We first meet him in Genesis. The land is out of food, so he crosses an international border to survive. We later meet her in the desert, weeping and desperate. Even later he’s killed in battle, fighting for the great king. This one character shows up in our biblical text again and again, embodied in Abraham and Sarah, Hagar and Ruth, Uriah, even Jesus. Our faith story is a collection of strangers' tales and the God who claims them as our holy family. There is good news here, for God loves the stranger. There is good news here, but only if we can remember. Remember, these are people like us. Remember, we are strangers too.
Prelude
The K.C. Men’s Ensemble

Words of Welcome
Rev. Hallie Hottle

Introit
Proclaim the Glory of the Lord
arr. Jack Schrader

Call to Worship
Rev. Becky Chamberlain

We remember,
that we were once strangers,
feeling far away from God’s grace.
But now we are home,
welcomed by the love of Christ.
We remember,
that we were once strangers,
our hostility a dividing wall we couldn’t overcome.
But now we are family,
united by the love of Christ.
We remember,
that we were once strangers,
wondering in lonely places.
But now we belong,
marked by the love of Christ.

*Hymn, No. 39
Great Is Thy Faithfulness
FAITHFULNESS

*Prayer of Confession

Holy God, forgive us.
You told our ancestors to remember,
but we live distant lives from our strange roots.
How are we to remember that we were strangers too-
we, with security systems that beep with notice of neighbors?
How are we to remember that Your love is bigger than borders-
we, with citizenship in a land we have no reason to leave?
How are we to remember that You call us to welcome one another-we, whose lives are not dependent on others’ welcome?
Forgive us, God,
for our isolation,
our indignation,
our failure to remember our roots.
Remind us again of who we have been,
and weave into us the story
of who You need us to be. (Silent prayer)

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response

Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!
Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!
Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah! Hallelujah! Hal-le-lu-jah!

*Passing of the Peace

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call to Prayer

Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life a-new,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
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.

Prayer for Illumination

Larry Sneegas (9:30 a.m.)
Scott Stanley (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Deuteronomy 10: 12,17-19 (pg. 166)

Anthem

This Little Light of Mine
arr. John Leavitt

Scripture Reading

Matthew 25: 31-40 (pg. 904)

Sermon

The Stranger
Rev. Hallie Hottle

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 301
Let Us Build a House
TWO OAKS

Offertory

Amazing Grace
arr. Craig Courtney

*Response (from Hymn, No. 692)

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving.
Spirit, open my heart.

*Prayer of Dedication
ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

Today we welcome the Kansas City Men's Ensemble, which began in 1998 as an outreach arm of the Kansas City Symphony Chorus. The ensemble performs at various churches about 10-12 times each summer, and is comprised of 22 singers mostly from the Kansas City Symphony Chorus. Doug Allen is their music director. Thank you for sharing your gifts today, gentlemen!

Today's prelude selections are chosen from the following:
- The Holy Heart - arr. Mary McDonald;
- Danny Boy - arr. Mark Hayes;
- Clap Your Hands Together - David Rasbach;
- The Peace of the Lord - Grant Pfeifer

*Hymn, No. 541  God Be with You Till We Meet Again
  RANDOLPH

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

*Postlude

*All who are able may stand
© A-705103 for all hymns
The following daily Bible readings were written by Rev. Dr. Brandon Frick and are offered 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, pray for the community around you, and pray for all of creation.

God’s call. The scriptures are full of stories of God calling out to creation. This week, we’ll take a look at just a few of these to see what they tell us about God and about God’s creation.

**Monday, Aug. 19**

In the beginning is the void, but God changes that with utterances of “Let there be…” that bring much of our world into being. God doesn’t call in the celestial construction crews or shape everything by hand. The Creator calls out and earth, sea, and stars are made. What does it mean that the world is made by divine command?

**Tuesday, Aug. 20**

Up until this point, there’s no record that Abram has ever even heard of “the Lord,” who now calls out to Abram to leave his country to bless others as a blessing himself. What do you make of a God whose introduction to Abram is one asking him to do this very risky thing?

**Wednesday, Aug. 21**

Like Abraham, Moses is just minding his business the day God commissions him. He’s herding his father-in-law’s sheep when he sees a bush aflame but is somehow not burned up. When he goes over to investigate, God tells him that this place is “holy”? What do you think God means by that term? What makes this place, in the middle of the desert, “holy”?

**Thursday, Aug. 22**

A few weeks ago, Rev. Sally Wright shared with us the incredible story of Hannah, who would go on to give birth to Samuel. In this passage, we see how God calls out to Samuel, who is just a boy, to lead God’s people. Is his calling any different than that of Abraham or Moses? How so? What do you make of the fact that Samuel confused the voice of God with the priest Eli?

