Together We Serve
SAN ANSELMO



1 To - geth - er we serve, u - nit - ed by love,
2 We seek to be - come a bea - con of hope,
3 We wel - come the scarred, the wealth - y, the poor,
4 To - geth - er, by grace, we wit - ness and work,



in - vit - ing God's world to the glo - ri - ous feast.
a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.
the bus - y, the lone - ly, and all who need care.
re - mem - ber - ing Je - sus, in whom we grow strong.



We work and we pray through sor - row and joy,
We learn, year by year, to let love shine through
We of - fer a home to those who will come,
To - geth - er we serve in Spir - it and truth,



ex - tend - ing God's love to the last and the least.
un - til we see Christ in each per - son we meet.
our hands quick to help, our hearts read - y to dare.
re - mem - ber - ing love is the strength of our song.

*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 August 3, 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, Aug. 3

Romans 8:18-21

Paul's letter to the Roman church is one of great theological thinking, but it's also just a letter to his friends in Christ. We see how Paul is not only speaking of his own present time, but he is also speaking about our present time, today. Paul knows the struggles in life to be faithful, but he also points out that our struggles are not pointless or useless. Rather, they remind us that we are the children of God, longing for God, and not trying to be God.

Tuesday, Aug. 4

Romans 8:22-23

The whole of creation labors for what will be, or what could be. Creation labors to find a safe and efficient sustainability. Creation labors to find peace over violence and war. Creation labors for promising ways of caring for all of God's children substantially. But not only does Creation long for these things, but we ourselves, as God's children, long for these things. How does that change our work?

Wednesday, Aug. 5

Romans 8:24-25

Mostly, we hope for things we have some understanding of. We hope for that new promotion, or job title, or just a job. We hope our horse will come in, or our number comes up. We hope our child will call, or our friends will come by. We hope for a lot of things we expect or anticipate happening. But Paul directs our hope on things we least expect, or perhaps, don't anticipate. How does that change our hope?

Thursday, Aug. 6

Romans 8:26-27

Have you ever found yourself saying, "I don't know how to pray?" I know I have! I think maybe the truth is, we don't always know. Isn't that why Jesus taught his disciples to pray? Paul knows that prayer is not an isolated event. We depend on Holy Spirit to guide us in our prayer. And sometimes the best prayers start with silence, or asking God "to silence all other voices," but God's own.

Friday, Aug. 7

Romans 8:28-30

I like to hear these words in this way: That in all things, things known to us and not known to us, in both heaven and on earth, God works together with us for the good of all people, places and things. And God does not stop with just wanting us to love God back, but God wants us to have a purposeful love knowing we are called by God, that God is in relationship with us, and God has a good place for all of us, together.

Saturday, Aug. 8

Romans 8:31-32

In a world where it's so easy to believe that everything works against us. Paul affirms for us that with God, nothing has been withheld from us. God has given us a free gift, and that free gift is God's living presence revealed to us in Jesus Christ. God has given us God's own self, and with that comes the promise that God is always with us, and for us.

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.

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.

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

Aug. 9 – Widow of Zarephath (I Kings 17:7-16) – taught by Cheryl Couch-Thomas

Aug. 16 – The Beloved Disciple (Gospel of John) – taught by Rev. Sally Wright

Aug. 23 – Mattithaiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah and Maaseiah (Nehemiah 8) – taught by Sarah Are

Something Special for Men in Village U - Rev. Tom Are will lead a nine-week morning Bible Study, complete with a hot breakfast by Chef Emily. There will be time for fellowship, reflection on passages from Scripture and time for discussion as well. Bring your Bible and a friend, all are welcome. Reservations for breakfast are requested. Tuesday mornings from 7:30-8:30 a.m. Sept. 15 – Nov. 10, in Friendship Hall.

