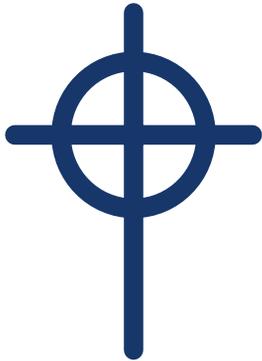




VILLAGE CHURCH

Presbyterian (USA)

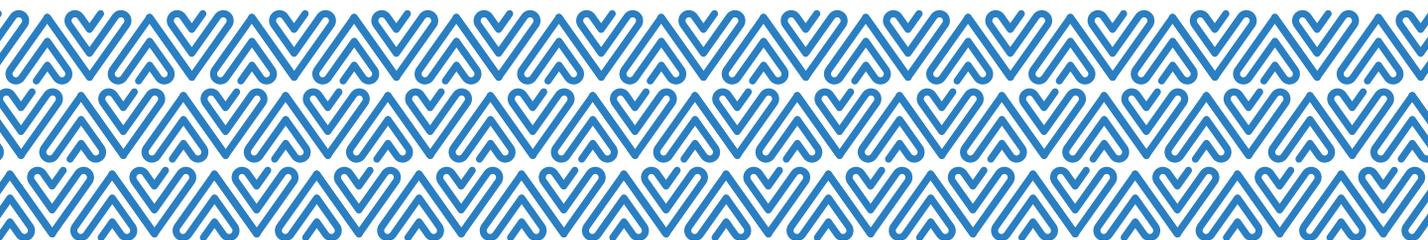


Service of Worship

March 19, 2023 • 9 and 11 a.m.

About Today's Service

"You are the Christ!" This was Peter's confession. The Christ, or Messiah, was the long-awaited, long-promised one of Judaism. Peter believed God had finally fulfilled this promise in Jesus. Peter was right about that. So, we have to wonder, given that he was right about Jesus being the Christ, why Jesus calls him Satan?



Prelude

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry
arr. David Christiansen; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

Words of Welcome

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

Call To Worship

Rev. Sally S. Wright

Leave your anxieties at the door,
and your burdens behind.
Come to this moment and remember.

What should we remember?

Remember that you are children of God.

The love of God calls us by name. Alleluia.

*Hymn No. 612

We Praise You, O God

*Prayer of Confession

**God of mercy and God of love,
God of holiness and God of righteousness,
God of eternity and God of now,
God of grace and God of glory,
We have so many ways to speak of you,
and yet, all of our words fall short.
Forgive us when not only our language,
but also our imagination fails to know and name you.**
(Silent prayer)

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us; Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

*Passing the Peace of Christ

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Time with the Children

The Sacrament of Baptism

*Hymn No. 488

I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry

Prayer for Illumination

Elder Jennifer Dierks (9 a.m.); Elder Carrie Craig (11 a.m.)

Scripture

Mark 8:27-33 (pg. 919)

Sermon

Do We Ever Know Enough?

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith

Hope in God gives us courage for the struggle.

**The people of God have sometimes misused God's promises
as excuses for doing nothing about present evils.**

**But in Christ the new world has already broken in,
and the old can no longer be tolerated.**

We know our efforts cannot bring God's promised day.

**But hope plunges us into the struggle
for victories over evil that are possible now.**

**Hope gives us courage and energy
to contend against all opposition toward God
that is in us and in the world,
to live toward God's promised day.**

Jesus is Lord!

He has been Lord from the beginning.

He will be Lord at the end.

Even now he is Lord.

*Hymn No. 760 (v. 1, 2, 3, 6)

Bring Many Names

Call for the Offering

Offertory Anthem

Laudate Dominum

by James Bingham; Rachel Priest, soprano; Village Choir

*Praise the Lord, all nations;
Praise Him, all people.
For He has bestowed
His mercy upon us,
And the truth of the Lord endures forever.*

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and forever,
and for generations of generations. Amen.*

*Sung Response

**Praise God throughout these forty days;
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise;
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn No. 619

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

Amen

by Peter Lutkin

*Postlude

Wade in the Water

arr. Barbara Harbach; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

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

Giving – You may give to Village Church at villagepres.org/giving or scan the QR code. Set up an automatic, recurring gift by contacting Bob Sperry at bob.sperry@villagepres.org or 913-671-2325.



WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH

Whether this is your first time at Village, or you come so often you call it "home," we are blessed that you are with us today. No matter where you are in your faith journey or life stage, no matter what questions or burdens you carry, Village takes seriously the call to be welcoming; we are glad you are here. Every Sunday we gather to read the old story, sing hymns (some of which our grandparents sang), while also engaging the world in which we live this minute through sermons and prayer. By connecting the story of our lives to the story of Christ's life, we discover hope and even joy.