**Friday, Aug. 23**

The prophet Elijah is on the run and searching for some solace or meaning from God. How does God communicate with Elijah in this chapter? What does the final scene on the mountain tell you about how God does and doesn’t communicate with us? What is his command to Elijah in v. 15?

**Saturday, Aug. 24**

In these verses, Jesus calls two sets of brothers to be his disciples just as God had done up to that point. Jesus interrupts their lives with this call to do something wild and reckless. How do they respond? Do you think they could have responded otherwise?
Register for Fall Village U Classes

Starting at 9 a.m.

Monday, Aug. 19 for church members
Monday, Aug. 26 for the community

See course listings at
www.villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes
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 to the Glory of God in memory of Joe C. Morris by Susan Morris and family.

DISCOVER VILLAGE KIOSKS – Located at the North Welcome Center entrance and in Friendship Hall, Discover Village is a place where people can share conversation, ask questions of our hosts and enjoy a cookie. Whether you are newer to Village or a long-time member and have an interest in serving, connecting, or growing, come to the Discover Village kiosk. I hope to see you soon! (Cindy Wilcox, director of connectional ministries)

NEW TO US? Village Presbyterian Church is a family of faith actively shaped by the life of Christ to love one another, providing leadership for the transformation of our communities and serving the world. We are a Presbyterian (USA) family of faith that is inclusive, generous and welcoming of all people. Village is one church worshiping at two campuses: Village on Mission (6641 Mission Road in Prairie Village) and Village on Antioch (14895 Antioch Road in Overland Park). If you would like a tour of Village on Mission, contact Cindy Wilcox at cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org or 913-671-2331.

JOINING VILLAGE CHURCH – Village welcomes new members every other month at a special Sunday luncheon. Join us Sept. 29 and Dec. 8. Contact cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org for information.

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

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

SUMMER ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS – 10:45-11:45 a.m. Sunday, in Rooms 126 & 127. Today our guest speaker is Rev. Jay McKell.

TECH TALK – 4:30-6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 3, in Room 316. Tony Liu will explore methods, including user IDs and passwords, of staying organized using various Smart devices. He will discuss the use of historical data when synchronizing internet browsers or apps on various Smart devices. Tony will demonstrate safe ways to authenticate and access your internet tools using a Smartphone, tablet or computer.

FALL VILLAGE U – The Fall Village U catalog is now available. Registration for church members begins at 9 a.m. tomorrow, Aug. 19, and for the community at 9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 26. Online registration is encouraged. Some of the upcoming classes are:

VILLAGE WORDSMITHS – 4:15-5:15 p.m. Mondays, Aug. 26-Oct. 7, in Room 132. Village Wordsmiths is an afterschool creative writing program for seventh and eighth graders. The goal is to have fun, make friends, boost creativity, critical thinking, and analysis through prompted and free writing drills. Cost is $85. Payment is due to the instructor on the first day of class. Scholarships are available. Class will not meet on Sept. 2.

ITALY IN TRANSLATION – 6:30-8 p.m. Thursdays, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, and Oct. 3, 10, in Room 232. This fall, we will examine the culture and character of Italy through a variety of different mediums, culminating in a trip to Rome and Tuscany in 2020 for interested participants. Our exploration will begin with an overview of films from and about Italy from the mid-20th century, with particular attention paid to the work of Italian Neorealists.
ESPECIALLY FOR WOMEN – 9:30-11 a.m. Fridays, Sept. 6-Dec. 6, in Room 126. Take a deep dive into aspects of our faith and our faith experiences with an engaged and engaging group of women. Join a lively discussion about our beliefs and our spirituality as we consider Richard Rohr’s “The Universal Christ: How a Forgotten Reality Can Change Everything We See, Hope For, and Believe” from a women’s perspective. Rev. Diane Quaintance is the facilitator. To order the book, call Diane at 913-850-8647.

MONDAY HANDWORKS AND E-WORKS – 9:30-11:30 a.m. Mondays, Sept. 23-Dec. 9, in Room 127. Enjoy community and fellowship while doing those projects you want to finish but can never seem to find the time to complete. You will see everything from crocheting to recipe organizing to catching up on phone calls and emails while your children enjoy making new friends and participating in fun, creative activities in a wonderful child care setting.

WEDNESDAY HANDWORKS AND E-WORKS – 9:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 25-Dec.11, in Room 233 (Room 15 for Sept. 25-Oct.23). Enjoy community and fellowship while doing those projects you want to finish but can never seem to find the time to complete. You will see everything from crocheting to recipe organizing to catching up on phone calls and emails while your children enjoy making new friends and participating in fun, creative activities in a wonderful child care setting.

