



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

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

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

We begin a new sermon series today called "The Giver that Keeps On Giving." Today we consider God's choice to create. Creation is often considered from the scientific perspective. But from the perspective of faith, creation is an act of love. Life exists because God desires that there be life. In this sense, creation is the first act of grace.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Call to Worship

Rev. Jenny McDevitt (8, 9:30 a.m.)

Cheryl Couch-Thomas (11 a.m.)

When we look at the heavens, the work of God's hands,
the moon and the stars that God has made,

we wonder who we are that God would care for us.

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world and all who live in it.

**The Lord is good to all,
and God's compassion stretches over all creation.**

May the glory of the Lord endure forever;

we will praise the Lord as long as we live.

*Hymn

God the Sculptor of the Mountains
JENNINGS-HOUSTON



1 God the sculp - tor of the moun - tains, God the
2 God the nui - sance of the Pha - raoh, God the
3 God the dress - er of the vine - yard, God the
4 God the un - ex - pect - ed in - fant, God the



mill - er of the sand, God the jewel - er of the
cleav - er of the sea, God the pil - lar in the
plant - er of the wheat, God the reap - er of the
calm, de - ter - mined youth, God the ta - ble - turn - ing



heav - ens, God the pot - ter of the land:
dark - ness, God the bea - con of the free:
har - vest, God the source of all we eat:
proph - et, God the res - ur - rect - ed truth:



you are womb of all cre - a - tion;
you are fount of all de - liv - erance;
you are host at ev - ery ta - ble;
you are pres - ent ev - ery mo - ment;



we are form - less; shape us now.
we are aim - less; lead us now.
we are hun - gry; feed us now.
we are search - ing; meet us now.

*Prayer of Confession and Assurance of God's Grace

Before God, with the people of God, I confess to my brokenness,
to the ways I wound my life, the lives of others, and the life of the world:

I have ignored love.

I have neglected our home.

I have forgotten joy.

I have resisted grace.

God forgives you. God loves you, and will never give up on you.

God is making space, even now,

for you to live in faith, abound in hope, and grow in love.

Thanks be to God.

**Before God, with the people of God, we confess to our brokenness,
to the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others, and the life of the world:**

We have ignored love.

We have neglected our home.

We have forgotten joy.

We have resisted grace.

God forgives you. God loves you, and will never give up on you.

God is making space, even now,

for you to live in faith, abound in hope, and grow in love.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Response

Raise a Song of Gladness
JUBILATE DEO



Raise a song of glad-ness, peo-ples of the earth.



Christ has come, bring-ing peace, joy to ev - ery heart.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev - ery heart!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev - ery heart!

*Passing of the Peace

Words of Welcome

Environmental Action Earth Stewards Award (9:30 a.m.)

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Dee Couch (8 a.m.), Bill Hare (9:30 a.m.), Patricia Schultz (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Psalms 104:1-5, 14-23

Call to Prayer

Calm to the Waves
CALM SEAS

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.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn titled "Calm to the Waves" or "CALM SEAS". It is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score consists of two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are: "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." The music features a mix of chords and moving lines, with some notes beamed together. The piece concludes with a final cadence in the bass staff.

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

Shadow and Substance

words and music by Daniel Charles Damon; Music Ministry Interns (8, 11 a.m.)

More Love Chorale (9:30 a.m.)

Shadow and substance, wonder and mystery, spellbinding spinner of atoms and earth;

Soul of the cosmos, person and energy, source of our being, we sing of your worth.

