One of the more surprising messages from the prophets is that sometimes God wishes to be anywhere but in worship. If God is not here, then there is no point in our being here. But according to the prophets, it is not only what happens in worship that matters, but what happens when we leave worship. This is because worship reminds us what real life really is.
GOD’S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude
Ricercare from Suite circulaire by Carson Cooman

Words of Welcome
Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

Call to Worship
Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our maker. For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God’s pasture, the flock in God’s hand. On this day, we listen for God’s voice. On this day, we sing our song to God.

Hymn, No. 475
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
NETTLETON

*Prayer of Confession

God of unfailing grace, We are comfortable in this place, for this is our home, and as Your children, we know we belong here. But do not let us be too comfortable, for we sometimes fail to live as Your children. Remind us of who we are, and tune our hearts to sing Your grace, a grace that has brought us through many dangers, toils and snares, and a grace that will lead us home. (Silent prayer)

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response (from Hymn, No.641)

Let every instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise! And may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!

*Passing of the Peace
PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call to Prayer (11 a.m.)

Qui - et-ly, peace - ful-ly let me rest in you.

Qui - et-ly, peace - ful-ly lead me back to you.

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer (11 a.m.)

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.

Time with Children (8, 9:30 a.m.)

The Sacrament of Baptism (8, 9:30 a.m.)

Baptismal Response  

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, 11 a.m.)  

Do Not Leave Your Cares at the Door  
by Elizabeth Alexander; Village Voices; Annie Elmore, solo

Do not leave your cares at the door.  
    Do not leave them there when you come into this place.  
    Be open to forgiveness and transformation. Come on in.  
    You are welcome here; and do not leave your cares at the door.

Bring your pain and sorrow and joy.  
    There’s a place for them upon the altar of life.  
    Be open to forgiveness and transformation. Come on in.  
    You are welcome here; and do not leave your cares at the door.
This is a place of grace, of losing and finding our way upon the winding road, Meeting and parting, stumbling and starting over. Every story is sacred here, even yours, even yours.

Prayer for Illumination Dee Couch (8 a.m.); Fred Logan (9:30 a.m.); Lisa Ball (11 a.m.)
Scripture Reading Amos 5:21-24 (pg. 839)
Sermon This Is Real Life Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 829 (v. 1-3) My Faith Looks Up to Thee
OLIVET

Offertory What Is The World Like
by Sally Ann Morris and Adam Tice; Karli Cabera, solo; Village Choir

*Response (from Hymn, No. 708)

We give thee but thine own, what-e’er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn, No. 700 I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me
I’M GONNA LIVE

Congregational Meeting (11 a.m.)

*Benediction

*Benediction Response A World Where God’s Will Is Done
by Adam Tice

*Postlude Praeludium from Suite circulaire
by Carson Cooman

*All who are able may stand
© A-705103 for all hymns
Today's prelude invites us to look toward the words of the prophets, which may at times feel uncomfortable and confusing. The word ricercare means “to search out." The meandering melodies of this piece cause us to search in unexpected directions, sometimes towards resolution and other times into uncertainty. It is as though each musical phrase brings a new question to mind, just as our prophets do. This prelude and postlude are taken from Carson Cooman's "Suite circulaire," which was composed specifically for this pipe organ and as a gift to the organist.

Today's Village Choir anthem, "What Is the World Like" is based on four parables: The Mustard Seed, the Prodigal Son, the Good Samaritan and the Ten Bridesmaids. It was written by Mennonite hymn writer Adam Tice, and will also be sung here as a hymn later this fall. Here is the text to this hopeful piece:

What is the world like when God's will is done?  
Mustard seeds grow more than we can conceive: roots thread the soil; branches reach for the sun.  
This is how God moves us each to believe.

What is the world like when God's will is done?  
Ready for feasting, we watch through the night, tending our lamps till the new day's begun. This is how God readies us for the light.

