



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

March 12, 2017 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

Last week Jesus' encounter with James and John showed us how easy it is to miss what Jesus is all about. That's not the case for the unnamed rich man we encounter in today's reading. He understood what Jesus was telling him. The rich man just wasn't sure following Jesus was worth it.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Blessed Assurance
by J. Bert Carlson

Call to Worship

Rev. Len Carrell

Jesus, meet us on the journey.
The road is long
and we need your strength.
It is littered with rocks
and we need your steadiness.
The air is dusty
so we need your vision.
We have forgotten the way
so we need your memory.
There are strangers to encounter
so we need your courage.
We are to call them friends
so we need your love.
Jesus, meet us on the journey.

*Hymn, No. 839

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!
ASSURANCE

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,
forgive us when we view the world as if we are the center of it,
and forgive us when we expect others to share that perspective.
With whatever grace is left over,
forgive us for failing to understand how our narrow mindedness
tells our neighbors they do not matter.
Then forgive us yet again for foolishly thinking your grace is limited.
Even in the midst of Lent, O God,
when we rightfully remember the struggles of this season,
help us to reflect something of your joy. (Silent prayer)

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia!

*Passing of the Peace

Words of Welcome

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call to Prayer



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing. Lord, send your Spir-it in this place.



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

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.

Anthem *He Leadeth Me*
by Benjamin Wegner; Carolyn Baruch, Tami Morrow, Jeff Howe, solos; Village Choir

Prayer for Illumination Dee Couch (8 a.m.)
Laura Edgington (9:30 a.m.)
Kim Higgins (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading Mark 10:17-27 (pg. 921)

Sermon *This Guy Thinks It's All About Him* Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 695 *Change My Heart, O God*
CHANGE MY HEART

Offertory *Recit de Nazard*
by Louis-Nicholas Clerambault

*Response

**Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,
you are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start.
Sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.**

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn, No. 773 *Heaven Shall Not Wait*
HEAVEN SHALL NOT WAIT

*Benediction

*Choral Response Village Choir

*Postlude *Praeludium in D Minor*
by Georg Böhm

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

WORSHIP NOTES

Occasional Reflections on the Elements of Worship

These reflections are written by Village's staff, and it is our hope that knowing a bit more about some of the individual components of the church service may help us to experience more fully the gifts of this time together.

Worship Notes: The Reading of Scripture

written by Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

Every service of Christian Worship includes the reading of scripture. There may be one reading or more, but no service is complete without scripture. The 20th Century theologian Karl Barth spoke of how scripture "becomes" the Word of God. The Bible, like all books, contains words on the page. These words have come to us from the heart of prophets of Ancient Israel. The Apostle Paul often pushed his words through the bars of his jail cell that the early church might read them in worship. The Gospel writers prayed over every word, doing their best to tell us, not simply what Jesus did and said, but what Jesus means for the world. But, the written word alone is not enough. The church has learned that when we gather around the scripture the Spirit of God, at times, opens our eyes to see things anew. There are times when the words of scripture not only make sense to us, but they become words that change how we live, change how we see ourselves and others. When that occurs, the scripture, by the Spirit of God, has become the Word of God for us.

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

The organ prelude, offertory and postlude celebrate some of Opus 22's newest stops. "Blessed Assurance" foretells today's opening hymn with the foundation stops of the organ, all coupled together to have a very warm and inviting sound. The offertory will employ the "cornet," which is a set of pipes that sound like a single trumpet, but are in fact five different pipes all working together to create such an effect. The postlude introduces the Great Mixture, which is a collection of pipes whose purpose is to broaden and intensify the great principal chorus.

THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of March 13, 2017)

The following daily Bible readings were written by Rev. Tom Are, Jr. and are an offering 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, March 13

Mark 8:14-21

Jesus gives the disciples a little "quiz" in this text. He asked them, what do you remember? Remembering what God has done for us is always important. Strengthened by such memories helps us face the challenges in the present.

Tuesday, March 14

1 Corinthians 12:1-13

There is little help in trying to figure out which part of the body we most represent. The point here is that Christians demonstrate something together that we can't do alone. Together we demonstrate the love we have for one another. Take time today to think of folks in the Village family that matter to you. Who has contributed to your journey of faith? Once you have done that, Paul's image of being a body together will make perfect sense.

Wednesday, March 15

Psalm 121

I look to the hills...in ancient Israel the hills could be a dangerous place. A journey in the hills could make one quickly aware of one's fragility. The psalm affirms that God is the help of the helpless and the one who will keep our life. When you face a time when you feel your own strength is not enough, read this psalm as a prayer.

Thursday, March 16

Mark 8:31-9:1

Jesus tells Peter that those who follow him must take up their own cross. It is a harsh command. When Jesus takes up his cross it is because he loves us. Jesus calls us to take up our own cross for the same reason he does everything: he loves us. Taking up our cross then is not a call to suffer, but a call to discover real life...loving like he loves.

