



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

September 6, 2015 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

Today we begin a new series entitled "Back to School." A word about the entire series can be found on the back cover of the bulletin. Today we focus on the gift of teachers. You can't have school without teachers. That's true in the faith as well. The best teachers teach us not only with what they know, but even more by how they love.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Call to Worship

Rev. Zach Walker

School is back in session,
and there are many lessons for us to learn.

So come into this place of hope and trust,
 mistakes and redemption.

**This is where we learn from Christ,
 who teaches us what it looks like to follow God.**

*Hymn

The Lord Is God
 AZMON

1 The Lord is God, the Lord a - lone! Give hon - or, thanks, and praise
 2 With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and might,
 3 At night or day, at home, a - way, to - geth - er and a - part,
 4 The Lord is God, the Lord a - lone! Give hon - or, thanks, and praise

to God, the mak - er of all things and giv - er of our days.
 O peo - ple, love the Lord your God, the source of truth and light.
 O chil - dren, take these ho - ly words and keep them in your heart.
 to God, the mak - er of all things and giv - er of our days.

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we have lost our way.

**You teach us to love extravagantly and forgive graciously,
 but we add up rights and wrongs.**

**You teach us to share what we have and play well with others,
but we clench our fists and keep to ourselves.**

**You teach us to walk out into the light and leave the empty tomb,
but we find it easier to stay in the darkness.**

**We did not set out to live like this, but here we are,
made up of good intentions, wounded hearts, and misguided ambitions.**

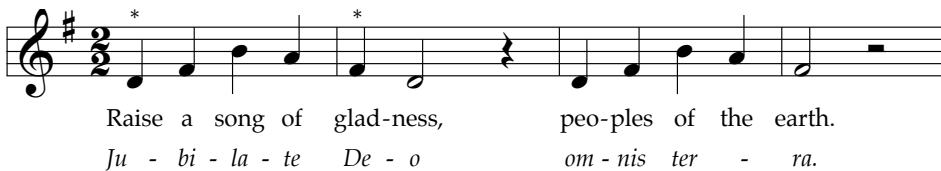
**But you, O God,
are made up of holy wisdom, second chances, and boundless imagination.**

**Make us better than we have proven ourselves to be.
Breathe life into us once again. (Silent prayer)**

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response

Raise a Song of Gladness
JUBILATE DEO



Raise a song of glad-ness, peo-ples of the earth.
Ju - bi - la - te De - o om - nis ter - ra.



Christ has come, bring-ing peace, joy to ev - ery heart.
Ser - vi - te Do - mi - no in lae - ti - ti - a.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev - ery heart!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, in lae - ti - ti - a!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev - ery heart!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, in lae - ti - ti - a!

*Passing of the Peace

Words of Welcome

Why Village Matters

Social Witness and Advocacy Task Force

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination Carol Tucker (8 a.m.), Patti Howell (9:30a.m.), Sharolyn Molle (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Deuteronomy 6:20-25

Call to Prayer

Calm to the Waves
CALM SEAS

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Calm to the Waves'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 6/4. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind. Je - sus whis - pers, "Peace, be
still." Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In still-ness, 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.

Musical Offering

Simple Song

words and music: Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Schwartz; Jeff Howe, tenor

Scripture Reading

Matthew 4:18-22

Sermon

The Gift of Teachers

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn

Spirit, Open My Heart
WILD MOUNTAIN THYME



Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of



liv - ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing

Fine



and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.



1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's

2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my

3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of



kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and

goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and

sis - ter, broth - er. In the wel - come of

to Refrain



fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.

deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.

Christ, may we wel - come one an - oth - er.

Offertory

Et Misericordia (from "Magnificat" - the Song of Mary)

J. S. Bach; Nicola Juricak and Jeff Howe, duet

translation: *And his mercy is on those who fear him from generation to generation.*

*Response

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn

Fight the Good Fight

DUKE STREET

**Fight the good fight with all thy might.
Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right.
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
thy joy and crown eternally.**

**Run the straight race through God's good grace;
lift up thine eyes, and seek Christ's face.**

**Life with its way before us lies;
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.**

**Cast care aside; lean on thy guide.
God's boundless mercy will provide.
Trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.**

**Faint not nor fear: God's arms are near.
God changeth not, and thou art dear.
Only believe, and thou shalt see
that Christ is all in all to thee.**

*Benediction

*Response

**Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.**

*Postlude

**All who are able may stand*

THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of September 7, 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, Sept. 7

Philippians 1:3-11

In his opening salutations, Paul prays for the community in Philippi. He prays for a mutually shared joy, a joy expressed in the sharing of the gospel. In his prayer he teaches us to hold one another in our hearts through the grace of Christ. In his prayer he teaches us to have an overflowing love for God, and one another, signifying the compassion of Christ.

