



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

September 20, 2015 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

"Is this going to be on the test?" It's a question students ask when they want to be prepared. On a deeper level it can be a prayer disciples pray when they want to know what really matters. Life is full of tests, and often we have no way to anticipate them. The easiest way to fail is to forget what really matters.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Choral Introit

You Show Us the Path of Life (8 a.m.)
music: Bram Wayman; words: Psalm 16:11

You show us the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Choral Introit

Jesus We Are Here (9:30, 11 a.m.)
Morning Stars

Call to Worship

Rev. Jenny McDevitt

The world is always testing us:

**Eat right, speak correctly, dress acceptably;
Achieve immediately, perform perfectly.**

Christ asks but one thing of us:

**Love.
With all that you have and all that you are, love.**

*Hymn

God of Great and God of Small
GOD OF GREAT



1 God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,
2 God of land and sky and sea, God of life and des - ti - ny,
3 God of si - lence, God of sound, God by whom the lost are found,
4 God of heaven and God of earth, God of death and God of birth,



God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things be - long,
God of nev - er - end - ing power, yet be - side me ev - ery hour,
God of day and dark - est night, God whose love turns wrong to right,
God of now and days be - fore, God who reigns for - ev - er - more,

Refrain



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, praise be to your name.

*Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God,
There are moments
when we are too big for our britches.
But far more often,
there are days when we simply cannot believe
a God like you could use people like us.
Forgive us our feeble faith.
Have mercy on us when our insecurity interrupts your efforts,
and be playful with us when we take ourselves too seriously.
Give us arms to hold each other up.
Give us ears that can hear what is not being said.
Give us hearts sturdy enough to risk being fragile.
And when we doubt ourselves or doubt you,
give us grace. (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

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Sacrament of Baptism (9:30, 11 a.m.)

Blessing the Backpacks

Jesus Loves Me!
JESUS LOVES ME

**Jesus loves me! This I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong.
They are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (8 a.m.)

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.**

Morning Stars (9:30, 11 a.m.)

In My Quiet Place

Prayer for Illumination Jim Borthwick (8 a.m.), Larry Sneegas (9:30 a.m.), Charles Schultz (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Mark 16:1-8

Sermon

Is This Going To Be On The Test?

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn

When We Are Tested
SLANE

**When we are tested and wrestle alone,
famished for bread when the world offers stone,
nourish us, God, by your word and your way,
food that sustains us by night and by day.**

**When in the desert we cry for relief,
pleading for paths marked by certain belief,
lift us to love you beyond sign and test,
trusting your presence, our only true rest.**

**When we are tempted to barter our souls,
trading the truth for the power to control,
teach us to worship and praise only you,
seeking your will in the work that we do.**

**When we have struggled and searched through the night,
sorting and sifting the wrong from the right,
Savior, surround us with circles of care,
angels of healing, of hope, and of prayer.**

Offertory

How Can I Keep from Singing (8, 11 a.m.)
19th Century Sunday School Song; arr. by Geoff Wilcken; The Village Choir

A Canon of Praise (9:30 a.m.)
music: W. A. Mozart; words: Psalm 100; More Love Chorale

*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

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending
BEACH SPRING



1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and
2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of
3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your



end - less store, na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly
Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es
grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to



cross, grave's shat - tered door: gift - ed by you, we turn
joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly
spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in



to you, of - fer - ing up our - selves in praise; thank - ful song shall
la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents,
shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,



rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

*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 21, 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. 21

James 2:1-13

James speaks to something that is an everyday experience: we have difficulty with people who are different from us. The difference can be political, cultural or religious. For James' church the difference was economic. The underlying teaching of this text is that all people belong to God and the church should be the place where it looks like we know that.

Tuesday, Sept. 22

James 2:14-17

Faith that is real faith shows up in things that we do. While there is not a specific list of things a Christian must do, every Christian will develop a collection of practices: prayer, worship, study, service, generosity, compassion. How do you practice the beliefs you hold?

Wednesday, Sept. 23

Ephesians 4:1-6

Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called. Since we have been called to follow Christ, the calling is a high standard. It may seem intimidating, but the good news is that the scripture tells us that God cares about how we live. There is not one moment in your life that is unimportant to God.

Thursday, Sept. 24

1 John 4:7-12

Make sure you are reading 1 John and not the Gospel of John. This reading states plainly what the rest of scripture shows: God is love. Not only that, even though no one can see God, when we love, God can be seen in us.

Friday, Sept. 25

1 Corinthians 12:12-26

You are needed. You are part of the body. We often read this text to remind us that others are needed and important, but today read this text again as a word to you. The body of Christ is incomplete without you. Maybe this inspires in you a desire to serve this body. Maybe it inspires in you a sense of honor. At least recognize the promise that you belong: the body of Christ is incomplete without you.