Friday, March 17

1 Corinthians 13

We hear these words at weddings mostly; but Paul did not write them with a wedding in mind. He wrote them to a church that was in conflict, having trouble getting along with one another. This passage reveals how Christianity knows love to be a power. It is not simply something we share with our friend; but love is the most powerful option we have in conflict as well. You may be experiencing conflict, like the Corinthian Christians did. Give patience, kindness and humility a try. Love is a power.

Saturday, March 18

Psalm 150

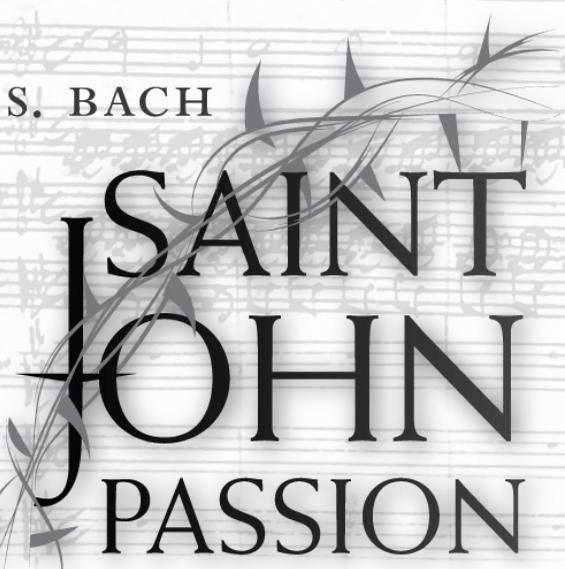
There is no instrument that fails to praise God. Broaden this just a bit, and there is no life that is incapable of praising God.



ART & HORS D'OEUVRES

5-7 P.M. • FRIDAY, MARCH 31 • VILLAGE CHURCH

J. S. BACH



SAINT JOHN PASSION

PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 9, 2017 | 3 P.M.

VILLAGE CHURCH
SANCTUARY

PERFORMED IN ENGLISH BY

Village Chamber Choir

Te Deum Chamber Choir

Kansas City Baroque
Consortium

FREE ADMISSION

A Retiring Offering will benefit

Jewish Vocational Service Refugee Services

TODAY AT VILLAGE

WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH! Please join us every week. Refreshments are available in Friendship Hall following the worship service.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL K-6TH GRADE TODAY, MARCH 12, DUE TO SPRING BREAK.

TRY TAIZÉ TONIGHT – Taizé worship service offers song, communion and time to reflect and relax in silence. Join us this evening at 6:30 p.m. at the VCCFDC at 9900 Mission Road.

WORSHIP BAGS are available for children to use as tools in worship. Please return the bags to the baskets located in the Narthex at the end of the worship service.

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 at 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

AARP 55 ALIVE DRIVING CLASS will be held from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday and Friday, April 6 and 7, in Room 133. Classes will be taught by a veteran instructor. The cost is \$20 (\$15 if you are an AARP member) per person payable to AARP. To enroll, please call Marianne, 913-671-2333.

We are very excited about the response to our spring series of Village U classes. Please be sure to register for the classes you wish to attend to assist in our planning purposes.

Upcoming Village U classes include:

BOOK CLUB – Join us for an interesting book discussion while your children enjoy childcare. 9:30-11:30 a.m. March 21 – *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith. Limited Childcare Available. Room 126.

BEGINNER EXCEL CLASS – Students will be creating a simple spreadsheet during the class. 4-5:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 15, and 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, March 16, in Room 316. Call 913-671-2333 to register.

INTERMEDIATE EXCEL – Recommended for people who have a basic understanding of Excel OR have taken the Beginner Excel Class. 4-5:30 p.m. Wednesdays, March 22 and 29, and 6:30-8 p.m. Thursdays, March 23 and 30. Room 316. Call 913-671-2333 to register.

GAME NIGHT – Are you looking for a fun night out? Come to Game Night! Bring your favorite board game or play one provided. Come learn a new game, and meet new friends. 6:30-8 p.m. Thursdays, March 30 and April 27. Room 233. Hosted by Kyle and Sandra Stephens.

KNIFE SKILLS TUESDAY – Participants should bring a cutting board, chef knife, 3 onions, 1 head cabbage, 4 carrots, 1 lb. potatoes and 2 bell peppers. Students will go home with the makings of a great vegetable soup. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 28. Room 126. Taught by Rachel Ciordas.

RECIPE SWAP – Class participants will bring an appetizer to share, along with that recipe and four additional recipes that include an easy weeknight dinner, a kid-pleasing meal, a salad and a dessert. 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 28. Room 126.