Tuesday, Sept. 8

Philippians 1:27-30

When Paul reminds us to live our life "worthy of the gospel of Christ," he is teaching us of the importance of living in community. He reminds us there will be struggles, but to "stand firm" and to strive "side by side" in one spirit, focusing on our shared faith in Christ.

Wednesday, Sept. 9

Philippians 2:1-5

Paul's lesson here does not imply that to be of the same mind means to think in the same way. On the contrary, I believe it means that to learn humility is to learn how to regard other people's joys, interests, compassions, sympathies, and loves in full accord with our own, or even better than our own. It means learning how to live with a mind centered on Christ, who came not to be served, but to serve.

Thursday, Sept. 10

Philippians 2:12-13

Teachers teach in the classroom. Sure, we can receive private instruction, but the best kind of learning is when we're all learning together. When Paul instructs us to "work out our own salvation," he is not addressing us individually. He is addressing the entire community. He is teaching us that God is at work in each of us, all at the same time. So, how can we learn from each other how God is at work in our lives together?

Friday, Sept. 11

Philippians 3:12-16

Thinking back on those days in school, we are reminded of how hard it was to shake off that test we bombed or the quiz we forgot to study for and failed. But Paul's words are a good reminder that what lies ahead is some times all we can hope for. That the goals we strive for, or the promises we hope to attain, are what journey us forward. Our one trusting grace, is that God will somehow be revealed to us and be present in the dreams that remain before us.

Saturday, Sept. 12

Philippians 4:8-9

Paul's final word, in this short letter, is to keep doing the things that we have learned in our faith, because by doing them we keep them as real lessons learned. If we are able to think about the things we have learned in our joy of sharing the gospel, in our seeing and knowing how God is at work in our lives together, in our holding each other in prayer with the compassion of Christ, then we may know God's peace is with 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 in the narthex or outside of Friendship Hall.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

NO CHURCH SCHOOL TODAY in observance of Labor Day. Nursery and toddler child care is available.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR PRESCHOOL and elementary age children kicks off for the fall next week, Sept. 13.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - Caring and nurturing adults and youth are needed to fill volunteer spots in Preschool Church School and in the Kids' Kingdom classes. Contact Children's Ministry office for more info.

VILLAGE CHURCH PRESCHOOL starts this week. If you know of a 3, 4 or 5-year-old who would like to join us, please contact terri.gaeddert@villagepres.org or call 913-671-2338.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

"THE GREAT AMERICAN REFUGEE CRISIS" - a dinner and panel discussion, will be held at Village on Oct. 13. The discussion will address this question: What happens to undocumented immigrants and families who are detained at the U.S. border and also others who successfully cross the border and take up precarious living arrangements in communities across the U.S.? To register (\$5 per person), call Marianne Weber in Adult Ministry at 913-671-2333 by Oct. 9.

REGISTER NOW FOR FALL 2015 VILLAGE U CLASSES - You may enroll for 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.

UPCOMING CLASSES:

Sermon Conversations, Wednesdays, Sept. 9-30 - Michael and Diana Bay will lead conversations of Rev. Tom Are's 2012 sermon series "Free To Be Me". There is much talk of freedom in our culture and around the world today. But what does it mean to be free? The Gospel provides an insight that is life giving regarding freedom. Jesus said, "You shall know the truth, and the truth will set you free." Each Wednesday participants will view and discuss a sermon in this series. 5-6 p.m. Room 232.

Village Talk, Wednesday, Sept. 9 - Host Brian Ellison will interview our guest Ambassador Allan Katz, the distinguished professor of public affairs and political science at UMKC. Ambassador Katz is one of the founders of the Kansas City Chapter of The Village Square, an organization whose goal is "to engage in dialogue, build connections and seek understanding about polarizing issues, even while disagreeing. There is a hunger in this country for rational conversation." 6:30-8 p.m. in the Chapel.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS RESUME THIS THURSDAY, SEPT. 9 - The menu is fried chicken, baked beans, potato salad, 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. Call 913-671-2334 or email stacy.fischer@villagepres.org, or go to villagepres.org under Connectional Ministries to make a reservation.

