



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

January 7, 2018 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

Each week we consider a passage of scripture, mining it for wisdom, inspiration and life. The passages that we read week after week are part of one long story. It is the story of God's work of redemption. Today we will consider the whole story of scripture, from Genesis to Revelation. This is also the service when we ordain and install officers. Their ministry, like the ministry of us all, grows from the story of God's redemption, which we find in scripture.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Elevation Toccata
Georgio Muffat

Call to Worship

Dr. Rodger Nishioka

The first word of God was love.

“Let there be light,” God said, and the darkness receded.

Before we were even created, we were assured that light always goes before us.

The incarnate Word of God was love.

**Jesus Christ, flesh and bone, heart and breath, human and divine,
challenging and comforting, living and dying, rising and coming again.**

The ongoing word of God is love.

**Invisible as wind, ever-present as oxygen,
the Spirit keeps the promise, “I am with you always, to the end of the age.”**

God's love is relentless and unchanging, offered to us and to the whole world.

“Love one another,” Jesus said.

“Just as I have loved you, you should love one another.”

*Hymn, No. 611

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
HYMN TO JOY

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

Scripture is given to us as a gift, and yet we dare to be casual with it.

We read it when we remember.

We are selective in our study.

Scripture is intended to offer life, and yet we wield it as a weapon.

We quote it most often in arguments.

We use it to exclude, rather than include.

Scripture is your eternal word to us, and yet we dismiss it so easily.

We cite antiquated language and customs.

We suspect our problems are too complex for ancient answers.

Forgive us, O God, when we do not trust your sacred story. (Silent prayer)

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Passing of the Peace

Words of Welcome

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination Sandy Linson (8 a.m.); Sarah Dornbusch (9:30 a.m.); Sharolyn Molle (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Genesis 1:1-5 (pg. 1)

Call to Prayer (8 a.m.)

For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits



For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits; tru-ly my hope is in you.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (8 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.

Scripture Reading

John 1:1-5 (pg. 966)

Sermon

The Story of Scripture

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 462

I Love to Tell the Story

HANKEY

Offertory

The King Of Love My Shepherd Is
arr. Mark Schweizer; Village Choir

*Response

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

SERVICE OF ORDINATION

The Ordination and Installation of Deacons (9:30 a.m.) and Elders and Elder Trustees (11 a.m.)
Those being ordained and/or installed as Deacons (Y signifies Youth Deacon):

Mary Chris Blickhan	Barbara Jaekel	Emily Rundle	Bob Walsh
Mark Bonavia	Gary Raetz	Bill Seifert	Chris Wendelbo
Jay Dunfield	Jane Raetz	Cyndi Seifert	Sue Wendelbo
Julia Dunfield	Dale Ramsey	Colby Sullivan	Jan Witzke
Ken Foley	Marcia Ramsey	Jenny Sullivan	Ron Witzke
Tami Greenberg	Brett Rundle	Melinda Tiemeyer	Lauren Dornbusch - Y

Those being ordained and/or installed as Elders (Y signifies Youth Elder):

Susan Cope	Scott Stanley	Abby Schipfer - Y
Judy Heeter	Carol Tucker	Sam Vaughan - Y
Shelby Krumm	Charles Vincent	

Those being ordained and/or installed as Elder Trustees:

Barbara Brown	Jan Creidenberg	Greg Maday
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The Constitutional Questions for Officers

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

Will you be governed by our church's policy, and will you abide by its discipline?

Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Work and Spirit?

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbor and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Do you promise to further the peace, unity and purity of the church?

Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination and love?

(For Elders) Will you be a faithful Elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

(For Deacons) Will you be a faithful Deacon, teaching charity, urging concern and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

The Constitutional Questions for the Congregation

Do we, the members of the church, accept these brothers and sisters as Elders or Deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

*Hymn, No. 667 (v. 1-3)

When Morning Gilds the Skies
LAUDES DOMINI

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine: may Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this the eternal song through all the ages long: may Jesus Christ be praised!