If you are new to us, stick around after the service. Introduce yourself to one of our pastors. We have tons of programs to expand your spirit and enrich your life. We would love to tell you more. Give us a try; soon you might also be calling this place "home."



Rev. Tom Are, Jr.
Co-Pastor



Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka
Co-Pastor

Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism Today - Please welcome these newest members into our faith community as we celebrate the baptisms of the following children:

At 9 a.m.: Rosemary Elaine Dotel (Maggie and Julio Dotel, parents), Isla Rose Handley (Lindsey and Sean Handley, parents), Quinn Abbott Laffey (Lauren Mansfield and Matt Laffey, parents), Leighton Ann Long and Lennox Michael Long (Chelsea and Derek Long, parents) and Collins Elizabeth Powers (Kelsey and Jefferson Powers, parents).

At 11 a.m.: Carly Regan Cross (Sara and Chase Cross, parents), Pierce Michael Hughes (Lindsey and Stafford Hughes, parents), and Samuel Joseph Wopata and Thomas Jay Wopata (Emily and Matt Wopata, parents).

The Gathering – Join us for an alternative style of worship at Village Church offered 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, the co-pastors' weekly eNote and Daily Devotionals emails at villagepres.org/subscribe.

Follow us on Facebook @villagepres – **Follow us on Instagram** @villagechurchpv
Subscribe to **Village Pres Sermon Podcasts** on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Spotify & Stitcher.

Take the AARP Smart Driver Course – Learn research-based safety strategies to help keep you safe while on the road. After taking this newly updated course, you may be eligible for a multi-year discount on your car insurance! (Consult your auto insurance agent for details.) An AARP Smart Driver course will take place at the Village Church Mission Campus on Wednesday, March 30 or Saturday, June 3. Space is limited. Register now by calling Alan Shirling at 913-608-4299.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

8-Week Yoga Series – Explore the relationship between grief and joy with yoga postures and breathing techniques that help digest grief and nourish joy. Mandy Dolan will lead this free series from 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Thursdays, March 23-May 11, in the Youth Loft (Rooms 332/333). Email mandydolanyoga@gmail.com to register.

Register for Spring Village U Classes – Find the full course listings and register at villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes.

The Tortoise and the Hare: A discussion of the upcoming Farm Bill and the Inflation Reduction Act – With Josh Svaty, 7 p.m. Monday, March 27, Room 126. The historic Inflation Reduction Act and new Farm Bill have significant implications for agriculture and our environment.

School Days Album – With Pam Wood, 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, Room 232. Create an album of your child's school photos you can share with family and friends. Must register by March 22. Child care is available free of charge, but registration is required.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

Child Care is available on the first floor during the 9 a.m. service. Infants to 2-year-olds can be dropped off in Room 114. **Preschool Lighthouse** – Three-year-olds meet on the first floor in Room 107. Pre-K and 4-year-olds meet in Room 106. Sign in outside Room 106. **Elementary Lighthouse** – K-6th Grade – All-Sing begins at 9 a.m. in Room 307. Sign in outside of Room 307. Pick up for kids grades K-6 will be on the third floor.

Easter Egg Hunt – 10:15-10:45 a.m. Sunday, April 2. On Palm Sunday, join us between services on the south playground at the Mission Campus for an all-ages egg hunt. We will stagger the start to make it fair and fun for everyone!

Mission Campus Preschool – Don't forget to enroll at Village Church Preschool for the 2023-2024 school year. Enrollment applications for 3-, 4-, and 5-year-old preschool can be found online at villagepres.org/preschool. Contact Sarah McKee, preschool director, with questions at 913-671-2338 or sarah.mckee@villagepres.org.

FOOD PANTRY

Donations Needed – This week the Food Pantry is asking for breakfast cereals: all kinds, hot or cold. Variety is appreciated. The Clothes Closet is again asking for your clothing donations, stressing that the need is great. We are seeing more families and larger families who need help, and we hope that you'll check your closets or drawers and donate those items you are no longer wearing to restock the racks and shelves for your neighbors in need.

MISSION & ENGAGEMENT

Wednesday Family Dinners – Self-serve, buffet-style dinners in Friendship Hall at Mission Campus from 5-6 p.m. Dine in before your Village U class, or take it home. Activities for kids. \$9 for adults and \$4 for children. Purchase online by noon Mondays at villagepres.org/wednesday-family-dinners or call Karen at 913-262-4200.

