



VILLAGE CHURCH

Presbyterian (USA)



Service of Worship

January 2, 2022 | 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

About Today's Service

We begin a new sermon series today. About 30 years after the life of Jesus, someone we call Mark wrote the first gospel. It was a theological witness to the redemptive love of God revealed in the life of Jesus. It was also a testimony to the reality that this love is often ignored, belittled and even battered. We will walk with Mark as he leads us to Easter. Today we begin at the beginning.



GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God
arr. Jeffrey Blersch; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

Words of Welcome

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

Call To Worship

Rev. Zach Walker

The voice of God calls out.

We hear it in the wilderness, calling from the wilderness.

It is a voice of life and of love.

Listen. We can hear it now.

*Hymn, No. 69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

*Prayer of Confession

God of new beginnings,

You call us to new life,

but we are afraid of change, and fond of our old ways.

We make our peace with the status quo.

But we recognize that we have yet to live in your promised day.

So, we have work to do.

**Keep calling us, O God. Perhaps today we will draw closer to your
will for us. (Silent Prayer)**

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response (First time soloist, second time congregation)

We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to
God. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Time with the Children

Brooke Brundige

Anthem

"O Rest in the Lord" from Elijah
by Felix Mendelssohn; Cassandra Leon, alto

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Mark 1:1-8 (pg. 910)

Sermon

Let's Start At the Beginning

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 436

God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us

Call for the Offering

Offertory

How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord
arr. Robert Powell; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

*Sung Response

**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

SERVICE OF ORDINATION

The Ordination and Installation of Deacons and Elders and Elder Trustees. Those being ordained and/or installed as Deacons in the class of 2024 (Y signifies Youth Deacon):

Andy Alcock (VOA)	Jacque Hill (VOM)	Desiree Reinke (VOA)
Jim Galliher (VOA)	Sara Hutsell (VOA)	Jani Schepers (VOM)
Craig Gibson (VOM)	Ann Raikula (VOM)	Harper McKee (Y)
Mary Ann Gibson (VOM)		

Those being ordained and/or installed as Deacons in the class of 2022 (Y signifies Youth Deacon):
Trish Byall, Margo Wagner and Poppy Billingsley (Y)

Those being ordained and/or installed as Deacons in the class of 2023:

Karen Beatty	Laurel Green	Leigh McCabe	Sally Porter
Margaret Boomer	Mark Green	Barb McDermott	Katherine Robinson
Edie DeSantis	Kim Huyett	Stan McDermott	Mark Robinson
Vincent DeSantis	Barb Krueger	Jeanne Norris	Jerry Woolsey
Carol Gee	Benjamin McCabe	Ron Norris	

Those being ordained and/or installed as Elders in the class of 2024:

Carrie Craig	Kathy Ray	Bob Wilhelm
Jennifer Dierks	Henry Sewing	Ron Witzke

Those being ordained and/or installed as Elders in the class of 2023:
Melanie Mann

Those being ordained and/or installed as Elder Trustees in the class of 2024:
Laura Ann Bowen, Jennifer Hart and Jeff Hutsell

Those being ordained and/or installed as Elder Trustees in the class of 2023:
Terrie Huntington, Janice Newberry and Alison Patterson

The Constitutional Questions for Officers

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline?

Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Work and Spirit?

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbor and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Do you promise to further the peace, unity and purity of the church?

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination and love?

(For Elders) Will you be a faithful Elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

(For Deacons) Will you be a faithful Deacon, teaching charity, urging concern and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

The Constitutional Questions for the Congregation

Do we, the members of the church, accept these brothers and sisters as Elders or Deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

*Hymn, No. 697 (v. 1,2,3,5)

Take My Life and Let it Be Consecrated, Lord to Thee

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

**Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.**

*Postlude

Andante
by Fanny Mendelssohn; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

**All who are able may stand*

© A-705103 for all hymns

WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH

We're so happy to have you worshipping with us today! Visit villagepres.org to learn more about Village Church, including upcoming events, ways to connect and serve, how to give and more.

New to Us? Village Presbyterian Church is a Presbyterian Church (USA) family of faith that is inclusive and welcoming of all people. We are one church worshipping at two campuses. Our Mission Campus is located at 6641 Mission Road in Prairie Village, and our Antioch Campus is located at 14895 Antioch Road in Overland Park.

The Gathering – Join us for The Gathering, an alternative style of worship at Village Church, 5 p.m. Sundays in Friendship Hall at our Mission Campus. Worship resumes today. Learn more at vpcthegathering.org.

Get Village Church News & Updates – Sign up to receive the weekly eNews, Rev. Tom Are's weekly eNote and Daily Devotional emails at villagepres.org/subscribe.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Village U – Registration for spring classes opens at 9 a.m. Monday, Jan. 10. See the course listings at villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

First-Floor Child Care Available – Child care is available during 9:30 a.m. & 5 p.m. services. Infants to 4-year-olds in Rooms 114, 111 and/or 107.

