



VILLAGE CHURCH

Presbyterian (USA)



Service of Worship

January 16, 2022 | 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

About Today's Service

If you read scripture, you learn pretty quickly that the wilderness is a big deal. It's almost never "nature" that is beautiful and spiritual. Wilderness is a testing place. It's where the word of God is questioned and the ways of God are doubted. It is also the place that the faithfulness of God is learned. Upon being baptized, Jesus is immediately driven into the wilderness. Casting Jesus into the wilderness is the work of God's Spirit. It seems clear the wilderness is where God wants Jesus to be.



GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Clouds

by Florence Beatrice Price; Dr. Elisa Bickers, piano

Words of Welcome

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

Call to Worship

Rev. Sally S. Wright

Amid the inconsistencies of life—

beauty and brokenness,

blessings and burdens—

God comes to us in grace

and grants us glimpses of new life,

a promised new day.

*Hymn, No. 366 (v. 1-3)

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

*Prayer of Confession

God, our help in ages past and our hope for years to come,

These are strange days and they make us weary.

So, remind us of the help,

that we might live in hope,

amid these strange days. (Silent Prayer)

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response

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

Call to Prayer

The musical score is written for two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key of D major (two sharps) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with a supporting bass line in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. 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.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Mark 1:9-13 (pg. 910)

Sermon

Will We Ever Get Out of Here?

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 373

O Day of Peace

Call for the Offering

Offertory Anthem

Lonesome Valley
by Gilbert Martin; Village Choir

*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

*Hymn, No. 339

Lift Every Voice and Sing

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

**Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

*Postlude

Great Day, duh Righteous Marchin'!
U. S. Slave Song, arr. William Farley Smith; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

**All who are able may stand*
© A-705103 for all hymns

Winter Weather Advisory

If weather is predicted to have 4 inches or more snowfall during Saturday night, the 8 a.m. service will be canceled.

About Today's Music

Florence Price was a composer who lived and worked during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, when the classical music world wasn't welcoming to either black or female musicians. In African American art, clouds are often a symbol of freedom. After all, clouds abide by no human construct whatsoever, and instead do as they please far up and away from any earthly rules. In writing such a piece as this one, I imagine that Ms. Price was defying her own circumstances, and was dreaming through her music of a day when those like her might taste more freedom than she did herself. The same can likely be said of the postlude, whose text reads "Great Day! Great day the righteous marching. Great Day! God's going to build up Zion's walls." This, too, is a song that looked towards the promised day when all would be included, all would be free, and all would stand up for one another.

—Dr. Elisa Bickers

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.

The flowers in the Chancel today are given to the Glory of God in memory of Bob Harber by Joyce Harber & family.

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. 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 is now open. 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 106.

No Lighthouse today. Children are encouraged to worship with their families. **Lighthouse will resume on Jan. 23.**

Enroll for Village Church Preschool-Mission Campus – It is enrollment time for the 2022-2023 school year! Village Church Preschool-Mission Campus will open enrollment for 3-, 4-, and 5-year-old students on the following dates: **Current Village Preschool families** – Monday, Jan. 24; **Current Village KDO families and Village Church members** – Thursday, Jan. 27; **Former Village Church Preschool families** – Friday, Jan. 28; **Community members** – Monday, Jan. 31. Enrollment applications can be found on our website: villagepres.org/preschool. Contact Sarah McKee, preschool director, with questions (sarah.mckee@villagepres.org or 913-671-2338).

MISSION

The Food Pantry is asking for cereal-hot (for cold days) and cold (for any days), sweet or whole grains. The Clothes Closet's request is for all kinds of clean clothing in x-large sizes for men and women.

Receive a Chiefs Kingdom Blood Drive T-shirt When You Donate – Join the Prairie Village Community Blood Drive between noon and 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 25, in Rooms 132 & 133 at our Mission Campus. Sign up online to donate at donate.savealifenow.org/donor/schedules/zip and enter the zip code 66208 and date Jan. 25. If you have any questions, contact Ann Colston at 913-461-1791.

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

Growing Through Grief Starts This Wednesday – If you are mourning the loss of a loved one, consider attending Growing through Grief, a five-week class. We will be offering this via Zoom; class is every Wednesday at 9:30-11 a.m. Jan. 19 through Feb. 16. This class is free and open to all; registration is required. Contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org to register; Zoom information will be shared at that time.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Join Us for Any of Our Weekly Activities – No sign-up is required; masks required while in the building. All weekly activities below meet in the Youth Loft (Room 333).

SUNDAY SERIES – Resumes Jan. 23. **SNL** (HS youth group) – No meeting tonight!

Lofternoons (MS after school program) – Tuesdays 4-5:30 p.m.

GPS (MS youth group) – Wednesdays 6:30-8 p.m. **Early Table** (HS morning devotional) – 7:30-8:15 a.m.

Prairie Village's First I Have a Dream (Home) Action and Celebration Rescheduled for 4-5:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26

Village Church is hosting an event with Stand Up for Black Lives+ PV, the Johnson County NAACP, the City of Prairie Village Diversity Committee and Race Project KC to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Originally scheduled for 6:15 p.m. tonight, it has been rescheduled for 4-5:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 26, in the Mission Campus Sanctuary. The event, which will also be livestreamed at villagepres.org/online, will focus on civil rights issues and making Prairie Village more welcoming to diverse people groups. All ages are welcome. Guest speakers include Dr. Jacob A. Wagner, a UMKC professor, director of urban studies and co-founder of the Center for Neighborhoods. We'll also hear from Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, Prairie Village Mayor Eric Mikkelson, Race Project KC Students and the Shawnee Mission East Jazz Band Combo. Email lora.garrison@villagepres.org if you have any questions.

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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

Nancy Gatewood, interim director of connectional ministries

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

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

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