FRIDAY HANDWORKS AND E-WORKS – 9:30-11:30 a.m. Fridays, Sept. 27-Dec. 13, in Room 127. Enjoy community and fellowship while doing those projects you want to finish but can never seem to find the time to complete. You will see everything from crocheting to recipe organizing to catching up on phone calls and emails while your children enjoy making new friends and participating in fun, creative activities in a wonderful child care setting.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

ALL SERVICES–CHILD CARE – Infants to 4-year-olds are welcome in Rooms 114, 111 and/or 107.

SUNDAY FUNDAYS – 9:30 a.m. K-6th grade. This month we are partnering with a new local non-profit, the Ronald McDonald House and Foundation.

BAPTISMS and NEW BABIES – The next baptism dates are Sept. 15 and Nov. 10. An education class is offered for all members who are planning to baptize their children at Village. Share news of your new baby so we can welcome your new arrival with a gift. Call 913-671-2350 or email kate.ruecker@villagepres.org.

MOPS (MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS) registration is now open at bit.ly/vpcmops. MOPS meet the first and third Tuesday mornings of the month at Village Church on Mission September through May. We gather for breakfast, coffee, and connecting with each other while hearing and discussing topics relevant to our mom life. We host monthly play dates and Mom’s Nights Out to connect with each other outside our meetings. Fees for the 2019-20 MOPS year are $60. The child care fee is $25 per child per semester (child care spots are limited).

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

CASUAL GOLF OUTING – The monthly outings are a four person scramble format. All are invited. You do not need to be a member of Village Church to participate. The next outing is at Ironhorse on Tuesday, Sept. 10, with 8 a.m. with a modified shot gun start. RSVP by Sept. 1. Sign up by contacting Brad Steil at 913-469-5683 or bradsteil@everestkc.net.

WEDNESDAY FAMILY DINNERS, SEPTEMBER 2019-MAY 2020 dinners begin Sept. 11. People of all ages can gather before class, choir practice, or just take a night off from cooking. Chef Emily prepares a hot buffet, salad bar & dessert ($7) or salad bar & dessert ($6). Children ages 10 and under are free! Credit cards accepted. Menus: www.villagepres.org, Sunday bulletins, & weekly eNews. Reservations: required by noon every Monday. Contact Liz: 913-671-2359, or email liz.middleton@villagepres.org, or go online villagepres.org.
2019-2020 VILLAGE CONNECT (SMALL GROUP MINISTRY) is a way to strengthen faith through conversations, while making and deepening friendships. Trained leaders are provided, along with a video study developed by Rev. Tom Are. Open to the congregation and community, the groups include couples, women and mixed (men & women). Each group decides frequency, location, time for meetings. If you would like to participate, contact Cindy Wilcox at 913-671-2331 or cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY – School has started and the Clothes Closet continues to need new underwear and socks in all sizes for children. The Food Pantry knows what will start the children's mornings off in the right direction - BREAKFAST CEREAL. Please be generous with your donations of all varieties of cereal - granola, Cap'n Crunch, Raisin Bran, Oatmeal Squares, etc.

TOURS OF KANSAS CITY NONPROFITS – The Mission Committee and any interested Village members are invited to tour several agencies this fall to learn more about the organizations’ work in our community. The dates and times are as follows: Literacy KC - 9 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 22; SAVE, INC - 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 22; After the Harvest - 12:45 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 22; House of Hope - 9 a.m. Friday, Aug. 23; River of Refuge - 9:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 6. RSVP to Deborah White at deborah.white@villagepres.org or 913-671-2369 if you are interested in joining the tour.

DRMP’S ANNUAL FUNDRAISER, CELEBRATION DOMINICANA – Join the Dominican Republic Medical Partnership of Village Church for its festive annual fundraiser, Celebration Dominicana at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 6, at the historic Madrid Theatre, 3810 Main St. in Kansas City, Missouri. Tickets are $75 each and includes dinner and drinks; ages 18 and under $25. For tickets and sponsorships, visit www.villagepres.org/CD. For more information, contact Lora Garrison at lora.garrison@villagepres.org or 913-671-2390.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PARTNERSHIP WITH OPERATION BREAKTHROUGH AND FAXON – Front Porch Alliance PAL volunteers go to Faxon Elementary School one hour per week to help two children (K-6) with their math and reading. Volunteers choose age of the child and day and time. Contact Charlotte Davison at 913-908-4742 or charlottesdavison@gmail.com for more information.

MUSIC MINISTRY

YOUTH CHOIR LOCK-IN – From noon Saturday, Aug. 24, through noon Sunday, Aug. 25. Village Voices starts the year with an overnight lock-in full of games, food and singing. All students in grades 7-12 with an interest in joining the choir are invited to come and experience the lock-in, which ends with leading worship for Youth Sunday on Aug. 25. To register, contact Matthew Shepard at matthew@villagepres.org.

