



VILLAGE CHURCH

Presbyterian (USA)



Service of Worship

March 13, 2022 | 9 and 11 a.m.

About Today's Service

When John the Baptist was arrested, Jesus knew then that things would be difficult for him. Yet, after miracle upon miracle, Jesus' disciples assumed the Messiah's life would be defined by power. The real power in Jesus' life was the power of love. The question of the ages is this: why is love such a threat? Why did Jesus unsettle folks so much that they preferred to have him killed?



GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Andante Grazioso

by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart; Village Brass

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

Rev. Melanie Hardison

When life is full of blessings,

we come to this moment to give thanks to our God.

When life is full of hardship,

we come to this moment to find comfort in our God.

With the coming of each new day,

**we come to this moment to praise our God,
to whom each day belongs.**

*Hymn, No. 2

Come, Thou Almighty King

*Prayer of Confession

God of mercy,

**This past week we shared kindness,
spoke truth, and offered love.**

But we also missed some things.

**We became so consumed by our schedules
we forgot our days belong to you.**

We became so focused on ourselves,

that we forgot that you were with us each moment.

We let our cynicism erode our hope in your promised new day.

So, we ask:

Fan the flame of any righteousness in us.

Forgive our smallness, our selfishness and our fears.

Most of all, continue to draw us to your promised day. (Silent Prayer)

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy;

Lord, have mer - cy.

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response

Glo-ry to our Cre - a - tor, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spi-rit, as it
was in the be - gin - ning, is now and will be for - ev - er.
A - men! A - men! A - men!

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Time with the Children

Brooke Brundige

Call to Prayer

**I want Jesus to walk with me,
I want Jesus to walk with me,
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Mark 8:31-38 (pg. 919)

Anthem

How Great Thou Art
by Keith Kunda; Village Brass

Sermon

Time to Move Beyond Book Learning

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn

As Long As Our Table

As long as our table isn't big enough to share,
as long as our arms don't open wide enough with care,
as long as there are people whom our standards must exclude,
as long as we assume a holy, haughty attitude,
**we will never, no never know peace—
we will never, no never know peace.**

As long as our actions grow from fear of what seems strange,
as long as our structures are opposed to any change,
as long as there are people who aren't "pure enough" to bless,
as long as we keep clean because we stay out of the mess,
**we will never, no never know peace—
we will never, no never know peace.**

As long as our dialog excludes the other side,
as long as our faith must take its root in stubborn pride,
as long as we can't see that our assertions may be wrong,
as long as shouting voices drown the harmony of song,
**we will never, no never know peace—
we will never, no never know peace.**

**One day when we turn from judging sins to meeting needs,
one day when we follow Christ with all our words and deeds,
one day when we acknowledge ev'ryone has need of grace,
one day when we can look at anyone and see God's face,
we will open our hearts to God's peace—
we will open our hearts to God's peace.**

Call for the Offering

Offertory

E Major Prelude
by J.S. Bach; Destiny Ann Mermagen, violin

*Sung Response

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all peo - ple
here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more;
praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn, No. 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

Amen from The Lord Bless You and Keep You
by John Rutter

*Postlude

Fuga in D Minor, BWV 596
by J.S. Bach; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH

We're so happy to worship with you 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 worshiping 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

Sunday Morning Lenten Pastor Conversations – 10:10-10:50 a.m. Sundays, March 20-April 10, Rooms 132-133. Starting next Sunday and continuing during Lent, you are invited to join Village Church pastors for a brief, informal conversation. On March 20, Rev. Tom Are, Jr. and Rev. Sally Wright will be talking about the act of confession. All are welcome.

Village U Classes – Register at villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes. **Upcoming classes:**

Depression: How I Cope and Why I Talk about It – Led by Dr. John Hall and hosted by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka from 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 22, Room 132 and via Zoom. Dr. John Hall will discuss his experience with depression, including his personal story, his diagnosis and treatment.

From the Beginning: The History of Village Church – Led by Judy Cooper, Heritage Committee of Village Church, from 11 a.m.-noon Thursdays, March 24 & 31 in Room 230. In 1947 a sign was placed in the yard near 67th and Mission Road that read "A United Presbyterian Church Will Soon be Erected on This Place." In that same year, a young Seminary student graduated from Pittsburgh Presbyterian Seminary.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

First-Floor Child Care Available – Child care is available during 9 a.m. & 5 p.m. services.