AGE 60'S DINNER - Join us at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 18, at the Red Snapper Pan-Asian Bistro at 8430 Ward Parkway. Check out the menu at kcredsnapper.com. Reservations are under "Village Church." Each person is responsible for their own tab. RSVP to Stacy at 913-671-2334 or stacy.fischer@villagepres.org.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COMMITTEE

ELECTRIC CARS ON DISPLAY AT VILLAGE SEPT. 16 - Local electric car enthusiasts will display their vehicles (including a Tesla!), answer questions and get you revved up to consider whether an electric car would fit into your lifestyle. Cruise through the south parking lot at Village Church from 4:30-8 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 16, and enjoy the weekly dinner while you are there. The Environmental Action Committee sponsors this annual event during National Drive Electric Week. Contact Al Pugsley at aphs58@yahoo.com or 913-226-7725 for more information.

HEALTH OF BRUSH CREEK NEXT TO VILLAGE CHURCH - Under the auspices of The Blue River Watershed Association, with funding from an EPA Urban Waters grant, a team of students and their advisor from Indian Hills Middle School has been testing water in Brush Creek next to Village Church. Come hear their findings at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17, in Room 127. By using an experiential approach and involving critical-thinking skills, the students have gained an appreciation for water as a natural resource and its intrinsic worth, teaching them environmental stewardship. Sharing this appreciation and knowledge with others through community presentations will help students create a legacy of understanding and earth care.

MISSION

FOOD PANTRY – A reminder from the Food Pantry that Sept. 20 is PEANUT BUTTER SUNDAY! Please plan to bring a couple of jars of this staple in the clients' diet on that day. The wishes this week are for all varieties of pasta and spaghetti sauce (no glass jars, please). Plastic grocery bags are no longer needed - thank you. The Clothes Closet will continue to accept summer clothing until the end of September.

JOIN US next Sunday as we introduce you to Village Church's Signature Mission for 2016. Mark Williamson, executive director of DeLaSalle Education Center, will speak during services about their Parent and Child Education Support (PACES) program. DeLaSalle is the only charter high school in the state of Missouri dedicated to serving the high risk urban core. The PACES is an onsite early childhood education program for teen parents, serving their infants and toddlers ages six months to three years.

VILLAGE COOKS A MEAL AT CROSS-LINES - On Friday, Sept. 11, Village Church will 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 volunteers to help serve from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. If you can't cook or serve, we also need cookies. Please drop them off at the church reception desk between 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 10. If you can help, contact Marianne Weber at 913-671-2333 or at marianne.weber@villagepres.org.

MUSIC MINISTRY

MORNING STARS children's music ministry program will start up soon. Morning Stars is a music and worship program for children in kindergarten through 6th grade. We meet each Sunday morning immediately following Kids' Kingdom at 10:30 a.m. for choir and music, break for snacks and fellowship, then move on to our very own child-led worship service in the chapel from 11:30 a.m.-noon. We learn the hymns and responses that are sung in worship, while instilling in our youngest members their value as part of the Village Church family. Contact Jenny Hull at jenny.hull@villagepres.org for more information.

SECOND THURSDAY RECITALS RESUME SEPT. 10 - The first concert of the second season of the Second Thursday Recital Series will be on Sept. 10 in the Village Chapel. Our guest musicians are Beau Bledsoe on lute and tenor David Adams performing songs of John Dowland. The free concert starts at 12:15 p.m. Come early and have lunch at The Village Cup and then enjoy the delightful artistry of this dynamic duo.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

NEED A NURSE? – Starting today, the Village Nurses have moved to the Bride's Room where they will be happy to take your blood pressure.

AV TECHNICIANS NEEDED - If you're tech savvy and familiar with both PC and Apple products, we need your assistance. Grieving families often wish to share videos or photos during a loved one's memorial reception. To help facilitate this, we're forming a group of individuals willing to be contacted when memorial services are scheduled. If you'd occasionally be willing to serve in this capacity, or would like more information, contact Linda Alley at linda.alley@villagepres.org or 913-671-2327.