*We are your image, formed in community; sisters and brothers of Adam and Eve.
You gave us color, custom, and history; teach us to honor what others receive.
Naming the nameless Spirit of unity, scanning the heavens for signs of your care.
God of the ages, give us humility; guide us to mystical union in prayer.*

Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 4:19-26

Sermon

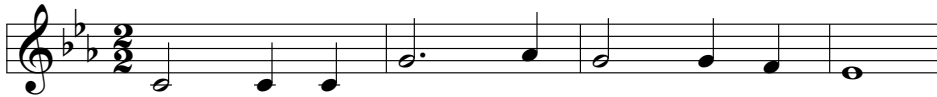
Creation-The First Act of Grace

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn

Many and Great, O God, Are Thy Works
LACQIPARLE



1 Man - y and great, O God, are thy works,
2 Grant un - to us com - mu - nion with thee,



Mak - er of earth and sky. Thy hands have
thou star - a - bid - ing One. Come un - to



set the heav - ens with stars; thy fin - gers spread the
us and dwell with us. With thee are found the



moun - tains and plains. Lo, at thy word the
gifts of life. Bless us with life that



wa - ters were formed. Deep seas o - bey thy voice.
has no end, e - ter - nal life with thee.

Offertory

House of Our God
19th Century Shape-Note Hymn, arr. by Alice Parker; Village Choir

*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

For the Fruit of All Creation
AR HYD Y NOS

**1. For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God.
For the gifts to every nation,
thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping,
thanks be to God.**

**2. In the just reward of labor,
God's will be done.
In the help we give our neighbor,
God's will be done.
In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will be done.**

**3. For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us,
thanks be to God.**

*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*

© A-705103 for all hymns

THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of October 12, 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, Oct. 12

Matthew 5:9

Surely Jesus was speaking of Shalom here, the Hebrew word for peace. Shalom is a common phrase used today in Jewish culture and elsewhere as a word of greeting or parting. But here Jesus has used it in his instruction, as a Rabbi would, reminding people to live their lives making Shalom. Be of good welfare, harmony, completeness or wholeness. Be instruments of peace!

Tuesday, Oct. 13

Matthew 5:10-12

This talk of persecution from Jesus tells us how honest he really was about a life of discipleship. He knew the cost it would take to follow him, to lead a life devoted to him and his lordship. That was certainly true of the early church. And yet, even today we watch the persecution of many religions and religious beliefs. Perhaps, the impact of his words here is because they come after his call to be peace makers.

Wednesday, Oct. 14

Matthew 5:13

"You are the salt of the earth." In the ancient world, salt was an important and valued commodity. It was used as a preservative and kept things from going bad. It was also connected to purity for it was a substance of the purest kind. But most commonly it was used to provide flavor to the flavorless. Of course, if salt is pure, then how could it lose its flavor? Jesus' charge to "be salt" is a message of usefulness, for uselessness invites disaster. Bring to life purity, act to preserve it, and add a flavor of faith to it.

Thursday, Oct. 15

Matthew 5:14-15

Jesus calling us to be salt and light is a nice compliment. To be salt is to know we are "from this world," but to be called light may mean we are "not of it." Jesus says in John's gospel, "I am the light of the world." So for him to call us to be a light as well is a claim that Christ's light shines through us. Our Christian faith is not meant to only shine at church, or in worship, but at our office spaces, in our homes, at the marketplace or driving in our cars, indeed everywhere.

Friday, Oct. 16

Matthew 5:16

The good works spoken of here are not our own good works, but the good and wondrous work of God present in our lives. It is Christ's light that shines through us that in turn points to Christ who has first begun this good work in us. There is winsomeness in Christian goodness, which does not draw attention to ourselves, but to God.

Saturday, Oct. 17

Matthew 5:17-20

This might be one of the most astonishing statements by Jesus in his entire sermon: that there is no greater law or lesser law, but there is The Law; and he came not to abolish it but to fulfill it. In many ways we can read this statement that Jesus was the living, breathing, walking Torah.

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 FRIENDSHIP HALL TODAY are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Peter Carr, son of Scott and Lexa and brother of Erin.

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

TE DEUM ANTIQUA CONCERT TODAY AT 7 P.M. - Te Deum Antiqua will perform *Missa pro Defunctis*, a requiem mass by Spanish Renaissance composer Tomas Luis de Victoria at 7 p.m. tonight at St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 40th and Main. Matthew Shepard, Te Deum Antiqua founder and artistic director, will conduct the 13-voice ensemble. The presentation will be sung in Spanish Latin pronunciation, and will include chants from the *Liber Usualis*, a book of Gregorian chants compiled by French monks, commonly used in Victoria's time. A suggested donation of \$10 will be requested at the door. For more information, visit www.te-deum.org or the Te Deum Facebook page.