Call for Artists – Village's 17th Annual Art & Hors d'oeuvres event is Friday, May 5. We are looking for local artists to display their work. Space is limited. Applications are due April 1. Email Sarah Dunne Pickrell for the application form: sarah.pickrell@villagepres.org.

Car Donation – Mission & Engagement is looking for affordable cars or car donations for community members in need of reliable transportation. Please contact Sarah Dunne Pickrell if you have a car you'd like to sell or donate: sarah.pickrell@villagepres.org.

MUSIC

Bach Birthday Celebration – 3 p.m. today in the Mission Campus Sanctuary. Join the piano students of Thomas Rosenkranz from UMKC. They'll perform works by J.S. Bach in celebration of his 338th birthday. Free admission.

Mid-America Performing Arts Alliance Presents Quintet Classics – 7 p.m. Friday, March 24, Mission Campus Sanctuary. Featuring Schubert's Quintet in C Major and Brahms' Quintet in F Minor. Free admission; free-will offering requested at the door.

Old, New, Borrowed & Blue – 3 p.m. Sunday, March 26, Mission Campus Sanctuary. The Kansas City Wind Symphony presents a program of favorites with guest conductor Dr. Amy Knopps. Free admission.

PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

Last Call to Deliver Easter Lilies – Volunteers say they love delivering a lily to a homebound member. Experience this joy by signing up for the number of lilies you can deliver and the zip code area you want by contacting Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org. Come between 9-11 a.m. to the Mission Campus North entrance and then deliver anytime during Holy Week. You are a blessing!

If You are Grieving – Consider attending Growing through Grief, a five-week series that offers support and comfort, at 6 p.m. every Wednesday from April 12-May 10, in Room 124, Mission Campus. You are welcome to eat at Wednesday Family Dinner at 5 p.m. and then come to class. The series is offered at no cost and is open to both members and the community. Registration is required; contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Celebration of Faithful Women is April 1 – Register at villagepres.org/pw or stop by the registration table in Friendship Hall today. The cost, including brunch, is \$20. You may request child care when you register. Registration deadline is March 22.

Women of Wisdom Lunch – Join us for lunch at noon Thursday, March 23, at Ya Ya's Euro Bistro, 7021 West 135th. RSVP by March 21 to Marvie Sneegas: sneegi@kc.rr.com or 913-209-9608.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY for those in their 20s & 30s

Lenten Bible Study – 6-7:30 p.m. this Wednesday, March 22, in the Young Adult Room. We're journeying this Lent with Peter and Mary Magdalene, examining our own lives and how we're called in this season. This series is available via email for those who can't be with us in person. Sign up at villagepresya.org/lent.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Programs Return March 21 – All our weekly programming returns this Tuesday, March 21. For a full list of youth events and activities, visit villagepresyouth.org.

Graduating Senior Dinner is April 24 – Calling all graduating seniors! We are having a dinner in your honor at the church at 6 p.m. Monday, April 24. Details will be coming in the mail and updated in this spot as well. Save the date on your calendar. Families are welcome.

Summer Registrations Are Open – Believe it or not, summer is around the corner! Summer trip registrations are open for MS Float Trip (June 27-29), HS Montreat (July 8-15), and MS Mission Trip to Denver (July 27 – Aug 2). For more information and to register, go to villagepresyouth.org and click on Trips.

LENTEN SERMON SERIES

Get a Life

Walking in Peter's Footsteps

Feb. 26-April 9

This Lent, Rev. Tom Are, Jr. will journey with the Apostle Peter. Peter was the first disciple to be called and among the last to fall away. He had moments of brilliance as well as utter failure. Peter shows us that life is a gift which is both ordinary and a fathomless mystery. It can be as mundane as Monday, but it is also the space in which holiness shows up. The invitation of Jesus, to all he encountered, was to live a particular life. It is a life that God intends for us. Such a life is one that is centered in God and attentive to neighbor. Peter had the courage to follow this invitation, and he discovered that Jesus eventually gave his life that we all might get a life... a life that God intends for us.

Feb. 26	Where It All Begins
March 5	When the Best of Times are the Worst of Times
March 12	You Can't Avoid Chaos
March 19	Do We Ever Know Enough?
March 26	This is What Grace Looks Like
April 2	Palm Sunday
April 9	Easter

MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Tom Are, Jr., co-pastor • Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, co-pastor

Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist • Rev. Dr. Dionne T. Boyce, director of mission & engagement

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

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

Rev. Hallie Hottle, pastor of young adult ministry • Dr. Joshua Maize, associate director of music

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

Sandra Stephens, director of child care • Jim Tilden, senior director of business operations

Rev. Zach Walker, pastor of youth ministries • Alice Whitson, director of media ministry

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.