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 Sept. 9-Oct.7, every Wednesday from 6:30-7:45 p.m. in Room 124. Contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org to register.

CAREER CENTER STARTS SEPT. 14 – If you are looking for a new job, come to the next Career Center series. We can help show plan a step-by-step search. Classes begin at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 14 in Room 232. Contact Linda Alley at linda.alley@villagepres.org or 913-671-2327 if you are interested.

TAIZÉ WORSHIP SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY - If you are looking for a quiet, contemplative worship experience, please join us for our Taizé worship service next Sunday, Sept. 13, at 5 p.m. in the Chapel. The service includes scripture, silence, some songs, and sharing communion.

FAMILIES FOR MENTAL HEALTH MEET SEPT. 17 - Erika Immenschuh, from Johnson County Mental Health, will discuss "Personality Disorders" at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 17, in Room 127. After the presentation, please stay if you'd like to participate in a "share and care conversation." All members and the public are welcome to come.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

OPERATION BREAKTHROUGH READING PROGRAM - MAKE A DIFFERENCE! Men and women volunteers are needed on Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11 a.m. Sept. 23-Oct. 28. A complimentary orientation breakfast is at 8:30 a.m. Sept. 23. Questions?: Cindy Whitham ciwhitham@aol.com (913) 262-3062. Child care is available. Call Pam at 913-671-2352 to make a reservation by the Wednesday prior to the day you plan to volunteer.

WOW LUNCH IN A CASTLE - WOW, Women of Wisdom, cordially invites all ladies to have lunch at noon on Wednesday, Sept. 16, at Renee Kelly's Harvest, an upscale Farm-to-Table restaurant in Caenen Castle, 12401 Johnson Drive in Shawnee. Known as the "Caenen Castle" dating from 1907, Renee Kelly's serves locally grown, farm-fresh foods. RSVP by Sept. 14 to Marvie Sneegas, sneegi@kc.rr.com, 913-209-9608, or to Diane Lee, dianelee@att.net, 913-432-4321. One carpool will leave the church at 11:20 a.m.

PW FALL EVENT SEPT. 16 - Presbyterian Women invite all women to join us for complimentary crepes and refreshments from 9:30-10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 16, in Rooms 232 and 233. Our annual PW fall event, "Crepes and Conversation," offers the opportunity to enjoy a make-your-own crepes bar with delicious toppings. The event coincides with the Shawnee Mission East SHARE program's Renovation Sensation Homes Tour. Optional Homes Tour tickets may be purchased at Hen House in Prairie Village (\$25, if purchased before Sept.16). Please RSVP by Thursday, Sept. 10, to Julie Foster at foster.julie@icloud.com. Child care is available with an advance reservation.

YOUTH MINISTRY

HIGH SCHOOL & MIDDLE SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL - is attending worship today for Youth Sunday during the 9:30 a.m. service.

CHEER AND GPS KICKOFF – We will be having both our CHEER and GPS kickoffs starting in September. CHEER kickoff is Sept. 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m. GPS kickoff is Wednesday, Sept. 16, 6:30-8 p.m. in Room 333.



**PEANUT
BUTTER
SUNDAY**

Sept. 20, 2015

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING
VILLAGE FOOD PANTRY
WITH JARS OF PEANUT BUTTER.

REMINDER

There will be **No Church School today**. New Church School classes begin Sunday, Sept. 13.

Remember Village...

Giving to the church through your will or trust is the most common way to continue your support beyond your lifetime. When your estate is prepared, consider a gift to the church. The Meneilly Society honors members and friends who, through their estate planning, have chosen to remember and support the future of Village Church. For more information contact Molly Sirridge, 913-671-2325.

NEW SERMON SERIES

Back to School

Fall schedule has returned, which means, it's time to go back to school. Children, youth and adults will begin filling classrooms. For the next several weeks in our worship we will reflect on some of the life lessons we learn from those early days in school. These life lessons are often spiritual lessons that help us live a more grounded life as maturity comes.

Sept. 6	The Gift of Teachers
Sept. 13	RECESS!!!
Sept. 20	Is This Going To Be On The Test?
Sept. 27	Who Needs a Nap?
Oct. 4	What's in Your Lunch Box?

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.