*Postlude

Laudes Domini
Robert Lind

THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of January 8, 2018)

The following daily Bible readings were written by 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, Jan. 8

Isaiah 1:16-18

As the Christian church recalls the baptism of Jesus, it is good to remember that baptism did not start with us. Ritual cleansing is an ancient one for many civilizations. In this passage at the very beginning of Isaiah, the prophet tells the Hebrew people that they must wash themselves and then live faithful and obedient lives caring for the oppressed, the orphan and the widow. For the Jewish people, ritual washing always leads to acts of faithfulness.

Tuesday, Jan. 9

Mark 1:4-8

John the baptizer, the cousin of Jesus, was welcoming people to the river Jordan and was offering them cleansing. In verse five, we read that they were "confessing their sins." This comes from the Hebrew tradition that part of cleansing in water is to confess one's sins against God. For the Jewish people, cleansing is not to be taken lightly. For Christians, being baptized means being made clean.

Wednesday, Jan. 10

Matthew 3:1-12

In Matthew's gospel, John's voice is much more judgmental. First he calls the religious leaders a "brood of vipers." Then he warns all that while he is baptizing with water, one who is much more powerful is coming to baptize with "the Holy Spirit and fire." We must be careful not to romanticize baptism. John's words remind us that in baptism, a power is unleashed upon us. Theologians link repentance with baptism. You cannot have one without the other.

Thursday, Jan. 11

Mark 1:9-11

All four gospels tell the story of Jesus' baptism. They all record some kind of recognition of God's spirit descending on Jesus. Many Bible scholars say that the baptism of Jesus marks his identity as God's son. This reminds us all that in baptism, we are given a new identity. Like Jesus, we are named as God's children. This is the most important name that we will carry for our whole lives. In baptism, like Jesus, we are claimed as God's own forever.

Friday, Jan. 12

Mark 1:12-13

In Matthew, Mark and Luke, immediately after his baptism, Jesus goes through a 40-day period of trial and temptation by Satan. Theologians believe this is significant because it helps us understand that even though we are claimed by God in baptism, that gracious act does not free us from temptation and trial. Christians are not immune to struggles and pain and suffering. The late Reformed theologian John Leith wrote that "Christians are not so distinguished by what happens to us but in how we respond to what happens to us."

Saturday, Jan. 13

Acts 10:44-48

The baptism of Gentiles marks a turning point for the early church. Peter visits the home of Cornelius, a devout Roman centurion. Peter and his followers are astounded to discover that the Holy Spirit is at work among these non-Jews, so he baptizes them in Jesus' name. For the first time, we see that the baptism that Jesus offers is for all people because God claims all people as God's own. What a remarkable gift!



FOR CHURCH & COMMUNITY

SPRING VILLAGE U CLASS REGISTRATION

Opens Jan. 10 for church members
Jan. 16 for the community

See the course catalog at
villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes

All-Church Winter

BOWLING

Event Ward Parkway Lanes

2-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28

Contact Cindy at cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org



TODAY AT VILLAGE

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

JOINING VILLAGE CHURCH – Village welcomes **new members** every other month at a special Sunday luncheon. Please join us Feb. 4, March 25 and June 10. 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.

NEW TO US? Village Presbyterian Church is a family of faith actively shaped by the life of Christ to love one another, provide leadership for the transformation of our communities and serve the world. We are a Presbyterian (USA) family of faith that is inclusive, generous and welcoming of all people.

Village Presbyterian Church is now one church worshipping at two campuses: Village on Mission (6641 Mission Road in Prairie Village) and Village on Antioch (14895 Antioch Road in Overland Park).

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

VILLAGE U SPRING 2018 – The Spring 2018 Village U catalog is now posted online at villagepres.org. Registration for church members opens at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 10. Registration for the community opens at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16.

