



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

October 25, 2015 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

One of the most significant moments in the Old Testament was God's choice to give the Ten Commandments to God's people. We might be tempted to think that life would be easier without such rules and demands, but the giving of the Ten Commandments is one more expression of God's generosity.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Call to Worship

Rev. Brian Ellison, parish associate

God consistently offers us signs of grace:

**stars in the night sky, a burning bush, and manna from heaven;
a covenant rainbow, a still, small voice, and two stone tablets.**

The Word of the Lord always rings true:

"I am the Lord, your God."

"I will make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert."

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life."

"I am with you always, to the end of the age."

**In every moment, in every circumstance,
God is with us, leading us toward life.**

*Hymn

This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made
NUN DANKET

1 This is the day the Lord hath made; the hours are
2 Ho - san - na to the a - noint - ed King, to Da - vid's
3 Blest be the Lord, who comes in power with mes - sag -
4 Ho - san - na in the high - est strains the church on

all God's own. Let heaven re - jice; let
ho - ly Son! Help us, O Lord; de -
es of grace, who comes in this ac -
earth can raise! The high - est heavens in

earth be glad, and praise sur - round the throne.
scend and bring sal - va - tion from the throne.
cept - ed hour to save our sin - ful race.
which God reigns shall now re - sound with praise.

*Prayer of Confession and Assurance of God's Grace

Merciful God, forgive me.
I know what you ask of me, but I am good at excuses.
I trust my instincts, rather than your Word.
I question your promises, and allow fear to make too many decisions.
I forget that grace is what will lead me home.

**Hear these words and trust them:
You are made in the image of God, and God loves you.
God forgives you. Nothing can ever change that.
God is showing you a way forward, into a brand new day.**

Thanks be to God.

**Merciful God, forgive us.
We know what you ask of us, but we are good at excuses.
We trust our instincts, rather than your Word.
We question your promises, and allow fear to make too many decisions.
We forget that grace is what will lead us home.**

Hear these words and trust them:
You are made in the image of God, and God loves you.
God forgives you. Nothing can ever change that.
God is showing you a way forward, into a brand new day.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Response

Raise a Song of Gladness
JUBILATE DEO

Musical notation for the response song, consisting of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 2/2 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two asterisks above the first and third notes. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

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

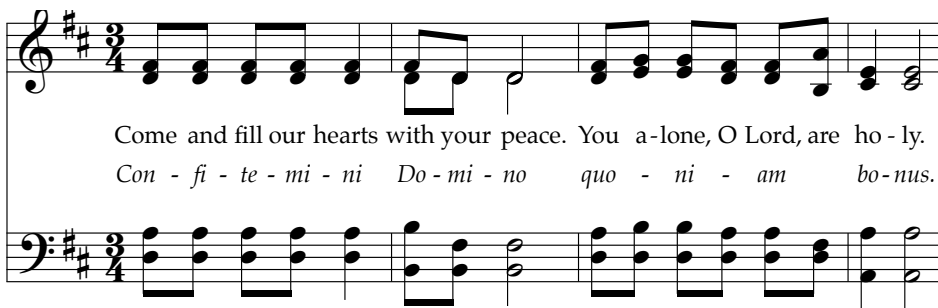
Words of Welcome

Presentation of Third Grade Bibles (9:30 a.m.)

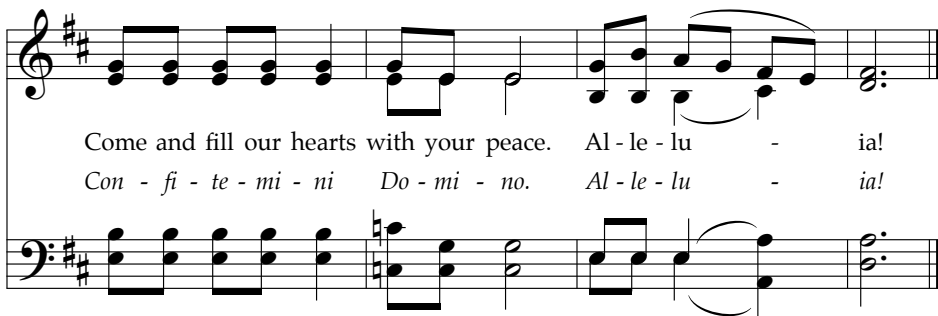
PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call to Prayer

Come and Fill Our Hearts
CONFITEMINI DOMINO



Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.
Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.



Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!
Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia!

