



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

March 19, 2017 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

All of us get weary and tired at times, and Jesus was no different. So he tries to take a break from his ministry of teaching and healing only to be accosted by a woman who is desperately seeking healing for her daughter. When Jesus refuses — explaining that he was sent by God only to minister to God's chosen people — the woman's passionate and courageous response seems to startle, convict and even change him. Can it be that Jesus is schooled by a Gentile woman? The result is that a daughter is healed and Jesus' view of his own ministry grows.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Soliloquy
by David Conte

Call to Worship

Rev. Jenny McDevitt

Holy, holy, holy. You are the Lord God almighty.

So we gather this morning in your sanctuary to worship you.

And we lift up songs of praise to you for only you are holy.

And we join with all the saints of every time and place who adore you.

You are merciful and mighty, O God. There is no other God but you.

All of creation in heaven and earth praises you and falls down before you.

Holy, holy, holy. You are the Lord God almighty.

You, blessed Trinity, who was and is and evermore shall be.

*Hymn, No. 1

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
NICAEA

*Prayer of Confession

We believe that you are just and merciful, O God.

So in your presence and before one another, we confess our failure to be what you created us to be.

We confess that while you created us good and beautiful and faithful, we all too easily stray from your ways.

We neglect to hear and act upon your call to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. We are too quick to set limits on your love. We are too quick to turn to fear instead of hope, and despair instead of joy.

We confess that we rely more on ourselves than upon your Holy Spirit.

We confess that we too easily participate in systems and structures of sin and injustice.

Forgive us, O God, and send us children and women and men to show us how to live more faithfully into your calling even as we pause to silently confess our own sins to you. (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

The Sacrament of Baptism

Hymn, No. 482

Baptized in Water

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, Marked with the sign of Christ, our King;
Born of the Spirit, we are God's children, Joyfully now God's praises we sing.**

Anthem (9:30 a.m.)

Wondrous Love

arr. arranged by Robert Shaw and Alice Parker; Alegria

Prayer for Illumination

Jim Borthwick (8 a.m.)

Fred Logan (9:30 a.m.)

Patricia Schultz (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Mark 7:24-30 (pg.917)

Sermon

Jesus is Interrupted and Schooled by a Courageous Woman Dr. Rodger Nishioka

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 324

For All the Faithful Women
NYLAND

Offertory

Nurture
by Jane Marshall; Village Choir

*Heal the broken with comforting words of God.
Cheer them gently with earthly joys.
Be merry: laugh with the broken
And carry their secret needs in the deepest silence of your heart.*

-Mechtild of Magdeburg

*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. 749

Come! Live in the Light!
WE ARE CALLED

*Benediction

*Choral Response

Village Choir

*Postlude

Partita on "Lobe den Herren"
by Don Freudenburg

**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.

Baptism

written by Dr. Rodger Nishioka

Baptism is one of two sacraments in the Presbyterian Church. The other sacrament is the Lord's Supper. A sacrament is a communal ritual that comes directly from the life of Jesus Christ. It is an outward sign of God's inward grace. According to the gospels, at the beginning of his public ministry, Jesus was baptized in the river Jordan; and the Holy Spirit descended upon him; and God claimed Jesus as his son. Today, baptism is a public moment when we recognize that God has claimed the individual as God's own. This is God's doing and not the decision of the individual or, in the case of a child, her or his parents. We are glad to baptize anyone, but we most often baptize infants because this reminds us that belonging to God is not about our choosing or even our comprehending — it is first and foremost a sign of God's grace. The water is a symbol; any amount of water, from a sprinkling to full immersion, is representative of that grace. And we baptize in the "name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit" because that is what Jesus commanded in Matthew 28:19. That phrase is the most common phrase spoken today among all Christians in many languages throughout the world. Welcoming any new member to the family is cause for great celebration, so rejoice and be glad whether our new member is 7 months, 7 years, 17 years, 27 years or 70 years-old! We have a new family member in Jesus Christ!

THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of March 20, 2017)

The following daily Bible readings were written by Dr. Ron Patton 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 20

Genesis 28:10-22

Jacob's Ladder has been used as a mantra of Judeo/Christian groups for centuries. However, the image of a ladder connecting heaven and earth appears nowhere else in the Old Testament. Likely, this imagery was imported from Babylonian and Egyptian religious symbolism. In Genesis, it becomes a way to validate an ancient Canaanite sanctuary as a Hebrew place of worship. "Bethel" can be translated as "a house of God."

Tuesday, March 21

Psalms 69

21st century Christians can find many points in this Psalm that are parallel to their lives, such as feeling that they are about to drown, being up to their necks in their troubles. It seems that even those inside their own communities — families — are "ganging up" on them. There is a brief call for revenge against the oppressors. The Psalm ends with praise for a God who cares for even the distressed and an invitation for all the world to join in this praise.

Wednesday, March 22

1 Corinthians 9:1-2, 15-23

What is required to preach the Gospel? For Paul, it was not a matter of traveling in the familiar circles of his dual citizenship — a Jew and a Roman. He could have even rested on his work as the founder of the Corinthian church. Yet, Paul was willing to do whatever it took to preach the Gospel. Paul sets the standard for the church spreading the good news of Jesus Christ to all the corners of the world.

Thursday, March 23

Mark 10:17-31

Did the "rich young man" who came to Jesus already know the answer to the question he asked? Was he seeking to remove guilt over having wealth and not being willing to share it with those less fortunate? Whatever the reason, Jesus says it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for the selfish to share. And as for the obtaining of salvation, Jesus is clear that it is God's job. (See Rev. Tom Are's sermon of 03-12-17)

Friday, March 24

Matthew 27:33-44

One of the best known passages in the Gospels, each person can imagine the scene of Jesus crucified — whether within their individual imagination or inspired by the many still and motion pictures. As the passage is read, there are several important aspects: Jesus did not want to die from poison on a sponge. The soldiers held no reverence for Jesus' clothes. The crowd, or mob, sounds like a typical unruly mob. And, the religious leaders challenge Jesus saying that they would believe he is the Messiah if he came down from the cross. Would they really?

Saturday, March 25

Matthew 27:45-50

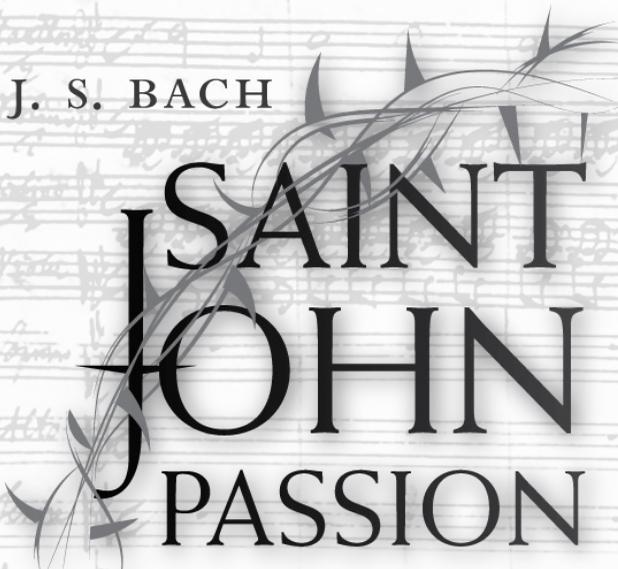
It was not a "peaceful" death. Matthew says that Jesus even thought, or at least expressed, in those last moments, questions about whether God the Creator has forsaken him. Jesus was truly human, just as all who read this are truly human. Jesus died! It was not an illusion or a trick of a magician. To be born is to die. But, Easter is coming!



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.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL TODAY are given in honor of Sara Kruegar in celebration of her 100th birthday from her loving family.

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM TODAY – Please welcome these newest members into our faith community as we celebrate the baptisms of the following children: **8 a.m.** Malachi Ayuk Agbor (Valentine Agbor and Jennifer Moyer, parents). **9:30 a.m.** Everett Alister Hoppa (Sarah and Patrick Hoppa, parents); Elliot Hudson, Oliver David and Leo Robert Jaynes (Sarah and Jared Jaynes, parents) and Olivia Marie Ruecker and William Evan Ruecker (Kate and Ray Ruecker, parents). **11 a.m.** Hudson Kreigh Gilman (Sarah and Seth Gilman, parents) and Luke William Simonich (Elizabeth and Justin Simonich, parents).

