



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

January 1, 2017 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

During January and February we will consider some Biblical passages that are challenging to interpret. Some of them are confusing. Some of them have caused pain. We will reflect on how what has sometimes been heard as "bad news" may actually be good news. To begin, today's sermon will tell the story of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. (We will omit a few portions!)

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Partita in A Minor, Movement IV, Bourree Anglaise
music: Johann Sebastian Bach; Joelle Teal, flute

Call to Worship

Dr. Rodger Nishioka

In the beginning, when it was very dark, God said,
"Let there be light."

Genesis 1:1-3

In the beginning, when it was very quiet, the Word was with God.
And what God was, the Word was.

John 1:1

In the midst of New Year's resolutions, it is good to remember
how God nudges us toward scripture and says,
"Blessed are the ones who keep the words of this book."

Revelation 22:7

In the end, when God's promises have been fulfilled,
all of creation will know:

"These words are trustworthy and true."

Revelation 22:6

*Hymn, No. 13

The Mighty God, with Power Speaks
KINGSFOLD

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, forgive us.

**Scripture is one of your gifts to us,
but like old, forgotten presents
sitting on the shelf collecting dust,
we fail to make use of it.**

**Sometimes it is too confusing for us to understand,
and we give up.**

**Other times your words are clear,
and our hearts are too afraid or too stubborn
to follow instructions.**

Do not give up on us, God.

Keep speaking to us, even when we do not listen.

Be a lamp for our feet, and a light on our path. (Silent prayer)

Psalms 119:105

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response

Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*Passing of the Peace

Words of Welcome

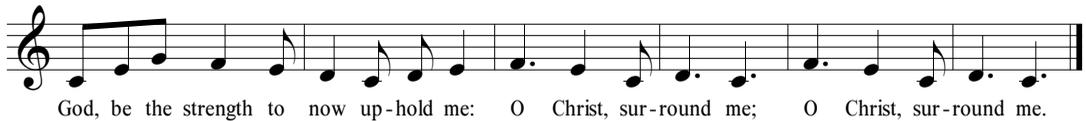
PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

John 1:1-5 (pg. 1110)

Call to Prayer



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.

Scripture Reading

2 Timothy 3:10-17 (pg. 1085)

Sermon

The Story of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 463

How Firm a Foundation
FOUNDATION

Offertory

The Four Seasons, Winter
music: Antonio Vivaldi; Joelle Teal, flute

*Response

**All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!**

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn, No. 462

I Love to Tell the Story
HANKEY

*Benediction

*Response

**I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.**

*Postlude

Sonata in E minor, Movement II
by Johann Sebastian Back; Joelle Teal, flute

**All who are able may stand*

© A-705103 for all hymns

SERMON NOTES

THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of January 2, 2016)

The following daily Bible readings were written by Rev. Zach Walker 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, Jan. 2

Exodus 14:10-25

This is, for many, the central act of the Old Testament: the moment God delivers the Israelites from Pharaoh and brings them out of slavery. When has God acted in your life in ways that surprised you? If you are still seeking that kind of moment, offer a prayer to God asking for God's presence to be felt in your life.

Tuesday, Jan. 3

Psalms 148

This Psalm celebrates God for all of God's creative power and all encompassing grace and rule over Creation. As this new year begins, we do well to take a moment to thank God for all that has been and all this is to come – in some cases asking for grace, forgiveness, and strength. But no matter what has been and no matter what is to come, God is still God.

Wednesday, Jan. 4

Titus 3:9

I have always valued how straightforward this verse is. I am sure I get caught up in arguments and worries that are on this list of things that are "unprofitable and worthless." This serves as a good reminder that we are all susceptible to small dissensions in life (and to be fooled into thinking they are a bigger deal than they really are), but are called to focus on loving one another.

Thursday, Jan. 5

Mark 6:34-44

When we learn more about who God is, does it satisfy a hunger in you? When we seek to learn about God, sometimes we put a lot of expectation on God. Any learning is best done with effort, purpose, and consistency over time. We must trust that when we follow Jesus, we will find, even when we hunger, that God cares for us in our effort.

Friday, Jan. 6

Numbers 21:4-9

A curious story about Moses and the Israelites traveling in the wilderness. Have you ever wished things were like they used to be – even (or especially) if things weren't that great back then? When we do so, do we blind ourselves to the way forward and find snakes in our paths? God urges them: there is only forward, there is no going back. But, what is it we look to when we are bitten by things that vex us?

Saturday, Jan. 7

Acts 14:23

Tomorrow we will install new officers in the church. Keep these people in your prayers as they humbly step into their different offices. But more than that, how is it that you function as an ambassador for Christ in your daily life? What could you do to improve your job performance?



Second Thursday Recital Jan. 12

Featured Artist: Soprano Jee-Yeun Kim

She wowed us with her spectacular solo in *O Holy Night* in *Tidings of Joy* on Dec. 18. Please join us at 12:15 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12, in Village Chapel for a 30-minute recital with Village Church soprano intern Jee-Yeun Kim. The program will include works by Samuel Barber, Francis Poulenc, Vincenzo Bellini and Giuseppe Verdi.