ALEGRÍA YOUNG ADULT CHOIR – Are you a young adult who would like to make music with other young adults? Come sing with the Alegría Choir! “Alegría” is the Spanish word for “joy,” and this group certainly is a joyful one! We rehearse most Thursday evenings from 6:30-6:58 p.m. in Room 14, and offer our music in Sunday morning worship three times per semester. The pieces we sing include Renaissance and Gospel music, and everything in between. Contact Elisa Bickers (elisa.bickers@villagepres.org; 913-671-2339) if you want more info.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

NEW SESSION OF GROWING THROUGH GRIEF STARTS IN TWO WEEKS – Grief is a journey. Growing Through Grief helps people discover God’s healing presence during this difficult time. The next series will be every Wednesday night for six weeks, from 5:30-6:45 p.m. Sept. 4-Oct. 9, in Room 124. You’ll receive a copy of "Understanding Your Grief–Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart." Contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org to register.
REV. JAY McKELL IS THIS WEEK’S GUEST SPEAKER - Stephen Ministry welcomes Rev. Jay McKell as the speaker for their continuing education meeting at 5 p.m. this Thursday, August 22, in Rooms 132/133. Rev. McKell will be talking about Ministering to the Aging. All are welcome!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN FALL EVENT: "Reflect and Connect" – 10 a.m. - noon Wednesday, Sept. 11, in Friendship Hall at Village Church on Mission. Women of all ages are invited. Together we'll reflect upon our hopes and dreams for this coming year and infuse our lives with hope and courage as we reflect God's light! To register, email sunni.battin@villagepres.org by Aug. 20. Contact Kathy Ray at kathydray@gmail.com or Susan Satterlee at sgsatterlee@sbcglobal.net for more information.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Young Adult Ministry is for all people in their 20's and 30's.

BOULEVARD BREWING CO. TOUR – 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24. Come tour our city’s biggest brewery. We’ll enjoy the beer hall together after the tour. $5/each. Child care provided! Sign up required. VillagePresYA.org/saturdays.

CELEBRATE SUMMER COOK OUT - 6-9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 7, to come and celebrate the end of summer together! Location and RSVP online at VillagePresYA.org/calendar/cookout.

YOUTH MINISTRY

YOUTH SUNDAY IS AUG. 25 – Join us as our youth lead us in worship on Sunday, Aug. 25, at all Village on Mission worship services.

PROGRAMS RETURN SEPT. 8 – Weekly programs start back up the Sunday after Labor Day with SNL (Sunday night high school youth group), Lofternoons (Tuesday afternoon middle school after school program), GPS (Wednesday night middle school youth group), and Early Table (Thursday morning high school devotional).

Volunteers Wanted at the Village Church Food Pantry

The Food Pantry is looking for two strong, energetic and reliable volunteers to help at the Pantry and drive the truck. Must have a good driving record and be able to lift 50 lbs.

Shifts Needed:
Thursday mornings (8-11 a.m.): drive the truck to Trader Joe’s and help unload large Harvesters deliveries.
OR Friday morning (8-10 a.m.): assist on the truck, picking up donations from several retail stores

Interested? Contact Susan Webb at susan.webb@villagepres.org.
The Bible is filled with stories of people. Some of them are of amazing and inspiring folks. Others’ stories tell of folks in desperate need. Many tell of ordinary times. These people we discover in pages of sacred scripture are, however, people like us. They endeavored to live as God’s children amidst the realities of their place and time. Some of them provide inspiring examples of faith. Some walk paths we should avoid. Many were mixtures of belief and unbelief. This summer we will meet – or meet again – a collection of people who can serve as examples as we seek to live as God’s children amidst the realities of the world in our time and place.

**MINISTERS**
All members of the congregation

**MINISTRY TEAM**
Rev. Tom Are, Jr., senior pastor ✦ Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist
Will Breytspraak, director of music ✦ Rev. Becky Chamberlain, interim pastor of pastoral care
Rev. Dr. Brandon Frick, site pastor of Village on Antioch ✦ Rev. Hallie Hottle, pastor of young adult ministry
Brooke Latas, director of children and family ministry ✦ Marjean Lindquist, director of child care
Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate pastor ✦ Matthew C. Shepard, associate director of music
Molly Sirridge, director of stewardship and endowments ✦ Bob Sperry, interim director of finance
Rev. Zach Walker, pastor of youth ministries ✦ Deborah White, director of mission
Cindy A. Wilcox, director of connectional ministries ✦ Rev. Sally Wright, interim pastor of pastoral care
Rev. Dr. Robert H. Meneilly, pastor emeritus

Large print bulletins are available in the Narthex. Ask an usher to bring you one.

*Streaming video of all the Sunday morning Sanctuary services is available at villagepres.org.*
*Click the home page link “Live Sermon and Sermon Archives.”*
*Today’s Sanctuary worship service will be re-broadcast at 8 a.m. next Sunday on 1660 AM KMBZ, The Business Channel.*
*We kindly request that cell phones be turned off during worship.*
*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.*