What is the world like when God's will is done?  
Witness the wandering child coming home; watch as the parent breaks into a run. This is how God longs for us when we roam.

What is the world like when God's will is done?  
No more is neighbor just ally or friend; peace thrives inn places where once there was none. This is how God works when rivalries end.

What is the world like when God's will is done?  
Ready for feasting, we watch through the night, tending our lamps till the new day's begun. This is how God readies us for the light.

These are the stories that Jesus imparts, filled with the Spirit who joins us as one. Born through our voices, our hands, and our hearts, this is a new world where God's will is done.

Thanks to this morning's featured violinists, Bruce Williams, Laurel Schaich and Matthew Schaich, all members of the Village Players.

A LOOK TOWARD NEXT SUNDAY . . .

Next Sunday we will listen to Daniel. Daniel was a full storyteller and a strange talker. He was a preacher to folks who were facing difficult things. He had a simple but important message: we have been here before. The people of God through the ages have often faced hard times. There is something about God’s faithfulness that we never learn until we have to endure the hard times.
The following daily Bible readings were written by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka 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.

Monday, Sept. 16

Amos 5:1-7

The opening words of this chapter are a foretaste of what is to come. The prophet starts with language about death and destruction. Amos warns Israel that because they have not been just and have not acted rightly, they will soon suffer. These are harsh words but true. When we do not do what is right, God is not pleased with us. Seek this day to act justly and live rightly.

Tuesday, Sept. 17

Amos 5:8-9

These words were familiar to the Hebrew people because they were likely sung as a hymn of praise. They are praising the God who created the constellations (Pleiades) and the brightest star (Orion). The prophet reminds us that God is all powerful and we are not. This can be a source of fear and a source of comfort. Know this day that God is expansive enough to be the God of the universe and intimate enough to care for you and your life.

Wednesday, Sept. 18

Amos 5:10-13

Nations endure consequences for their actions. The prophet is describing God’s own people who have angered God because they care for themselves at the expense of the poor. Do not be deceived. The prophet calls this “an evil time.” That word is used carefully. God sees evil and is angry when people care for the rich at the expense of the poor. These are worthy words for us today.

Thursday, Sept. 19

Amos 5:14-17

The prophet explains clearly how we are to live. Seeking good means to care for all of God’s children, especially the poor, the widow, the orphan, and the stranger. Throughout the Bible, those four groups are consistently named as the responsibilities of God’s people. In the gospels, Jesus time and again calls our attention to these four groups. This changes our understanding of the “good life.” How are you living a good life today?

Friday, Sept. 20

Amos 5:18-20

The people of Israel are desperately seeking “the day of the Lord” but here the prophet reminds them that for those who have not lived faithfully, the coming of the day of the Lord will not be a great day. Some of us struggle with the notion of God as judgmental. It is true that grace abounds in God, but it is also true that God’s grace is not cheap. Living in response to God’s grace is demanding and challenging. How are you being challenged to respond to God’s grace?

Saturday Sept. 21

Amos 5:21-27

I once heard a colleague say, “Tradition is the living faith of the dead. Traditionalism is the dead faith of the living.” She said that too often the church has mistaken traditionalism for tradition. God is not interested in empty religious rituals and practices that keep us comfortable and risk free in our places of worship. Our worship is worthless to God if it does not lead us to bringing justice and righteousness into the whole world. How is your faith leading you to change the world?
Join us for fun, food and fellowship at our annual 

CLASSIC CITIZENS CELEBRATION 

1:30 - 3 p.m. 
Thursday, Sept. 26, 2019 
Friendship Hall 
Village Church on Mission 

RSVP to Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org 
Transportation provided upon request.
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 Sherin H. Custer by Ken Higdon.