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.

KIDS' KINGDOM, 9:30-10:30 a.m. – K-1st GRADES – Kindergarten and First Grade meet in your usual gathering Rooms, 311 and 303. **2nd-5th GRADES** – Broadly Graded, meet in room 307. Parents may check in their elementary (K-5) aged students on the 3rd floor. 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Club V6 (6th Grade) – Relevant discussions for today's 'tweens. 9:30-10:30 a.m. Room 302.

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. \$20 (\$15 if you are an AARP member) per person payable to AARP. Call Marianne, 913-671-2333 to enroll.

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.

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.

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 5-26. 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 – 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. 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.

SPRING ADULT SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES meet at 9:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Check villagepres.org for more details.

THE ANCIENT PRESENT FUTURE CHURCH – Now-April 30 (except Easter), Dr. Rodger Nishioka leads this new adult class. The Acts of the Apostles is the story of the new movement of followers of Jesus that eventually became the Church. 10:45-11:45 a.m. Rooms 126-127.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER, MARCH 22 – New England clam chowdah, vegetarian soup, grilled cheese sandwiches. Cost: \$7 for full buffet, \$6 for salad bar and dessert. Salad bar starts serving at 5:15 p.m. followed by the hot food bar from 5:30-6:30 p.m. \$3 for children ages 3-10. Children under 3 are free. Reservations are required by noon on the Monday preceding the Wednesday Night Dinner if you wish to attend. Call 913-671-2359 or email liz.middleton@villagepres.org or go to villagepres.org/wednesday-dinners to make a reservation.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY – The Food Pantry is continuing to request donations of all sorts of canned vegetables during the month of March: spinach, black eyed peas, yams, beets, etc.–anything besides the standard corn, peas and green beans. The clients love variety! The Clothes Closet needs shoes. On April 1, the Closet will start collecting spring clothing of all kinds.

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 for more information.

COFFEE AND DONUTS WITH HABITAT – Would you 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. 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. Find out more at our community garden information table in Friendship Hall from 9 a.m.–noon March 26, or call Deborah White at 913-671-2369 or deborah.white@villagepres.org.

HELP NEEDED – From 10 a.m-2 p.m. Saturday, April 1, Village Church will paint our sponsored Hillcrest Transitional Living apartment at 9630 Bluejacket, Overland Park, Kan. Contact Karen Reimer at kreimer2@kc.rr.com or Nancy Gatewood at nngatewood@gmail.com.

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

GROWING THROUGH GRIEF STARTS APRIL 5 – If you are grieving, consider coming to Growing Through Grief, a five-week class where you can meet others who understand your struggles and be reminded that God is with us through even the hardest of moments. The next series is from 5-6:45 p.m. every Wednesday, April 5–May 3, in Room 124. You'll receive your own copy of "Understanding Your Grief – Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart" by Alan D. Wolfelt, Ph.D. Reading this book is optional yet is very helpful. The series and book are offered at no cost. Registration is required; contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org for more information or to register.

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 ciwitham@aol.com or at 913-262-3062 for more information.

WOMEN OF WISDOM – Join us at 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 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 26.

MISSION SEWING accepts fabric (one yard pieces or larger) in cotton, cotton blends and wool. We also need yarn and embroidery floss. Contact Edie Hultman at 913-432-3515 regarding other items to be donated and general information. If you don't machine sew, perhaps you would enjoy doing some hand sewing, stuffing pillows or pressing. Come and go as your time permits. Lunch is from noon-1 p.m. Bring your lunch or purchase at the Village Cup.

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.

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.

Easter Lily Memorials

Honor a loved one by purchasing a potted lily. Mail a check for \$10 payable to Village Church (include the memorial/honorary name with the check). Send your check to the church, Attn: Janice Gill with "Easter Memorial" referenced on both the envelope and the check. This must be received by Wednesday, April 12, to be included in the May 3 *Good News* listing of donors.

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
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.*