We welcome you to this joyous celebration and invite you to join us every Sunday. Regular worship times are 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary and The Gathering at 5 p.m. in Friendship Hall.
EASTER SUNDAY
The Resurrection of Our Lord
GOD’S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude
Village Brass and Organ

Words of Welcome

Introit
Arise, My Love, My Fair One
music: Gerald Near

The Easter Proclamation

*Hymn, No. 232
Jesus Christ Is Risen Today
EASTER HYMN

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured. Alleluia!
Now above the sky he’s King, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as God’s love. Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

*Unison Morning Prayer

Forgive us, O God,
if in the perplexity of this day
the musings of the Church should become too simple.
Let the sound of our hymns echo the wonder of the
women who saw the empty tomb
and remembered what they had been taught.

In the mystery of this day,
let the voice of the Church not succumb to timidity.
Let the sound of our proclamation
echo the testimony of bewildered disciples
who found good news to speak.

After the pageantry of this day,
let our memory of your love not fade or grow weary.
Let the content of our prayers
reflect the fragile yet faithful confidence of saints
and martyrs who worshipped before us.

In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

*Assurance of God’s Grace
Proclamation of the Word

Faith Sharing with Children

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 (11:15 a.m.)

Christ is Arisen!
music: G. F. Handel; Village Voices

Prayer for Illumination

Mirabelle Heinen (8 a.m.)
Sloane Weemhoff (9:30 a.m.)
Asa Schaaf (11:15 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Matthew 28:1-10 (p. 909)

Sermon

A Glimpse of God’s Last Act of Love
Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

Response to the Word

Hymn

Now Let the Vault of Heaven Resound
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Please remain seated for the first three verses,
and stand when directed before the final verse.

High voices (soprano and alto):

Now let the vault of Heav’n resound
In praise of Love that doth abound,
“Christ hath triumphed! Alleluia!”
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear,
Repeat their song of glory here,
“Christ hath triumphed, Christ hath triumphed!”
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Low voices (tenor and bass):

Eternal is the gift He brings,
Wherefore our heart with rapture sings,
“Christ hath triumphed, Jesus liveth!”
Now doth He come and give us life,
Now doth His presence still all strife
Through His triumph; Jesus reigneth!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Choir Only:

O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
Set heart and will on things above
That we conquer through Thy triumph,
Grant grace sufficient for life’s day,
That by our life we ever say,
“Christ hath triumphed, and He liveth!”
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Congregation and Choir:

Adoring praises now we bring
And with the heav’nly blessed sing,
“Christ hath triumphed, Alleluia!”
Be to Creator, and our Lord,
To Spirit blest, most holy God,
Thine the glory, never ending!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Offertory

Cornerstone
music: Shawn Kirchner; Village Choir

O the stone that the builders rejected
became the cornerstone of a whole new world.

A grain of wheat may be knocked to the ground
And suffer through the winter’s cold,
Only to rise right up again
And bear its seed a thousandfold.

Never can our journey fail;
A little child will lead the way,
Whose eyes are filled with a shining light,
To whom the night is bright as day.

The love that rolls the stone away
Gives us life and that we may sing
“Grave where is thy victory? Death, o death, where is thy sting?”

*Response

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn, No. 248

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!
Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:
all creation is amazed.
In the desert all-surrounding,
see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding
bring a taste of love unknown.

Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning.
See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection,
not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion.
Joy and peace shall never end.

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven
nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation
where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus:
“Christ is risen! Get you gone!”
God the First and Last is with us.
Sing Hosanna everyone!

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

Hallelujah Chorus
music: G.F. Handel; Village Choir

*Postlude

Lift High the Cross
arr. Sondra Tucker; Village Brass

*All who are able may stand.

We kindly request that cell phones be silenced during worship.
Members of the Village Emergency Response Team (V.E.R.T.) are assigned and available during each Sunday service. They are certified in CPR and in the use of the Automated External Defibrillator (AED). V.E.R.T. members can be recognized by their red name tags.

UPCOMING SERMON SERIES

For the next three weeks, Rev. Tom Are and Rev. Hallie Hottle will explore the ways the resurrection of Jesus Christ touches our lives every day. Then beginning Sunday, May 19, we will begin a three week sermon series, “Why Can’t We Get Past This?” In this series, Rev. Tom Are and Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka will explore the pervasive and complex realities of racism in American Culture.

If you would like more information about the life and ministries of Village Church, or are interested in becoming a member, call 913-671-2331 or visit villagepres.org.