Upcoming Village U class:

ESPECIALLY FOR WOMEN - is a thoughtful group of women exploring our faith through lively discussion of the Bible and theology. In January and February, join us for an introduction to the 2018 Visiting Scholar, Dr. Serene Jones, who will discuss her understanding of faith and life in America today where many issues challenge us as individuals and as a nation. 9:30-11 a.m. Fridays, Jan.12-May 18, Room 132.

SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES RESUME TODAY, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

FAITH JOURNEY – This class is studying Dr. Marcus Borg's book, "The Heart of Christianity-Rediscovering a Life of Faith." Borg explores what he calls two paradigms for looking at our faith and how those can work together. Taught by Kathy Ray, Room 230.

FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH – This class is studying the significance of Jerusalem, the holiest city for the three Abrahamic faiths of Islam, Judaism and Christianity. Taught by the Rev. Dwight Tawney, the class enjoys thoughtful discussions and conversation prompted by this beloved teacher who served as one of the pastors here at Village Church. Room 132.

VILLAGE FORUM – The class will explore the life and works of Reinhold Niebuhr today and Jan. 14. Niebuhr was considered a public theologian, a major voice of the 20th century, influencing thought politically and socially, as well as religiously. Dr. John Borden will host a film and discussion of this most colorful figure of the last century. Room 126.

GROWING TOGETHER – This class continues their reading and study of the Acts of the Apostles. Taught by Lawrence Andre, the group is reading through the entire book of Acts over this year. The study is geared for persons in their 30s and 40s. Room 124.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." Matthew 19:14. All children are invited to our Christ-centered, child-centered Sunday mornings:

BIRTH-6TH GRADE – Registration cards and classroom schedules are available at sign-in desks outside of Rooms 107 and 307.

INFANTS-TODDLERS – Child care available for all three morning Sanctuary services in Rooms 111 and 114.

PRESCHOOLERS – Preschool Sunday School, 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Rooms 101-107.

K-6TH GRADERS- KID'S KINGDOM SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:30-10:30 a.m., K-3 beginning in Room 309, 4-5 in Room 301 and 6 in Room 302. Please see signage for pick-up room location.

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS – 10:30-11 a.m. Prelude choir (K-2) Room 307. Morning Stars choir (3-6) Room 305.

VILLAGE PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT – Enrollment begins Tuesday, Jan. 16, for Village Church members and current Village Preschool families. Community enrollment begins Monday, Jan. 22. All enrollment forms can be found online at villagepres.org under Connect>Children and Families>Preschool. Village Church Weekday Preschool is a part-time, school-year program for three-, four-, and five-year-old children. Contact Preschool Director Sarah McKee at sarah.mckee@villagepres.org or 913-671-2338 for more information.

BAPTISM– The first Baptism Sunday for 2018 is scheduled for Jan. 21. A Baptism Education class is offered for all families new to Village Baptism on Jan. 10. Contact Kate Ruecker in the Children and Family Ministry office at 913-671-2350 or kate.ruecker@villagepres.org for more information.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER – Our menu for Jan. 10 is honey dijon chicken w/apples, rice pilaf primavera and a green vegetable. The salad bar opens at 5:15 p.m.; hot food buffet is open 5:30-6:30 p.m. Full meal with salad bar and dessert is \$7. Salad bar and dessert is \$6. Children ages 4-10 are \$3 and children age 3 and under are no charge. Contact Liz Middleton (913-671-2359) or liz.middleton@villagepres.org for reservations by noon tomorrow.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY – It's the first Sunday of 2018 and the Food Pantry and Clothes Closet are hoping that you made a resolution in the New Year to bring a food or Pantry item to the church each week on your visit to the church - one can of food or one article of clothing weekly! The Pantry is asking for spinach, beets and pork and beans. The Closet is hoping for small kitchen items: manual can opener, pots and pans, kitchen towels, etc. Thank you.