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

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

19th Century Gospel Song, arr. by Eric Nelson; Village Choir

Prayer for Illumination

Carol Tucker (8 a.m.), Sandy Wells (9:30 a.m.), Lisa Ball (11 a.m.)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn

How Happy Are the Saints of God
WAREHAM



1 How hap - py are the saints of God who do not
2 Like deep - ly root - ed trees, they stand be - side an
3 While wick - ed ones are whisked a - way like straw be -

heed the wick - ed way; de - light - ing in the
ev - er - flow - ing stream. Their fruit is plen - ti -
fore the driv - ing wind, the saints are firm - ly

ho - ly Word they seek God's wis - dom night and day.
ful and good; their leaves are al - ways grow - ing green.
plant - ed still, and God will keep them to the end.

Offertory

O Had I Jubal's Lyre (from the oratorio *Joshua*)
music: G. F. Handel; Jee-Yeun Kim, soprano

*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

Arise, Your Light Is Come!
FESTAL SONG

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tives' lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

*Benediction

*Response

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

*Postlude

THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of October 26, 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. 26

Matthew 13:1-9

At this point in Matthew's gospel, Jesus the teacher has begun to instruct large gatherings of people in parables. When he starts this story of the sower it's as if in the distance he sees a person out working in the fields. But instead of asking them to "look," he tells them to "Listen!" Like the seeds of the sower, God's word falls on all kinds of listeners. And like the excessiveness of the sowing, God's word never fails to reach us in spite of the path we choose to travel on.

Tuesday, Oct. 27

Matthew 13:10-17

Jesus's disciples are more than perplexed by their teacher's new teaching style. They come to him and ask, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" The lesson behind the parables is not just to tell stories of confusion or hear in a different way, but also to understand God's purpose on earth in a fresh new way. Jesus quotes Isaiah to perhaps point toward the fulfillment of a prophecy; but his message also is to understand how God is the healer of our hearts; and then will we see and hear in renewed ways.

Wednesday, Oct. 28

Matthew 13:18-23

The parable spoken to the larger crowds of people is now explained privately to the close disciples, and in it there is a shift. At first the seed is the "word of the kingdom," and here the word is identified with a certain type of soil, as the one who receives the word. It isn't hard to hear this as a person of faith and feel as if our lives have experienced each kind of soil. It may stand as a reminder of just how feeble our faith may be at times and how there will be challenges in hearing God's word to us. But the hope of the text is that regardless of our faith, or lack of it, God intends for an abundant harvest.

Thursday, Oct. 29

Matthew 13:24-30

There is no doubt that in the pews of the church there are both "weeds" and "wheat." The promise of this parable is that we are not given the task of the farmer. We are not asked to "play God," because if we did, we would no doubt make mistakes. The farmer is not concerned about the "weeds" choking out the "wheat," just as he did not worry upon which ground the seed fell on. Good and bad exist side by side in the world, but this is not a call to be complacent. As the church we are called to be the wheat that grows along side the weeds and is gathered together in the farmer's barn.

Friday, Oct. 30

Matthew 13:31-33

These two small parables are emblematic of the simplicity of its imagery coupled with the vastness of its meaning. A small seed grows into a great tree, and the smallest portion of yeast is mixed together with a mound of flour. It speaks to the gospel's message and its humble beginnings. In truth, don't we all hope to begin with a faith the size of a mustard seed and to seek the kingdom of heaven as the hidden yeast that leavens the entire batch of bland flour into a blissful bread of life?

Saturday, Oct. 31

Matthew 13:34-35

Here again Jesus speaks of the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecy. The reason he speaks in parables is to reveal "what has been hidden from the foundation of the world." With the parable of the yeast, Jesus teaches us that the kingdom of heaven is like the yeast that is hidden in the flour. Here the reader hears that the purpose of the parables is to make the hidden kingdom visible.

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.

BE SURE TO CONGRATULATE YOUR FAVORITE 3RD GRADER TODAY - The 3rd Grade class receives their first Spark Bible (NRSV) today. This kid friendly Bible helps readers explore the Bible in a personal way and makes it easy to interact with God's Word.

TODAY REV. BRIAN ELLISON WILL HOST FORMER SENATOR JOHN DANFORTH who will talk about his new book, *The Relevance of Religion: How Faithful People Can Change Politics*. A book signing follows the event. **6:30-8 p.m. in Friendship Hall.**

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 near the exit.

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 - 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

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. Wednesday, Oct. 28, in Room 232.

DAY TRIP TO THE ROBERT J. DOLE INSTITUTE OF POLITICS – LAWRENCE, KANSAS - The Dole Institute celebrates public service and legacy of Senator Bob Dole with a museum gallery that tells 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.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER OCT. 28 - Halloween Dinner – Chicken and white bean chili, vegetarian chili, fish nuggets, dessert. Price is \$7 for full buffet, \$6 for salad bar, dessert & drink, \$3 for 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.

SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday Night Dinner Thanksgiving Potluck is Wednesday, Nov. 18, in Friendship Hall.