INFANT, CHILD AND ADULT CPR BASICS-EVENING – Learn critical skills needed to respond and to manage a first aid, choking or sudden cardiac emergency in the first few minutes until emergency services arrive. 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 4. Room 232. Additional course materials fee: \$12/person.

APRIL TECH NIGHTS – Tech nights address specific questions regarding Word, Excel and email using a Microsoft Windows computer. Members of the Computer Ministry are available to provide individual assistance. Bring your laptop or tablet. Desktop computers will also be available. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, April 5, 12, 19 and 26. Room 316.

GROWING A VIBRANT, STICKY FAITH IN OUR CHILDREN – Co-led by Cheryl Couch-Thomas, director of Children and Family Ministries, and Dr. Rodger Nishioka, director of Adult Educational Ministries, this class will help parents live out their faith with their children in real and expressive ways so that faith in Jesus Christ will stick as they grow older. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, April 5-26. Rooms 132 and 133.

SEEING IS BELIEVING: EXPLORING MISSION IN THE HEARTLAND PRESBYTERY – In this four-session course, the Rev. Sally Wright who serves us and all of the Heartland Presbytery as Acting Associate Executive Presbyter, will help us understand what it means to be a missional congregation. Wednesdays, 6:30-8 p.m. April 5-26. Room 127.

HARRY S. TRUMAN PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM DAY TRIP – Join us to experience the eventful and triumphant life of America's 33rd President. 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, April 6. Facilitated by Georgia Klein. Cost: \$30 per person includes tour and lunch.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER, MARCH 15 – No dinner due to Spring Break.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY – The Food Pantry is continuing their request for canned vegetables of all varieties: spinach, yams, potatoes, beets, tomatoes, refried beans, etc. (anything but green beans, corn and peas, of which we have plenty). The Clothes Closet needs shoes and boots of all sizes and household linens. Spring clothing will be accepted after April 1. Thank you for your continuing support.

NEEMA COMMUNITY CHURCH – Village Church members are invited to an open house and celebration of the unveiling of a new children's home in Thwake, Kenya at 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 24, at Neema Community Church at 621 S. Lee Avenue in Olathe. Neema and the Thwake Village Partnership have both been supported by Village Church over the past 13 years. All are welcome to enjoy Kenyan food and song. Call Pastor David Nzioka at 913-782-0636.

COFFEE AND DONUTS WITH HABITAT – If you think you might like to become involved as a Kansas City Habitat for Humanity volunteer, join us for an informational meeting to kick off the 2017 construction season at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, March 29, in Room 129. Representatives from Habitat and Village Church, as well as members of the Tuesday-Thursday crew, will be on hand to discuss plans and building sites. No previous construction experience required. Contact Dave Lillard at 913-649-8930 or Deborah White at 913-671-2369 for more information.

JOIN THE VILLAGE COMMUNITY GARDEN TEAM – We need volunteers to work the soil, pull weeds, harvest vegetables and water crops. All produce goes to clients of the Village Food Pantry. A great service opportunity. Call Deborah White at 913-671-2369 or deborah.white@villagepres.org.

MUSIC MINISTRY

KANSAS CITY WIND SYMPHONY CONCERT, MARCH 26 – Join us for a free concert at 7 p.m. Sunday, March 26, in the Sanctuary. The program will include Rimsky Korsakov's *Scheherazade* and *Procession of the Noble*, and Stravinsky's *Berceuse and Finale* from *The Firebird*. Kansas City harpist Tabitha Steiner will perform in this concert on several music selections. Visit kcwindsymphony.org for more information.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

NEEDED: EASTER LILY DELIVERERS – More than 250 Easter lilies will be taken to members who are unable to attend church on Easter. We are looking for 100 volunteers to help deliver a lily or two after the last service. If you can help, contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org. You'll be contacted the week before Easter with specific information. Thank you!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

OPERATION BREAKTHROUGH READING PROGRAM – 9:30-11 a.m. Wednesdays, March 22-April 26. Join us for an orientation coffee at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, March 22, in the Youth Loft. Come share your love of reading and children. Men and women volunteers are needed. Childcare is available one week in advance by calling Pam at 913-671-2352. Contact Cindy at ciwhitham@aol.com or at 913-262-3062 for more information.

WOMEN OF WISDOM – 11 a.m. Thursday, March 23, for lunch at Andre's Tea Room, 5018 Main, in Kansas City, Mo. Limited carpooling from the church's north entrance will be offered. RSVP by Tuesday, March 21, to Diane Lee, 913-432-4321, or dianelee@att.net. All women are warmly invited.

WOMEN WITH SPIRIT invite you to join us at the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art on Thursday, March 30. Happy hour begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Bloch Building lobby. You may choose to join one of two docent-led tours of the collection highlights; the first begins at 6:30 p.m., the second at 7:30 p.m. Child care is available from 5:30-8 p.m. For reservations, email pam@villagepres.org by March 23.