Take a another peek at the NEW FALL 2015 VILLAGE U Catalog - The church life of colonial Virginia was like a patchwork quilt . . . a surprising degree of diversity of theology and worship from which the uniquely American concept of separation of church and state developed. The impact of their church life is felt even today. Rev. Dr. Lonnie Lee will lead the School of Theology course *Presbyterians, Puritans and Anglicans in Early Virginia*, Wednesdays, Sept. 23 - Nov. 4, in Room 127. **The Village U catalog will soon be available.**

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY - Are you looking for a fun way to get involved at Village Church? Each Wednesday night from September-May, dinner is served in Friendship Hall from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Each week, a team of volunteers helps to set up and cleanup for these dinners. You can be on a team once a month or every week. It's a great way to help out and have a delicious dinner with Village friends. Call Stacy at 913-671-2334 if you are interested in being a part of a team.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COMMITTEE

EFFECTIVE CLIMATE CHANGE COMMUNICATION PROGRAM AND PANEL DISCUSSION – Please join us a 6:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 3, in Rooms 126/127 for this special event co-sponsored by the Sustainable Sanctuary Coalition of KC, the Kanza Group of the Sierra Club and the Environmental Action Committee of Village Church. The program begins with a 50 minute video: *The Preacher's Daughter*, followed by reflections from a distinguished panel and a dialogue among participants. The event is free and open to the public. Please pre-register by contacting Marianne Weber at 913-671-2333 or marianne@villagepres.org.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY - It's hard to believe with all the plastic grocery bags we see everywhere, that we at the Food Pantry would be short of them – but we are. So please bring your grocery sacks (the ones that have handles) to church, along with canned fruit of all kinds and condiments (vegetable oil, mustard, jelly, etc.). The Clothes Closet is requesting large sized clothing for all seasons. Thank you!

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

TAIZÉ WORSHIP SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY - If you are looking for a quiet, contemplative worship experience, please join us for our next Taizé worship service at 5 p.m. next Sunday, Aug. 9, in the Chapel. The service includes scripture, silence, some songs and sharing communion.

GROWING THROUGH GRIEF NEW SERIES STARTS SEPT. 9 - The loss of a loved one brings a myriad of emotions and thoughts. Growing Through Grief, a five-week class, is designed to help people discover God's graceful healing presence during some of the darkest and most difficult times of life. Every effort is made to keep the group to no more than 12 individuals to foster a more comfortable, relaxed environment. There is no cost but registration is required. This series will be every Wednesday from 6:30-7:45 p.m. Sept. 9-Oct. 7, in Room 124. Please contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org for more information or to register.

SEARCHING FOR A NEW JOB? The next Career Center series begins at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 14, in Room 232. These classes will show you how to plan and conduct your job search in today's job market. Many experts have estimated that up to 80% of today's open jobs are not being advertised. We'll show you how to find these job openings and how to approach these employers. You'll learn the difference between just "looking for a job" and "conducting a planned step-by-step job search." If you are interested in these classes, please contact Linda Alley at linda.alley@villagepres.org or 913-671-2327.



VILLAGE CUP SUMMER BREAK

The Village Cup will be closed M-F Aug. 3-7.
We are open today from 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Thank you!

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.



Whether it is a small group that meets weekly like *A Path With Heart* or a monthly program like **Village Talk**, a Sunday morning class or Day Trip to Fort Leavenworth – whether the topic is learning to knit or use a computer, the **Fall 2015 Village U Course Catalog** is a wide umbrella encompassing all of our learning opportunities for adults at Village Church.

The online catalog is on our website: villagepres.org. A handful of printed copies will soon be available.

Registration for the fall 2015 fall term begins **on Monday, Aug. 10, for Village Church members**. The general public may enroll beginning on Aug. 17.

You may enroll for all courses online, by email (marianne.weber@villagepres.org), by calling Marianne at 913-671-2333 or in person in Room 119 at Village Church.

SUMMER SERMON SERIES

The Most Fascinating People

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.