No Lighthouse Today-Enjoy being with your family in big church.

Preschool Parent Information Meeting: Village Church Preschool-Mission Campus – Do you know a 3-, 4- or 5-year-old who is ready for preschool? Join us for a Preschool Information Meeting in preparation for the 2022-2023 school year from 10-11:15 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11, in Room 232, Mission Campus. Questions? Contact Sarah McKee (sarah.mckee@villagepres.org). Child care is available upon request. Email marjean@villagepres.org by Tuesday, Jan. 4, for child care reservations.

MUSIC

2nd Thursday Recital with the Stan Kessler Trio – 12:15 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, Mission Campus Sanctuary. Trumpeter Stan Kessler is one of Kansas City's most popular jazz musicians.

Need a Pledge Card? They are available in the Narthex or you can pledge online at villagepres.org/commitment-form. Fill one out and join the team.

PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

Toni Wood Is Our Guest Speaker This Tuesday – Join us for the first Faith and Grief gathering of 2022 at noon Tuesday, Jan. 4, when Toni Wood shares “The Gift of Time” in Friendship Hall. Lunch and discussion around tables follows Toni’s presentation. Registration is not required but helpful; go to faithandgrief.org/gatherings. For information, visit [Facebook.com/FaithandGriefKC](https://www.facebook.com/FaithandGriefKC) or call 816-381-9249.

Growing Through Grief Starts Jan. 19 – If you are grieving, consider coming to Growing through Grief, a five-week series, for support and comfort. This session is every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. Jan. 19 through Feb. 16 in Room 132. The series is offered at no cost and is open to all. Registration is required; contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Weekly Activities Resume Jan. 9 – Check out villagepresyouth.org for more information.

Get Your 2022 Star Word Today

Star Words for 2022 are available in worship today. Star Words have become a modern-day ritual related to Epiphany (Jan. 6), when the wise ones are believed to have reached the Christ child by following the star. Like the wise ones, we seek Jesus, trusting that God uses many paths to bring us closer to the Divine.

Star Words are paper or wooden stars with one word on each related to our spiritual life in Christ. You are encouraged to simply draw a star out of the basket and thus let the word choose you (rather than hunting through the basket for a word you like). The idea is to journey with your word through the coming year—to watch where it shows up, how it moves your heart and the ways it brings you closer to God.

Event Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King – Village Church is hosting an event with Stand Up for Black Lives+, the NAACP of Johnson County and the City of Prairie Village to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. from 6-7:30 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 16. The event in our Mission Campus Sanctuary will focus on civil rights issues and making Prairie Village more welcoming to diverse people groups. Email lora.garrison@villagepres.org with questions or for updates.

SERMON SERIES

Life in The Wilderness

Three decades after the ministry of Jesus, life was chaotic for Christians in the Roman empire. Christians became scapegoats for the disastrous fire that destroyed much of Rome, and as a result were rounded up and put to death by the most horrific means. A Jewish revolt was put down by the Roman Army, leaving the temple in Jerusalem destroyed again. During this tumultuous time, someone we call Mark wrote the first Gospel. He tells the story that changes the world. In this series we will travel with Mark from the beginning to the resurrection. Life 2,000 years after Jesus remains chaotic, but perhaps this story will change us. Mark bears witness that there can be abundant life even in the wilderness.

Jan. 2 Let's Start At the Beginning

Jan. 9 Beloved Children of the Living God – Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka preaching

Jan. 16 Will We Ever Get Out of Here?

Jan. 23 Why Did He Choose These Guys?

Jan. 30 Holy Friendship

Feb. 6 Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?

MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Tom Are, Jr., senior pastor • Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist

Will Breytspraak, director of music • Brooke Brundige, director of children and family ministry

Laura Davis, director of marketing and communications • Rev. Melanie Hardison, pastor of pastoral care

Rev. Hallie Hottle, pastor of young adult ministry • Marjean Lindquist, director of child care

Dr. Joshua Maize, associate director of music • Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate pastor

Robert Rumold, director of information technology • Bob Sperry, director of giving and endowment

Jim Tilden, senior director of business operations • Rev. Zach Walker, pastor of youth ministries

Deborah White, director of mission • Cindy A. Wilcox, director of connectional ministries

Rev. Sally S. Wright, pastor of pastoral care • Rev. Dr. Robert H. Meneilly, founding pastor, 1947-1994

Large print bulletins are available in the Narthex. Ask an usher to bring you one.

Streaming video of Sunday services is available at villagepres.org/online.

You may call in to listen to a week-delayed broadcast of our Sanctuary service on our worship service phone line: 913-203-1301. You can opt-in to be called automatically at 9:30 a.m. Sundays.

We kindly request that cell phones be turned off during worship

Printed on paper from sustainably managed forests.