CELEBRATION OF FAITHFUL WOMEN 2017 BRUNCH WILL HONOR THREE AMAZING VOLUNTEERS: Marilyn Borel, Julie Foster and Virginia Stuhr at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 8. Join us for a delicious meal prepared by Chef Emily and a presentation by our featured speaker, Sarah Are. We will enjoy friendship and fellowship at this very special event. Tickets are \$16 per person and can be purchased between services today and March 19 and 26.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

THURSDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUP – 6:30 p.m. upstairs at Village Church. Faith is a practice. It cannot be something we learn, or search for, or think about. It must be something we do, and do regularly enough that the lines between sacred and secular are blurred by eyes that can't help but to see the holy. We're reading Barbara Brown Taylor's *An Altar In The World* and practicing community together. All 20s and 30s invited. Pizza provided.

YOUTH MINISTRY

HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES – Will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Youth Loft Room 333/332.

SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE (SNL) – The new name for our high school youth group! SNL meets tonight from 6:30-8:30 p.m. All are welcome for a night of discussion, amazing people and a great time.

TWOSDAYS – Middle schoolers join us Tuesdays for our after-school program from 4-5:30 p.m. in the Youth Loft, Room 333. All are welcome!

GPS – Middle school youth group, meets Wednesday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Join us for a great night of people, games and conversation. We hope to see you there!

Seeking Nominations For 2018 Village Church Officers

The Village Church Nominating Committee needs your help in matching abilities with responsibilities. They are seeking recommendations for elders, elder trustees and deacons for 2018. Submit the form on our website: villagepres.org under the "About" section and "Officers" page. The link is at the top of the Officers page. Printed forms are also available at the Receptionist Desk. Forms must be received by Sunday, March 26.

Liturgical Art

During the season of Lent, the Welcome Center features *The Stations of the Cross*, an art installation created by Virginia Maksymowicz. The installation was originally commissioned by St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Lancaster, Pa.

In the creation of these pieces, 11 individuals served as models, spanning a wide variety of ages and ethnicities, demonstrating the tension between the “specific” and the “universal” messages of those within the story.

A devotional guide to the installation, which also contains additional information about the artistic process, is available in the Welcome Center.

It has been on display at Allegheny College, the Narthex Gallery, the National Museum of Catholic Art and History, the Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral, and the Memorial Hall at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. This is the first exhibition of the pieces in the Midwest.



Creative Spaces

Throughout the past year, we have explored different possibilities for artistic expression in our worship spaces and in the Welcome Center. More hands, hearts and minds are welcome to contribute to this process. If you have a creative streak, or would like to develop one, join us. Contact Rev. Jenny McDevitt at jenny.mcdevitt@villagepres.org.

Endowment Trust

Have you included Village Church Endowment Trust in your estate plan? Let us know and become a member of the Meneilly Society. Call Molly Sirridge at 913-671-2325 or email her at molly.sirridge@villagepres.org.



LENTEN SERMON SERIES

The People You Meet Along the Way

Jesus journeyed to Jerusalem. It was a journey on foot and a journey of the heart. A cross awaited him. When you know the end is near your time is precious and you pay attention to the people around you. Jesus spoke with his followers and with a rich man. He noticed children and an impoverished woman. Jesus paid attention to them all. We will pay attention to them as well, and discover that there is a little bit of all of them in us. I suppose that means we are on the journey as well, at least the journey of the heart.

March 5	Let's Go Over This One More Time for James and John
March 12	This Guy Thinks It's All About Him
March 19	Jesus is Interrupted and Schooled by a Courageous Woman – Dr. Rodger Nishioka preaching
March 26	He Got Everything Right and Still Missed It by That Much
April 2	Would You Want To Be a Kid Again?
April 9	Do You See That Woman . . . She Looks a Lot Like Jesus
Maundy Thursday	That's Just the Way of the World
Good Friday	Tenebrae Service
Easter: April 16	The Heart of the Matter

MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Thomas L. Are, Jr., senior pastor ❖ Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist
Rev. Len Carrell, pastor of pastoral care ❖ Cheryl Couch-Thomas, director of children and family ministry
Rev. Hallie Hottle, pastor of young adult ministry and bridge site pastor of Village on Antioch
Marjean Lindquist, director of child care ❖ Kathy Lueckert, director of finance and administration
Ryan Main, interim director of music ❖ Rev. Jenny McDevitt, pastor of pastoral care
Dr. Rodger Nishioka, director of adult educational ministry ❖ Matthew C. Shepard, associate director of music
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

*Streaming video of all the Sunday morning Sanctuary services is available at villagepres.org.
Click the home page link "Live Sermon and Sermon Archives."*

The 8 a.m. Sanctuary worship service is broadcast live on 1660 AM KMBZ, The Business Channel.

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.*