Jee-Yeun Kim is a graduate student (D.M.A) in vocal and opera at University of Kansas. Jee-Yeun began her vocal studies at age nine as a member of the Seoul Metropolitan Junior Chorus in her native Korea. She sang with them for 10 years before continuing her studies at the College of Vocal Music at Yonsei University in Korea. During that time, she also pursued voice study in the Summer Master Class program of the Hochschule Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria. Following her graduation she began teaching in high school, while also working as a church choir director. After moving to the United States of America, Jee-Yeun started to study again in voice and choral conducting at Pittsburg State University. She was a first place winner in the West Central Region of the National Association of Teachers of Singing in 2012 and a first place winner in the Barry Alexander International Vocal Competition.

She made her Carnegie Hall debut in the winner's recital for the Barry Alexander International Vocal competition on January 27, 2013. At Pittsburg State University, Jee-Yeun received the Outstanding Student award at the PSU Honors Convocation in Spring 2013 and 2015. She received an "Excellence in Scholarship" award at the Graduate Banquet in Spring 2013, 2014 and 2015. She performed with South East Kansas Symphony Orchestra as a winner of the Concerto Aria competition held in the spring of 2013. Jee-Yeun has had several roles in KU opera productions.

TODAY AT VILLAGE

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

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

There will be no church school for preschool through 6th grade today. Nursery and toddler care are available.

VILLAGE PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT - Enrollment for the 2017-18 school year at Village church Weekday Preschool begins in January! Current preschool families and Village Church members may enroll Jan. 17-20. Enrollment opens to community families on Jan. 23. Forms are available on villagepres.org. For more information, please contact Terri Gaeddert at 913-671-2338.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

THE SPRING 2017 VILLAGE U CATALOG IS NOW ONLINE.

Registration for Village U 2017 spring term:

- **For Village Church members: Registration begins on Wednesday, Jan. 11.**
- **For community members: Registration begins on Tuesday, Jan. 17.**

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS RESUME JAN. 11 – Our menu for Jan. 11 is honey Dijon chicken w/apples, scalloped potatoes, green vegetable and dessert. Each Wednesday, price is \$7 for full buffet, \$6 for salad bar and dessert. \$3-children ages 3-10. Children under 3 are free. Reservations are required by noon on the Monday preceding the Wednesday Night Dinner 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.

ALL-CHURCH WINTER BOWLING EVENT JAN. 29 - Connectional Ministries is sponsoring an "ALL-Church" Bowling Event for our Village Church Family from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 29, at Ward Parkway Lanes, 1523 W. 89 St. (89th & Stateline). We have lanes specifically reserved for Village Church at a special rate of \$5 per person (includes shoes!) for two hours of play. Indoor fun for all ages in the midst of winter. RSVP to liz.middleton@villagepres.org or call 913-671-2359.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY – The Food Pantry/Clothes Closet is now closed and will open again, after the holidays on Tuesday, Jan. 3. The building will be closed all this week so that our volunteers may spend time with family. We wish all of you a blessed New Year.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

ATTENTION FLOWER DELIVERERS AND DELIVERER WANNABES! - The annual Dates and Doughnuts is Sunday, Jan. 8. between services (9-9:30, 10:30-11 a.m. and noon-12:15 p.m.). Nancy Skidmore will be located in the Welcome Center so you can stop by, pick up a 2017 schedule and of course, a doughnut! For those wanting information about this little but mighty ministry, stop by and find out more.

WEEKLY JOB SEARCH TIPS CAN BE YOURS – If you are looking for a new position, consider signing up to receive helpful and proven weekly job search tips. If you or someone you know could benefit from receiving these, contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

GROWING THROUGH GRIEF BEGINS ON JAN. 11 - 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 4:30-5:45 p.m. every Wednesday, Jan. 11– Feb. 8, in Room 124. The series is 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

MISSION SEWING will return this Tuesday. Fabric and yarn donations welcome. All cotton and blends, large pieces, one yard or more, no fancy fabrics. We have fabric and patterns available for at-home projects. If you would like to join us, come to the sewing room from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. any Tuesday. Come and go as you want. Lunch is from noon-1 p.m., bring a sack lunch or purchase at the Village Cup. Call Edie Hultman at 913-432-3515 for more information.

WOMEN WITH SPIRIT'S CAFE & CREPES, LE TOUR - 9:45 A.M. FRIDAY, JAN. 20, AT THE ROASTERIE – It's been said coffee is a language in itself. So what better way to kick the new year off right than with a warm cup of joe with your sisters from Village?! Join us for a tour as we see, smell and taste how The Roasterie's won the hearts of KC for nearly 25 years! The Roasterie is located at 1204 W. 27th St. in Kansas City, Mo. Immediately following, around 11 a.m., we'll head over to Chez Elle, 1713 Summit St., for the perfect pairing . . . crepes! Coffee & Crepes ladies . . . ooh la la, it's a good thing! See you at The Roasterie! Email Carol Solenberger to RSVP at carol4977@yahoo.com. Child care is available from 9:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. For child care reservations, email pam@villagepres.org by Jan. 13.