MISSION

FOOD PANTRY - The THANKSGIVING BASKET FOOD DRIVE starts next Sunday! The Food Pantry truck will be in the church parking lot on Nov. 1, 8 & 15. The list of items needed to fill one Thanksgiving Basket for the clients of the Food Pantry is being distributed today. Please be generous so that the clients' Thanksgiving can be as joyful and thankful as yours. The Clothes Closet is accepting winter weather clothing.

DRMP SEEKING TREASURER - The DRMP is looking for a volunteer to fill the role of treasurer to the organization. This person will serve on the executive committee of the advisory board and help maintain financial records, relay pertinent finance information to the board and provide guidance on the fiscal management of the DRMP. Contact Andrea Huffman, director of international mission, at andrea.huffman@villagepres.org or 913-671-2390 for more information.

LAMP DEDICATION NOV. 1 - Linwood Area Ministry Place (LAMP) will be celebrating a new life as a campus of community services in a dedication service at 3 p.m. next Sunday, Nov. 1. The service will be held in the former Linwood Presbyterian Church sanctuary space which is now a Common Space for LAMP tenants. Tours of the renovated space and the adjacent Harold Thomas Center, where Front Porch Alliance has offices, will be offered at 1:30 and 4 p.m. Parking is available from Woodland, just off Linwood Boulevard next to the spired LAMP buildings.

STAR FAMILIES FROM OPERATION BREAKTHROUGH - Village Christmas "Star Families" will be available for adoption near the south entrance on Sunday, Nov. 8, from 9 a.m.-noon. Each child receives three new unwrapped gifts, and the parent receives a \$25 gift card to Target or Wal-mart. Monetary donations to Village Church will be accepted for Star Family holiday meals from Nov. 8 -Dec. 14. Just \$30 will feed a family of three or less and \$60 a family of four or more. Please note Operation Breakthrough in the memo of your check. Contact Marilyn Borel at rmborel@sbcglobal.com or 913-708-1917 for more info.

MISSION SEWING is busy filling the needs of all of our agencies before we close up for the month of December. Christmas yarn is available for you knitters who knit the Christmas baby caps. The sewing room is open every Tuesday until 3 p.m. Call Edie Hultman at 913-432-3515 for more information.

CHRISTMAS INTERNATIONAL HOUSE is looking for host families! Are you interested? For more information, contact Judy Miller at judy.miller@kcpl.com or 816-651-5387.

MUSIC

TRANSFORMATIVE STORIES RESCHEDULED FOR DEC. 10 for Jill Bolte Taylor, best-selling author of *My Stroke of Insight*, and Grammy-winning Carrie Newcomer (7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at Unity Temple on the Plaza). "Transformative Stories" explores the intersection of science and spirituality, body and spirit with song, humor and human experience. Presented by the Kansas City Festival of Faith. Tickets, \$20 in advance/\$25 at door, are available at: www.festivaloffaithskc.org.

BAROQUE VIOLIN CONCERT NOV. 1 - Baroque violinist, Samuel Breene, and theorist, Jeffrey Noonan, will present a concert of sonatas and dances from the 17th Century at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 1, in the Village Chapel. The concert will feature music from Italy, France, Germany and England and includes works by the first generation of Italian violin virtuosos, including Biagio Marini and Marco Uccellini.

AUTUMN HOME CONCERT 3 P.M. SUNDAY, NOV. 8 - The Village Brass, hand bell, and choral ensembles will present a concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 8, in Friendship Hall. Because of limited space in worship, these ensembles haven't been able to join us on Sundays like they usually do. They have been hard at work preparing for this special concert. Come hear your musical friends for a lovely afternoon of music.

SECOND THURSDAY RECITAL NOV. 12 - We're delighted to announce that Village's own Elisa Bickers and Jenny Hull will play piano and cello at the Nov. 12 Second Thursday Recital in the Village Chapel. They will play a program of music for piano and cello, including selections from Mendelssohn's *Sonata No. 2* and music of Bach, Mascagni and Elgar. The 12:15 p.m. recital is free and open to the public.

KC WIND SYMPHONY CONCERT NOV. 15 - The Kansas City Wind Symphony will present a free concert at 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 15, at Faith Lutheran Church located at 67th and Roe in Prairie Village. This concert's guest soloist is Jacob Sentgeorge who is a member of the voice faculty at Central Methodist University in Warrensburg, Mo. He will be performing *Nessun Dorma* from Puccini's opera *Turandot*, and also *Vainement ma bien-aimée* from Lolo's opera *The King of Y's*. For more information, go to www.kcwindsymphony.org or call 913-671-2344.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

HELP DELIVER SOME JOY – Every Sunday volunteers take a little bit of sunshine when they deliver flowers to those members who may be in the hospital or in a rehab or an assisted living facility. Each volunteer chooses when and how many times a year he/she can deliver flowers. The average time commitment is less than one hour. We need your help! If you would like to volunteer, contact Nancy Skidmore at 913-491-3257 or NancySkidmore48@gmail.com.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

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 to just enjoy listening.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PW ADVENT DINNER - Seventeen servers are needed for the PW Advent Dinner on Tuesday, Dec. 1, from 4:45-7:45 p.m. Chef Emily is planning a delicious meal. Servers' meals are free. To volunteer, call Carol Solenberger, 816-550-9546, or Carla Bock, 913-888-9797.