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM TODAY – Welcome these newest members into our faith community as we celebrate the baptisms of the following children at 8 a.m.: Gabrielle Leilani-Bessem Agbor (Jennifer Moyer-Agbor and Valentine Agbor, parents); at 9:30 a.m.: Dean Arthur Ballard (Laura and Joseph Ballard, parents); Emmie Reid Herwig (Emma and Andrew Herwig, parents); Olivia Blythe Lindquist (Stacey and Bobby Lindquist, parents); and Rhett Alexander O’Neill (Emily and T.J. O’Neill, parents).

MORNING STARS CHILDREN’S CHOIRS begin today at 10:30 a.m., immediately following Sunday School. Join us for our first practice and then at 11:15 a.m. for breakfast treats and a short information meeting for new and returning families to see what exciting things we have in store for this year! Morning Stars has three choirs for ages 3-6th grade. Contact jenny.hull@villagepres.org for more info.

THE SESSION HAS CALLED A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FOR TODAY – In the Sanctuary, immediately following the 11 a.m. worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect new church officers for the positions of elder, elder/trustee and deacon. At-large members of the Nominating Committee will also be elected. Ordination of new church officers will take place in early January 2020.

SCRIPTURE READERS WELCOME – Interested in reading scripture during worship on occasion? There is room to add more readers into the rotation at all services. Contact Matthew Shepard to get signed up at matthew@villagepres.org.

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.

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

FOR YOUR LISTENING PLEASURE – Sermons of our founding pastor, Dr. Robert Meneilly, can be heard on the Village Church Sound Cloud. It can be found at: https://soundcloud.com/villagepres_heritage.

ELECTRIC CAR EXPO – 4-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18, Village on Mission south parking lot. Local electric car enthusiasts will display their all-electric and plug-in hybrid/electric vehicles and answer questions. The expo is free. Bring friends. Questions? Contact Al Pugsley at apphs58@yahoo.com.
HUNGRY? COME TO THE FEAST! Back by popular demand. This event begins with a Saturday retreat on Oct. 19 and continues with four Saturday morning sessions. If you want to deepen your spiritual life as a follower of Jesus Christ through a variety of spiritual practices, we invite you to join us at the table. Judy Cooper, Ed Dexter, Bob Fletcher, Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, Michelle O’Neal, Karen Reimer and Susan Satterlee are the leadership team. Contact Sunni Battin at sunni.battin@villagepres.org for more information.

TECH TALK – 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 1, in Room 316. Tony Liu will discuss where and how to store personal data in the public cloud. Data deletion considerations and techniques will also be explored. Email Anthonygreeneliu@gmail.com for more information.

ENROLLMENT FOR FALL VILLAGE U IS NOW OPEN. Online registration is encouraged.

UPCOMING VILLAGE U CLASSES:

BELIEVING AND BELONGING (Part One for New Members: Meet New Friends, Building Tour, Spirit Gifts and Spiritual Practices) 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 24, in Room 232 at Village Church on Mission. Learn about the story of Village Church, the way around the building and meet others on this journey. RSVP by registering online. RSVP for free child care (seven days advanced notice required) to Marjean at marjean.lindquist@villagepres.org or 913-671-2322.

DOCUMENTS, SPREADSHEETS AND PRESENTATIONS – 1-2:30 p.m. and 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 24, in Room 316. In today's world, delivering presentations isn't limited to our professional life. Through volunteer work, we may be called upon to present information to others. This class explores using a combination of document creation, spreadsheets and presentation software to easily create powerful presentations. Registration is necessary. Child care is not available.

YARNWORKS CIRCLE – 9:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 25-Dec. 11, in Room 206. Join us for Yarnworks and learn about basic stitches that will enable you to make hats, blankets. Join this group for friendship and fun that grow from crafting and creating together. Class will not meet Nov. 27.

FINDING THE RIGHT CARE FOR YOUR LOVED ONE – 6:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 24, in Rooms 126 & 127. Learn how to care for medical needs beyond what routinely can be managed at home or in another living situation, it can be a daunting task to find and evaluate the available choices. Child care is not available.