WOW! LUNCH AT TATSU'S – All ladies are warmly welcome to join WOW (Women of Wisdom) for lunch at Tatsu's French Restaurant, at noon on Wednesday, Jan. 18. Tatsu's, ranked as one of the top five restaurants in KC, is located at 4603 W. 90th, near 90th and Roe. Join us for January fun and fellowship while enjoying excellent French food in a warm and quaint atmosphere. RSVP by noon, Jan. 17, to Marvie Sneegas, sneegi@kc.rr.com, 913-209-9608.

YOUTH MINISTRY

WINTER PROGRAM BREAK – All of our regular programs are on a short break due to the Holidays! Weekly programs will start back with Sunday School and Cheer on Jan. 8. Check the website at villagepresyouth.org for more information.

Annual Congregational Meeting/Dinner

This year's Annual Meeting follows dinner in Friendship Hall on Tuesday, Jan. 31. Rev. Tom Are will provide a review of 2016 and plans for 2017. The Session will present the budget for 2017. Dinner begins at 6 p.m. Seating is limited. If you plan to attend, please advise Marsha Hansen no later than Friday, Jan. 20. Call 913-671-2341 or email marsha.hansen@villagepres.org.



THE GATHERING

AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH TO WORSHIP

Our 5 p.m. alternative worship service, The Gathering, returns next Sunday, Jan. 8, in Friendship Hall. Music is led by indie folk musicians Becky and Nathan Bliss.

**Village Church will be closed Monday, Jan. 2,
in observance of the New Year's holiday.**

*Alone, we can do so little; **Together** we can do so much!*

—Helen Keller

Thank you for your thoughtful and generous commitments for Village Church in 2017. Each commitment reflects the love and dedication to God who asks us to follow his ways and spread his words.

—Village Commitment Committee



VILLAGE
COMMITMENT

**Gauging Interest Dinner for Singles Adult Ministry
at Village Church • Friday, Jan. 20**



Dear Friends,

I have been sharing conversation with Dr. Rodger Nishioka about assessing the need for specific programming for Single adults at Village Church. We would like to include you, in this conversation. So, all single adults (age 40 and up), are invited to gather together for a meal at Red Snapper Pan-Asian Restaurant on Friday, Jan. 20, from 6-8 p.m. Three classic Red Snapper menu items (Vegetarian, Chicken and Beef) will be available for a special cost of \$9 per person (payable at the event). The priority for this gathering will be to determine the level of interest for a Single Adult Ministry. Please contact Liz.middleton@villagepres.org or call 913-671-2359 to RSVP. Seating is limited to the first 45 reservations. We hope to see you there!

Cindy Wilcox, director of Connectional Ministries
Dr. Rodger Nishioka, director of Adult Educational Ministries

**Thank You Village Church Session Class of 2016
and Welcome Class of 2019**

At our last Session meeting for 2016 on Dec. 5, we said farewell to 10 members of Session who have served Village Church so well these past three years: Ginny Beall (Session clerk), Lexa Carr, Tom Dean, David Howard, Joni Kimsey, Brad Lee, Elizabeth McKell, Brian Redelsheimer, David Parks (youth) and Julie Sykes. They saw us through the historic season of the Now & Tomorrow Capital Campaign. Their last act was to approve the recommendation to start a new congregation – Village Church on Antioch. We thank them for their courage, faith and service to this church.

Next Sunday, Jan. 8, we will install 10 new elders to Session: Elder trustees Tim Laughlin, Ryan Manies and David Reinke, elders Jack Foster, Ted Higgins, Laura Strongman, Walt Tegtmeier, Suzanne Willey and Elizabeth Zakaryan, and youth elder Kennedy Krumm. We look forward to welcoming these talented individuals to the Village Church Session.

NEW SERMON SERIES

I know that's what it says, but that's not what it means!

The Bible is a complicated book, written over hundreds of years in various context and diverse circumstances. And then, it is read 2,000 years later in a world and culture the Biblical writers could not have imagined. Given all of that, it's easy to misunderstand the Bible. When it is misunderstood the good news can often sound like bad news for some folks. When it is misunderstood it can often make the Bible more difficult to trust. In this sermon series, we will take just a few passages that have often been confusing and see if there is a life-giving word for us.

Jan. 1	The Story of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation
Jan. 8	"Women Keep Silent?" This Doesn't Sound Like Good News
Jan. 15	Family Matters and the Cost of Following Jesus
Jan. 22	"Divorce" – Why the Church has Read This Text to the Wrong People
Jan. 29	"You Must be Born Again!"
Feb. 5	"Jesus is the Only Way to Salvation." This is Not About You. This is About God.
Feb. 12	Be Perfect as Your Heavenly Father is Perfect." Intimidated yet?
Feb. 19	The Only Safe Place for Hatred
Feb. 26	Pray Without Ceasing

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
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.