WOMEN OF WISDOM - WOW invites all ladies to join them on Monday, Nov. 16, for a noon lunch at Michael Forbes, 128 W. 63rd in Brookside, and a 2 p.m. guided tour at the renovated Museum of Toys/ Miniatures, 5235 Oak (free parking). Tour is \$6 per person, payable in cash at the restaurant. RSVP (and ask for easy driving directions) by Thursday, Nov. 12, to Diane Lee, 913-432-4321 or dianelee@att.net or to Marvie Sneegas, 913-209-9608 or sneegi@kc.rr.com. Limited carpooling from church may be possible.

SOCIAL WITNESS & ADVOCACY TASK FORCE

STAND UP KC RALLY & MARCH - Do you believe that no one who works should live in poverty, that our nation's leaders should enact sensible immigration reform and finally address racism in America? If your faith leads you to address these issues, join the Social Witness and Advocacy Task Force of Village as we participate in a rally and march sponsored by Stand Up KC at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 10, at Barney Allis Plaza at 12th and Wyandotte. Contact Task Force members (listed on the west bulletin board outside Friendship Hall) or Marianne Weber at 913-671-2333 for more information.

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

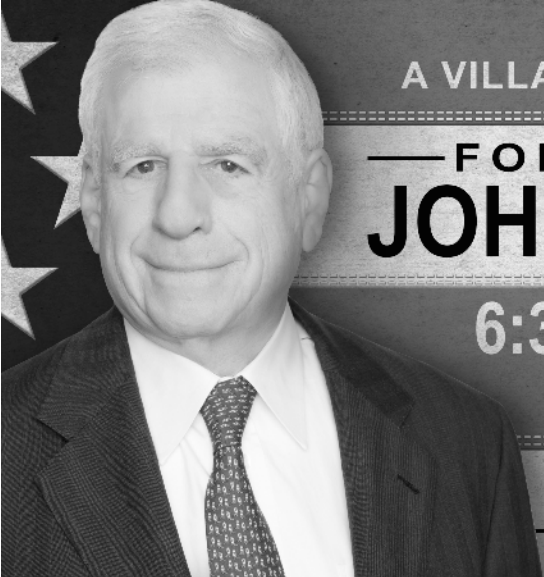
CHEER H.S. YOUTH GROUP - it's PhotoHunt and Bring-a-Friend Night tonight from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Youth Loft, Room 333. A great night of fun and adventure, plus a raffle for everyone who brings a friend (and for the friends they bring)!

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 – it's PhotoHunt and Bring-a-Friend Night on Wednesday from 6:30-8 p.m. in the Youth Loft, Room 333. A great night of fun and adventure, plus a raffle for everyone who brings a friend (and for the friends they bring)!

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 garlands from 8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. today. 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.



A VILLAGE TALK SPECIAL EVENT
— FORMER SENATOR —
JOHN DANFORTH
6:30 P.M. SUNDAY
OCT. 25
FREE PUBLIC EVENT
— villagepres.org

**A SPECIAL EVENT FOR PARENTS (and Grandparents)
November 3 & 4, 2015 • Friendship Hall**

Kathy Bostrom, well-known pastor and author, shares fun, practical and thought-provoking ideas for nurturing the spiritual lives of children and families.

7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 3 - *99 Ways to Raise Spiritually Healthy Children*

Kathy, mother of three, weaves faith and daily family life together in a refreshing, affirming and grace-filled way for even the busiest parents. You will chuckle, wonder and find yourself in what she has to say, but most of all, you will find hope and joy.

9 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4 - *Finding Calm in the Chaos*

Sharing her very real life as a woman, a mother and a minister, Kathy knows the pushing/pulling chaos of life, and yet she brings a voice of calm faithfulness. In her book of devotions she becomes a companion and guide to creating space for God's peace and calm in our lives.

Register online at villagepres.org, or by calling Marianne Weber at 913-671-2333, or in person in Room 119 at Village Church. Child care is available on a first-come, first-served basis. To make your child care reservation, call Marjean at 913-671-2322 or marjean.lindquist@villagepres.org or Pam at 913-671-2352 or pam.southerland@villagepres.org.

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.