ADULT SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES – Please note that Growing Together will resume on Oct. 13. Adult Sunday Morning Classes meet from 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.


FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH – Led by Rev. Dwight Tawney, the focus of this class will be "From Lucy to Sargon the Great." Genesis 10 presents the lineage of the sons of Noah after the flood as progenitors of all known human culture. Through October, this class will trace the story of our human family’s evolution in Africa, through its settling in the fertile crescent, its adoption of religious expression and its development of urban society. Facilitated by Diann Markley in Room 15.

GROWING TOGETHER – You are invited to join us in New Testament Bible study. We look for stories in the Bible and make connections using the What? So What? Now What? Framework. We are growing together in faith by applying these stories in our lives today. You will find an intimate group who uses video and discussion to make the Bible come alive. Facilitated by Lawrence Andre in Room 124. Growing Together will resume on Oct. 13.
CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:25-10:30 a.m. – 2 to 4-year-olds/Pre-K—Preschool Sunday School meets on the first floor. Registration and age specific room assignments are posted outside Room 107. K-6th grade—Kids’ Kingdom Sunday school meets on the third floor. Registration and grade specific room assignments are posted outside Room 307. Room information is also posted outside Room 207.

NEW THIS YEAR, WE ARE DOING ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL – Visit our link to register your child – https://vpcpvks.brushfire.com/childrens/457086

BAPTISMS and NEW BABIES –The last baptism of the year is scheduled for 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.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

WEDNESDAY FAMILY DINNERS – 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! Now with a children's play area. Credit cards accepted. The menu for Sept. 18 is roasted chicken breasts & thighs, wild rice pilaf, broccoli/cauliflower. Reservations required by noon tomorrow, Sept. 16. Contact Liz at 913-671-2359 or email liz.middleton@villagepres.org or go online at www.villagepres.org/wednesday-family-dinners.

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 DVD video study developed by Rev. Tom Are. Open to the congregation and community, the groups include: couples, women, and mixed (men & women). Groups decide frequency, location, time for meetings. Contact Cindy Wilcox at 913-671-2331 or cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org for more information.

CASUAL GOLF OUTING – These monthly outings are a four-person scramble format. This is our last outing of the season. All are invited. You do not need to be a member of Village Church. The next outing is at Falcon Lakes on Tuesday, Oct. 8, with a 9:30 a.m. modified shotgun start. RSVP by Oct. 1 to Brad Steil at 913-0469-5683 or bradsteil@everestkc.net.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY – Peanut Butter Sunday was last week and the Food Pantry thanks you for your generous donations. Since peanut butter is such a staple in our clients' diets, the Pantry is continuing to ask for peanut butter during September, along with condiments: jelly, mayo, mustard, salad dressings, etc. The Clothes Closet is asking for items to accessorize your donations of clothing - purses, wallets, hats, belts, costume jewelry, etc. Thank you.

HURRICANE DORIAN made landfall in the Bahamas as a category 5 hurricane on Sept. 1, 2019. The best way to respond is through monetary donations. To support Presbyterian Disaster Assistance's response, designate gifts to DR000194 online at pma.pcusa.org/donate/make-a-gift/gift-info/DR000194 or by check with “DR000194-Dorian” on the memo line to: Presbyterian Church (USA), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA15264-3700.

MUSIC MINISTRY

VERSAILLES ORGANIST IS COMING TO VILLAGE’S ORGAN – Mark your calendars for 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 27! Jean-Baptiste Robin, organist of the Royal Chapel at the Palace of Versailles in France, will play a wonderful organ recital on Village Church on Mission’s Richards & Fowkes instrument. This concert is free and will feature music that spans the ages, including one of his own pieces.
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

WOW LUNCH AT YA YA’S – Women of Wisdom (WOW) warmly welcomes all ladies to a noon lunch on Tuesday, Sept. 17, at Ya Ya’s Euro Bistro in Corbin Park, at 135th and Metcalf. RSVP by Monday, Sept. 16, to Marvie Sneegas, sneegi@kc.rr.com or 913-209-9608.