VILLAGE CHURCH COOKS A MEAL AT CROSS-LINES – On Friday, Jan. 12, Village will for cook and serve a meal at the Cross-Lines kitchen in Kansas City, Kan. We need two to three people from 9:30-11 a.m. for prep and six to seven volunteers to serve and clean up from 11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m. We also need cookie donations. They can be dropped off at the church reception desk from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 11. If you can help, contact Jim Bolton at 913-262-7618 or jcb3832@gmail.com.

THE VILLAGE CHURCH MISSION COMMITTEE is now accepting applications for local community grants in the areas of homelessness, hunger and childhood education. Grant sizes range from \$2,500 to \$21,000. More information on the grants is available on the application form on the Village website under Mission in the menu bar. The deadline is Feb. 28. For more information, contact Deborah White in the mission office at 913-671-2369 or deborah.white@villagepres.org.

MUSIC MINISTRY

SECOND THURSDAY RECITAL – Please join us to hear pianist Dr. Robert Weirich at 12:15 p.m. this Thursday, Jan. 11, in the Village on Mission Chapel. Weirich, professor of piano at the UMKC Conservatory of Music, will play a program of encores.

LOOKING FOR MUSICIANS – Have you thought about joining one of Village's many choirs or bell ensembles in the new year? Do you play an instrument and would like to get involved? We'd love to have you, and there is always a place for you! Contact any of our music staff to learn more about how to get involved at <http://www.villagepres.org/music-sta.html>.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

DO YOU KNOW YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE? – On the first Sunday of each month, get your blood pressure checked for free by the Village nurses. Come by the Bride's Room between 10:30-11 a.m. today.

FAITH AND GRIEF LUNCH IS THIS TUESDAY – If you are grieving, consider joining us for the monthly Faith and Grief lunch at noon Tuesday, Jan. 9, in the west side of Friendship Hall. A box lunch is provided. Reservations are helpful; register online at faithandgrief.org or call 469-251-9612. Contact Linda Alley at linda.alley@villagepres.org or 913-671-2327 for more information.

HELP DELIVER A LITTLE BRIGHTNESS THIS YEAR – If you would like to deliver flowers to those who are hospitalized or cannot make it to church, consider delivering flowers throughout the year. Find out more at the annual Dates and Doughnuts next Sunday, Jan. 14 between services (9-9:30 a.m., 10:30-11 a.m. and 12-12:15 p.m.) Nancy Skidmore will be in the Welcome Center. Please stop by and get information, a schedule and, of course, a doughnut!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

MISSION SEWING has resumed its Tuesday schedule. New sewers as well as non-sewers are welcome, particularly during the afternoon hours from 1-3 p.m. We are open from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. You may come and go as your time allows. Lunch is at noon; bring your own or take advantage of the Village Cup. For more information, call Edie Hultman at 913-432-3515.

WOW LUNCHEON – Women of Wisdom (WOW) invites all women to kick off the new year with lunch and warm fellowship at Café Provence at noon Wednesday, Jan. 10. Located in the PV Shopping Center at 3936 W. 69th Terr., this charming restaurant serves authentic French cuisine in a cozy setting with a quiet ambiance. RSVP to Diane Lee, 913-432-4321, or dianelee@att.net by tomorrow, Jan. 8.

WOMEN WITH SPIRIT – Join us on Friday, Jan. 19, in the small Dining Room from 9:30-11:30 a.m. to laugh, chat, chew, share and read! Wrap one of your favorite books (new or used) to swap for another's good read. And, in the spirit of giving, please consider bringing a gently used or new book for a sweet child at Operation Breakthrough. To reserve your spot, email shelbykrumm@yahoo.com no later than Wednesday, Jan. 10. Need child care? Email Pam at pam.southerland@villagepres.org no later than Jan. 12.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

THEOLOGY THURSDAYS – 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday nights, beginning Jan. 18. We'll get together with pizza to talk about big things and practice bringing community together. For January and February, we'll be reading and talking about who we believe God to be with the help of Rob Bell's book, "What We Talk About When We Talk About God." Let's start our year in the best way, together!