Infants to 4-year-olds in Rooms 114, 111 and/or 106. **Preschool Lighthouse** – Ages 2-4 – Preschool and Pre-K ages meet on the first floor. Registration and sign-ins are located outside Room 106. **Elementary Lighthouse** – K-6th Grade – Elementary ages meet on the third floor. Registration and sign-ins are located outside Room 307.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

No Curbside Pickup Wednesday Family Meals This Week as we observe spring break. Dinners resume on March 23.

MISSION

Support Emergency Relief for Those Fleeing Violence in Ukraine – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is responding to the situation in Ukraine with both financial and technical assistance as the network of faith communities provide humanitarian assistance. Gifts can be made online at presbyterianmission.org, by calling (800) 872-3283, by texting PDAUKR to 41444, or by check made payable to Presbyterian Church U.S.A. with "DR000156-Ukraine" on the memo line. Mail to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

The Food Pantry is requesting cereal of all kinds: hot, cold, sweet, whole grain, etc. The Clothes Closet is focusing on baby and toddler clothing, baby blankets, crib sheets. Check those drawers and closets, please.

MUSIC

Beethoven & Brahms Recital – Join Village Players leader & violinist Destiny Ann Mermagen for a concert with prize-winning pianist Tatiana Tessman. Featuring sonatas by Beethoven, Brahms and works from Bach to Barn Burners™. Special guest appearance by two Village Players youth. The concert is at 7:30 p.m. this Friday, March 18, in the Mission Campus Sanctuary. Pre-Concert Recital Sneak Peek Discussion & Class with Destiny at 10:15 a.m. today in the Chapel.

New Village Voices Program – You're invited to a student/guardian info session at 5 p.m. Sunday, March 27, in Room 15 to learn more about the new Village Voices youth choir program launching this fall. Village Voices is a non-auditioned choir for students in grades 7-12. It's open to members and non-members, as well as beginner and experienced musicians. Come learn about the new program, including an exciting tour announcement! Register by emailing josh.maize@villagepres.org.

PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

Growing Through Grief Starts April 6 – If you are grieving, consider coming to Growing through Grief, a five-week series, for support and comfort. 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays from April 6-May 4 in Room 124. 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.

Help Deliver an Easter Lily – We need help delivering 290 Easter lilies to our homebound members. Come by the north entrance for curbside pick-up between 9-11 a.m. Saturday, April 16, to deliver that day or on Easter. Contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org to sign up.

Your Easter Lily Donations Honors Your Loved One – Your \$15 donation in memory of a loved one honors that person and brightens a homebound member's life with an Easter lily. Purchase online at shop.villagepres.org/pastoral-care-counseling or send the printed name(s) with a check for \$15 per person to Janice Gill, Village Presbyterian Church, 6641 Mission Rd., Prairie Village, KS 66208. Donations are accepted through Easter Sunday.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Celebration of Faithful Women – Register for Celebration of Faithful Women at villagepres.org/pw or in person from 9 a.m.-noon Sundays in Friendship Hall through March 27. We'll gather at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 9, in the Mission Campus Sanctuary to celebrate the gifts of all Presbyterian Women.

Presbyterian Women Spring Retreat – Join us April 22-23 at Heartland Presbyterian Center in Parkville, Missouri to connect with God, old friends, new friends and the beauty of nature. Register online at villagepres.org/pw or in person from 9 a.m.-noon Sundays through April 3 in Friendship Hall.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Theology Thursdays – 6-7:30 p.m. Thursdays, March 24 & April 7. Join us as we journey through Lent learning more about sacramental theology and baking some bread along the way. RSVP helpful but not required: VillagePresYA.org/lent.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Weekly Activities Resume March 22 – Check out villagepresyouth.org for more information. Have a great spring break.

Youth in the DR – After a two-year hiatus, our youth (and many adults) are in the Dominican Republic again this week. Please keep the health and safety of our team in your prayers!

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.

March 13 Time to Move Beyond Book Learning

March 20 Eternal Life is Not Bold Enough

March 27 Are Smart People More Holy?

April 3 Rev. Jimmie Hawkins preaching

April 10 Parade Time

April 17 He's Not Here, But I Know Where You Can Find Him

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

Printed on paper from sustainably managed forests.