KANSAS CITY WIND SYMPHONY CONCERT TODAY - The Kansas City Wind Symphony, which is sponsored by the Village's Music Ministry Department, will begin this 18th season with a free concert at 7 p.m. today. Due to the Village Church Sanctuary construction, this concert will be held at Faith Lutheran Church at 67th and Roe in Prairie Village. Call 913-671-2344 or 816-835-5943 for more information.

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.

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.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

VILLAGE TALK WILL HOST TWO SPECIAL GUESTS IN OCTOBER

Oct. 14 Rev. Brian Ellison will host Gary Forsee, successful business and community leader. A Kansas City native, Forsee had a distinguished business career in the telecommunication industry for 3½ decades with Southwestern Bell, AT&T, and as chairman and CEO of Sprint Nextel before becoming president of the University of Missouri system. **6:30-8 p.m. in the Chapel.**

Oct. 25 Rev. Brian Ellison will host former Senator John Danforth talking about his new book *The Relevance of Religion: How Faithful People Can Change Politics*. Michael Gerson, a Washington Post columnist, writes, "*The Relevance of Religion* summarizes the lessons of a life of service, and makes an urgent plea for the humane values that often come from faith. It is an admirable book rooted in an admirable life." **6:30-8 p.m. in Friendship Hall.**

Sermon Conversations - Have you ever wished for an opportunity to talk with friends about one of Tom Are's sermons? If so, this class is exactly what you've been waiting for. Each 50-minute class will view a sermon from the church's sermon archive, followed by time for discussion facilitated by a host couple. **Led by Rex and Arlene Raudenbush. 5-6 p.m. Wednesdays, now-Oct. 28, in Room 232.**

Last Acts of Love - Navigating through the various aspects surrounding death can be difficult, and sometimes intimidating. This four-week series will help you and your family with conversations about end-of-life issues. **Taught by Rev. Jenny McDevitt. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Oct. 21-Nov. 18, in Room 126.**

Day Trip to The Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics – Lawrence, Kansas - The Dole Institute celebrates public service and promotes civil discourse and the legacy of Senator Bob Dole with a museum gallery featuring the world's largest stained-glass American flag, Kansas veterans WWII memory wall and World Trade Center beams; the gallery exhibits tell the story of the senator's extraordinary life. Stop for lunch on the way back to the church. **There is a fee for transportation. Led by Georgia Klein. 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 5. Cost: \$20 plus lunch.**

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

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER OCT. 14 - The menu is spaghetti with meat sauce, eggplant parmesan, vegetable mélange, 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.

FLU SHOTS will be given from 5-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 14, in Room 230 and from 9-11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 18, in Room 233. Most insurance is accepted.

COMPUTER MINISTRY

INTERMEDIATE COMPUTER CLASSES will be from 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 27-Nov. 17 or from 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Oct. 28-Nov. 18, in Room 316. Email or call, stacy.fischer@villagepres.org or 913-671-2334 to sign up for classes.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COMMITTEE

SHOE-IN IN OCTOBER - Bring your gently used footwear to church, and place them in the barrels that are located inside the south entrance of the church and near the north ramp door on the ground floor. 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.

MISSION

FOOD PANTRY - The Food Pantry is requesting cans of HEARTY SOUP during the month of October - think how a warm bowl of soup for lunch or dinner can brighten a cold day. There is also a need for clean empty egg cartons. The Clothes Closet is accepting cold weather clothing and has a particular need for children's small hangers - and large and X-large sized clothing. Your support of this mission is so appreciated.

BLOOD DRIVE - Village will host a blood drive from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 20, in Rooms 132 and 133. To make an appointment online visit esavealifenow.org and use sponsor code of "villagepres" or stop by our registration table in Friendship Hall from 9 a.m. to noon today and Oct. 18. Contact Ann Colston at 913-722-0165 or acolston1113@gmail.com for additional details.