FALL GET-TOGETHER – 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19. Join Amazing Graces at the home of Patty Zender (6529 High Drive, Mission Hills) for a soirée and guest speaker Rev. Sally Wright. Reservations taken after today’s services. For another payment option and for more information, contact Martha Tatman at matatman@hotmail.com. Payments must be received by tomorrow, Sept. 16.

SEEKING PW HONORARY LIFE MEMBER NOMINATIONS – Submit candidates for the 2019-20 Honorary Life Membership award to be given at the Celebration of Faithful Women Event March 21, 2020. Nominate a Village Church woman who strives to “promote the mission of the church, nurtures your faith, works for peace and justice and promotes an inclusive community through service and leadership to the church.” Submit nominations by Oct. 15 to Ann Flanders, 913-558-2155 or Niki Krenzel, 315-767-6629 or VPCPWHLM@gmail.com.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

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

THEOLOGY THURSDAYS – Every Thursday at 7 p.m. Jump into our new fall series, “Confession in a Chaotic Age.” On any given day, we can find ourselves thinking...what new dumpster fire is this? We are living in chaotic days. And it’s in days like these when we can start to wonder, what is real? What is good? Where is the hope? We’re not the first to wonder here. This fall we’ll dive into our historic confessions, and together find some new solid ground to stand on. More info and locations at VillagePresYA.org/thursdays.

FAMILY DINNER + PARENTS CONNECT – 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18. Join us for family dinner in Friendship Hall, then kiddos will go downstairs for child care and play time while parents stay to study and connect. We reconnect every third Wednesday. RSVP required at VillagePresYA.org/parents.

LOVE YOUR CITY SATURDAY: LOUISBURG CIDERFEST – Saturday, Sept. 28, meet at Village Church at 9 a.m. to carpool to Louisburg Cider Mill for cider, donuts and fun! More info at VillagePresYA.org/saturdays.

YOUTH MINISTRY

JOIN US FOR ANY OF OUR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES – All are welcome regardless of previous Village attendance and no sign-up is required. Check villagepresyouth.org for more details.

SUNDAY MORNINGS – 9:30 a.m. Youth Loft (Room 333) for middle school, Upper Room (319) for high school.

SNL (high school youth group) – 6:30-8:30 p.m. Sundays, in the Youth Loft (Room 333).

LOFTERNOONS (middle school after school program) – 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Youth Loft (Room 333).

GPS (middle school youth group) – 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, in the Youth Loft (Room 333).

EARLY TABLE (morning devotional for high schoolers with food) – 7:30-8:15 a.m. Thursdays, in the Youth Loft (Room 333), with rides to school available.

TRIPS REGISTRATION – You can now register for the high school ski trip (Jan. 18-22), middle school ski trip (Feb.15-19), and Spring break Dominican Trip (March 14-21). Ski Trip forms are only available at youth programs for the first two weeks before online registration begins, Dominican trip is online only. Visit villagepresyouth.org/forms for more information.

HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT SEPT. 21-22 – Join us as we take time away from our normal routine for a fun off-site overnight! Visit villagepresyouth.org/forms for more information.
**SERMON SERIES**

**God May Not Be Who You Think She Is**

**Sept. 8-Oct. 27**

This is a study of the Prophets. Sometimes the Prophets critique those who do not trust in God, but usually, they are correcting (or reminding) people’s confused understandings of God. That’s something all of us suffer from at times. Our understanding of God is never stagnant, or at least it shouldn’t be. The prophets try, often unsuccessfully, to push God’s people toward greater faithfulness.

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**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

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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.”*

*The Sanctuary worship service is broadcast live at 8 a.m. 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.*

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Printed on paper from sustainably managed forests.