PROFESS/CONFESS – It's often easier to define ourselves by the things we aren't about, than the things we are. So what do we believe? This is a "2.0" young adult class for those who want to go deeper. Bi-weekly meetings are on Sunday evenings after The Gathering. Read more and register online by Jan. 18.

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 SCHOOL (middle school and high school) – 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the Youth Loft (Room 333).

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

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

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

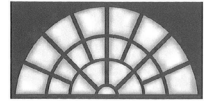
EARLY TABLE (morning devotional for high schoolers with food) – Thursdays, 7:30-8:15 a.m. at Zach's house (5401 W. 77th St., Prairie Village, Kan.) And yes, we give you a ride to school afterward if you need it!

Giving Through Your Estate Plan

Each year, bequests from the estates of deceased members and friends are received. These gifts make a tremendous difference to Village Church and the people we serve.

As you revise or create your estate plan, we hope you will include Village Church Endowment Trust. Through God's grace and your generosity, Village Church will be able to serve our members, our community and our world for generations to come.

Please let us know if you have included Village Church in your estate plan and become a member of the **Meneilly Society**. Contact Molly Sirridge, 913-671-2325 or email molly.sirridge@villagepres.org



Village Presbyterian Church
ENDOWMENT TRUST
Care • Dream • Participate



Winter Weather Advisory

If the weather forecast is to have 4 inches or more snowfall during Saturday night, the 8 a.m. worship service at Village on Mission will be cancelled.

Annual Congregational Meeting/Dinner

This year an annual meeting will take place at the Mission campus and the Antioch campus. You are welcome to attend the meeting at either location. Rev. Tom Are will provide a review of 2017 and plans for 2018. The Session will present the budget for 2018.

MISSION LOCATION – The Annual Meeting follows dinner in Friendship Hall on **Tuesday, Jan. 30**. Dinner begins at 6 p.m. **Seating is limited**. If you plan to attend, please advise Marsha Hansen no later than Wednesday, Jan. 17, at 913-671-2341 or marsha.hansen@villagepres.org.

ANTIOCH LOCATION – The Annual Meeting begins at 7 p.m. **Tuesday, Feb. 6**, preceded by a light dinner at 6:30 p.m. If you plan to attend, please advise the Antioch location at 913-681-8180 or online at villageantioch.org/events no later than Monday, Jan. 29.

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Jan. 14 Commissioning Stephen Ministers

NEW SERMON SERIES BEGINS JAN. 21

How Do You Know?

Pontius Pilate asked Jesus, "What is truth?" It's an important question, but there is another question to answer first. How do you know the truth is genuinely true? How do you know that there are 300 sextillion stars in the universe or that you are made of atoms? How do you know that Columbus "discovered" America? How do you know that Jesus is Lord? How do you know that Muhammad is not? There is likely disagreement on any of these truth claims. In this series, we will consider not simply what it means to talk about the content of truth, but how we know the truth to be true.

Jan. 21	Truth Is Personal
Jan. 28	Truth and Knowledge Are Not the Same, But They Are Friends
Feb. 4	I am Blind But Think I See
Feb. 11	Thank God For What You Don't Know

MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Thomas L. Are, Jr., senior pastor ❖ Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist

Will Breytspraak, director of music ❖ Rev. Len Carrell, pastor of pastoral care

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

Rev. Jenny McDevitt, pastor of pastoral care ❖ Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate

Matthew C. Shepard, associate director of music ❖ Molly Serridge, director of stewardship and endowments

Rev. Zach Walker, pastor of youth ministries ❖ Deborah White, director of mission

Cindy A. Wilcox, director of connectional ministries ❖ Ellen Wootton, interim director of children and family ministry

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 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.