MUSIC MINISTRY

A UNIQUE AND UNFORGETTABLE EVENING of science and song: Jill Bolte Taylor (*My Stroke of Insight*) and Grammy-winning Carrie Newcomer (7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 28, Unity Temple on the Plaza) in "Transformative Stories." Presented by the Kansas City Festival of Faiths. Tickets: \$20 in advance/\$25 at door. www.festivaloffaithskc.org.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

LATEST FINDINGS IN ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE RESEARCH – Dr. Jeffrey Burns, co-director of the Alzheimer's Program at KU Hospital, will present the latest research findings for this disease at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 22, in Room 228. Stephen Ministry sponsors this presentation. All are welcome to come.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

LUNCH WITH LEN - WOW! - All ladies are invited to "Lunch with Len" at the WOW (Women of Wisdom) lunch at noon, Tuesday, Oct. 20, in the Heritage Dining Room at Village. Following lunch, we will enjoy our guest speaker, Rev. Len Carrell, associate pastor of Pastoral Care, who will share his fascinating past. **Early RSVP by today is required!** RSVP to Marvie Sneegas, sneegi@kc.rr.com or 913-209-9608 or to Diane Lee, dianelee@att.net or 913-432-4321. Lunch is \$10, payable at the door.

PAGE TURNERS MEETING OCT. 27 – This will be a group effort, presenting reviews of three books by Robert Louis Stevenson: *Kidnapped*, *Treasure Island*, and *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. Last year the group was inspired to read these books after reading and discussing *Under the Wide and Starry Sky*, a book about Stevenson's life. Page Turners meet in Room 127 on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome to join the discussion or just to enjoy listening.

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

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

TWOSDAYS – Middle schoolers join us Tuesday after school from 4-5:30 p.m. in the Youth Loft, Room 333.

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

WINTER SKI TRIP FORMS – are available online at villagepresyouth.org/forms. All 7-12 graders, join us from Jan.15-19, 2016.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 91 ANNUAL HOLIDAY WREATHS AND GARLAND SALE - The Boy Scouts of Troop 91 will be selling beautiful holiday wreaths and garland from 8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. on Oct. 18 & 25. This is the main fundraiser for the Troop. You will find tables near the south doors of the church facing the main parking lot. Stop by and choose from freshly made, long-lasting evergreen garlands, pine cones, centerpieces and wreaths for yourself, or to send as a gift to relatives and friends. Deliveries will arrive on Nov. 22 & 29. Your support is greatly appreciated.

AUTUMN HARVEST COFFEE BLEND IS BACK IN THE VILLAGE CUP

On a crisp fall morning, there's nothing like our Autumn Harvest Blend, another of our favorite things about the season. Flavored with the warm, wonderful spices of pumpkin pie, Autumn Harvest is a cozy blend that's only available in the fall in the Village Cup.

Winter will be here before you know it, so come have a cup while it's available. The Cup is now featuring hot soup during our regular lunch times on Tuesdays and Thursdays. A 12 oz. bowl of soup with crackers is \$4.





Bring your family and your lawn chairs and choose from four amazing, gourmet food trucks, from 5-7 p.m. next 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.

THOUGHTS FROM VILLAGE COMMITMENT

"The compassionate life is a grateful life, and actions born out of gratefulness are not compulsive but free, not somber, but joyful, not fanatical but liberating."

—Anonymous

NEW SERMON SERIES

The Giver That Keeps On Giving

One way to speak of God's relationship with the world is to note that every interaction God has is an act of generosity. The Apostle Paul writes, "I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus." He writes this to the Corinthians, but he could have written it to us. But Jesus is not the only gift of God's grace. So is God's work of creation itself. Even the law as well as the prophets are expressions of God's generosity. This sermon series will focus on God as *The Giver That Keeps on Giving*.

Oct. 11	Creation-The First Act of Grace
Oct. 18	This Call is for You
Oct. 25	Where There is a Way, There is a Life
Nov. 1	It Looks Like This is Never Going to Stop
Nov. 8	Life Is Good, and It's the Real Thing
Nov. 15	Perhaps the Craziest, Surprising, Most Beautiful Gift of All
Nov. 22	This is Our Time

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

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.