Saturday, Sept. 26

Hosea 11:1-9

The prophet had a job too many prophets had: proclaim judgment to God's people who had turned from God. Yet, in this text, God speaks as a mother who taught her child to walk. Even in judgment love will not let go. You are loved with just such a heavenly maternal love. This love of God will not let go.

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.

THE FLOWERS IN THE FRIENDSHIP HALL TODAY are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Sherin Higdon Custer by Ken & Mary Higdon.

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM TODAY - Welcome these newest members into our faith community as we celebrate the baptisms of the following children: 9:30 a.m.: Landon Theodore Berka (Jennifer and Ed Berka, parents); Sid Torrence Buffon (Amy Dix and Mark Buffon, parents); Landon Grant Jones (Allison and Allen Jones, parents) and at 11 a.m.: Parker Olivia Plaza (Erin and Brad Plaza, parents).

MORNING STARS CHILDREN are singing in worship today. We would love to have your child be a part of it. Morning Stars is a music and worship program for children in K- 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 family. Contact Jenny Hull at jenny.hull@villagepres.org for more information.

FOOD PANTRY - Today is PEANUT BUTTER SUNDAY, and the Food Pantry hopes that you came in with your arms laden down with peanut butter. We thank you for all your donations. If you perhaps forgot, the tables at the entrances will gladly accept cash or checks - and the Pantry will buy the peanut butter for you. Your continuing support of the Food Pantry is what sustains this mission.

VILLAGE COMMITMENT - Today, Village Commitment spotlights Pastoral Care and Counseling. This is just another way that your annual giving supports important ministries and provides vital services to those in need. Committee members will be at doors after service handing you a card full of information. Thank you for supporting Village Church!

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

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 - Please note the following changes:

K-1ST GRADE has a brand new curriculum! Kindergarten meets in Room 311. 1st Grade meets in Room 303. 9:30-10:30 a.m.

2ND-5TH GRADES - Sign in elementary (2nd-5th) aged students on the 3rd floor. Check the large bulletin boards located in the Children and Family wing for each grade's class location. 9:30-10:30 a.m.

CLUB V6 (6TH GRADE) - Fun and relevant discussions for today's 'tweens. 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Room 302.

PARENTS OF 3RD GRADERS: BIBLE PRESENTATION IS SUNDAY, OCT. 25 - If you would like your child to receive a bible of their very own, contact the Children and Family Ministry Committee office at 913-671-2355.

PARENTS OF 6TH GRADERS - You are invited to a planning meeting to discuss social activities and service projects for this year's super awesome 6th Graders. Meet in Room 301 TODAY at noon.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

AARP 55 ALIVE DRIVING CLASS will be held on Thursday and Friday, Oct. 15 & 16, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in Room 126. Classes will be taught by a veteran instructor. The cost is \$20 (\$15 if you are an AARP member) per person payable to AARP. Bring a brown bag lunch or eat out. Contact Marianne, 913-671-2333 to enroll.

UPCOMING VILLAGE U COURSES:

Day Trip to Historic Fort Leavenworth - Travel in a 27-passenger Arrow minibus to historic Fort Leavenworth where you will visit the Frontier Army Museum. Take a driving tour of the beautiful grounds and learn about the oldest active Army post west of the Mississippi. The Frontier Conference Center will offer a full buffet lunch. Led by Georgia Klein. 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 1. Cost: \$20 plus lunch.

There's No Place Like Home ... But What if You Have to Move? As we age, there are many reasons we may need and want to move from the place we've known as home for many years. Health reasons, family connections, loss of friends, financial reasons, among many others may make the decision to leave our only option. Taught by Penny Shaffer. 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 22, in Room 127.

School of Theology, Presbyterians, Puritans, and Anglicans in 17th-Century Virginia - The religious landscape of colonial Virginia was marked by a surprising degree of diversity during the seventeenth century. With no bishops on the scene to enforce the Church of England theology and polity that was approved by the Crown, local Anglican church vestries (governing boards) were free to adopt theological and worship styles that were most compelling for them. Additional cost: \$10 for course materials. Taught by Rev. Dr. Lonnie Lee. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 23-Nov. 4, in Room 127.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER SEPT. 23 - The menu is roast pork, mashed potatoes, Brussels sprouts, vegetarian entree, 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.

EXCITING VILLAGE CHURCH TOURS - Christmas Markets of Germany: Dec. 3-13, 2015 - Visit the charming villages in Bavaria where the fun Christkindlmarkets began and see the breathtaking Alps and Munich. **Autumn in Amalfi and Sicily with Rev. Jay McKell & Elizabeth McKell:** Oct. 26 - Nov. 7, 2016 - This tour visits sun-drenched Sorrento and the stunning Amalfi Coast then to vibrant Sicily. **Come to a tour information meeting at 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 4**, in Room 132 or email Lisa@LisaBallTravelDesign.com.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COMMITTEE

SHOE-IN IN OCTOBER - During the month of October, the Environmental Action Committee is partnering with Shawnee Community Services to hold its third Shoe-In. Bring your gently used footwear to church, and place them in the barrels that will be located inside the south entrance of the church and near the north ramp door on the ground floor. **The first Sunday for pick up is Oct. 4.** All sizes and types are needed. Shawnee Community Services will be re-distributing these shoes free to those in need in the Kansas City area. Call Bob Siemens at 913-268-5107 for more information.

MUSIC MINISTRY

A CONCERT OF INSPIRATIONAL JAZZ SUNDAY, OCT. 4 - Come enjoy the dynamic duo of Eugene Lowry, piano, and Tyrone Clark on bass, in concert at Village Church at 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 4. The concert is free and will be in Friendship Hall.

SECOND THURSDAY RECITAL ON OCT. 8 – Pianist Mike Kirkendoll, associate professor of music at KU, will perform show stopping piano works at 12:15 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 8, in Friendship Hall. Called “the very model of a 21st Century musician” by music critics of the *Indianapolis Star*, Michael Kirkendoll has established himself at the forefront of contemporary pianism. The 30-minute performance is free. Have lunch in the Village Cup before the recital.

FESTIVAL OF FAITHS “TRANSFORMATIVE STORIES,” 7 P.M. WEDNESDAY, OCT. 28 - Jill Bolte Taylor (best-selling author of *My Stroke of Insight*) and Grammy award-winning Carrie Newcomer present “Transformative Stories” from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 28, at Unity Temple on the Plaza. Two powerful voices explore the intersection of science and spirituality . . . body and spirit . . . and weave a seamless story of insight into the wonders of the human brain and the marvels of the human spirit. The event is presented by the Kansas City Festival of Faiths. Tickets, \$20 in advance/\$25 at door, are available at festivaloffaithskc.org.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

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. If you'd occasionally be willing to help facilitate this, contact Linda Alley at linda.alley@villagepres.org or 913-671-2327.

NEED A NURSE? – The Village Nurses are happy to take your blood pressure on Sunday mornings. You can find them in the Small Dining Room, where they will be through Oct. 25.

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. on Sept. 23. Contact Cindy Whitham ciwhitham@aol.com or 913-262-3062 for information. 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.

DINING WITH SPIRIT - Please join us for our first official Women with Spirit event for the 2015-16 school year. It is Wednesday night dinner at Village with a twist, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Sept. 30, in Friendship Hall. Husbands & kiddos are encouraged to join us. We look forward to breaking bread together with old friends & new ones alike. RSVP to Niki Krenzel at susannkrenzel@aol.com by Sept. 27.

SOCIAL WITNESS & ADVOCACY

“THE GREAT AMERICAN REFUGEE CRISIS” - A dinner and panel discussion will be held at Village on Tuesday evening, Oct. 13. Immigration attorneys Angela Ferguson and Catalina Velarde and Rev. Rick Behrens will discuss: 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.? Cost is \$5 per person for dinner. Call Marianne Weber at 913-671-2333 by Oct. 2 to make a reservation.

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

GPS M.S. YOUTH GROUP – meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8 p.m. in the Youth Loft, Room 333.

SKY ZONE M.S. EVENT – We will be meeting at Sky Zone Trampoline Park today from 1-3:30 p.m. Come ready for some fun and don't forget to wear socks!

CHEER H.S. YOUTH GROUP – meets on Sunday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Youth Loft, Room 333.

Bring your family

and your lawn chairs and choose from four amazing, gourmet food trucks, from 5-7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 18, in the south parking lot. Food is very reasonably priced. Drinks will be provided.

Kick back and enjoy these good eats while listening to a live blues band, The Prairie Earth Ensemble. Our food trucks include:

KC BBQ - featuring hickory-smoked ribs, brisket, pulled pork, hot links and many other side dishes and specialty items.

Crave of Kansas City - featuring carnitas, chicken, fish tacos, loaded nachos and more!

Beauty of the Bistro - featuring gourmet burgers, crawfish mac & cheese and more!

The Cupcake Cruiser - featuring luscious dessert cakes.

This event is sponsored by the Connectional Ministries Committee. Contact Cindy Wilcox at 913-671-2331 for more information.



Len Carrell Becomes Rev. Carrell at 3 p.m. Central Today!

Len Carrell, our pastor of pastoral care, will be ordained today, Sept. 20, at his home church, Brick Presbyterian Church, in New York. Mark Ball will play the piano for the service. You can watch the service online at www.brickchurch.org/LiveStreaming. Please congratulate Rev. Len when he returns. Len will be installed as a pastor of Village Church on Nov. 22.



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 ❖ Rev. 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.