SERVICE OF WORSHIP
January 14, 2018 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY’S SERVICE

A man approaches Jesus and states, “If you choose, you can make me clean.” Then, we read, Jesus was “moved with pity.” The Greek word *splanchnizomai* really means “an inward movement of the guts.” You understand why the translators went with less graphic language, don’t you? But this is less about digestive troubles and more about the way we are hard-wired. Jesus knows, in the deepest, innate way, what choice he is to make. Here’s how he knows: God always wants the most life-giving way for us. All throughout the gospels, time and time again, Jesus chooses to follow God’s way in the world. And to choose God is to choose one another, too.
GOD’S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Toccata in g minor
Jan Adam Reincken

Call to Worship

In every season,
in every circumstance, worship is what we do:

    when we are filled with joy
    when we are anxious about the future
    when we need a friend
    when we are full of good news
    when we need to hear good news.

We were made to worship God,
and God will always find us here.

*Hymn, No. 664

Morning Has Broken
BUNESSAN

*Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,
Your faithfulness startles us.
We complain, wander, and stumble;
you love us.
We are broken, wounded, and afraid;
you love us.
We are full of questions, doubt, and indignation;
you love us.
We wonder how this could be possible, and through it all:
you love us.
Help us be as loyal to you
as you are to us. (Silent prayer)
*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response

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\begin{music}
\f\text{Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.}
\end{music}
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*Passing of the Peace

Words of Welcome

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

Diann Markely (8 a.m.)
George Beaumont (9:30 a.m.)
Charles Schultz (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Joshua 24:1-18 (pg. 213)

Call to Prayer

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\begin{music}
\f\text{For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits; truly my hope is in you.}
\end{music}
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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  
Mark 1:40-45 (pg. 911)

Sermon  
*Hard Choices and Gut Decisions*  
Rev. Jenny McDevitt

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

*Hymn, No. 300*  
*We Are One in the Spirit*  
THEY’LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

Commissioning of Stephen Ministers (9:30 a.m.)

Offertory  
*Laudate Dominum*  
W.A. Mozart; Village Choir;  
Jee-Yeun Kim (8 a.m.), Carol Royster (9:30 a.m.), Rachel Priest (11 a.m.)

Praise the Lord, all nations;  
Praise Him, all people.  
For He has bestowed  
His mercy upon us,  
And the truth of the Lord endures forever.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever,  
and for generations of generations.  
Amen.

*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.
ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

Today's organ prelude and postlude come from the creative mind of Baroque Dutch-German composer Jan Adam Reincken. His toccata is made up of free, improvisatory-feeling sections that are interspersed with brief imitative sections. These many and varied textures are nicely celebrated by the pipe organ, with its many and varied registration options. The fugue is a lively spielfuga, meant to excite the listener with its playful perpetual motion. It reminds me of winter, for some reason.

Reincken's compositional output was very small, particularly compared to those of his contemporaries like Dieterich Buxtehude. He was considered an improvisor of the highest caliber, who only undertook to write down a handful of compositions. Through his few extant works, we can imagine what his artful and celebrated improvisations may have sounded like, and for a moment find ourselves in a different time and place.
The following daily Bible readings were written by Rev. Zach Walker 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. 15**

_1 Kings 19:1-15_

These verses speak of a time when Elijah was on the run, feeling broken, and desperately seeking God's presence. There are times in any week when we are in need of that mighty, yet still, small voice that is God's presence in the midst of our brokenness. Prophetic voices are often those voices that speak to broken truths that ail us. The voices of Martin Luther King, Jr. was one of those, and is worth reflecting as we consider prophetic truths still being spoken today.

**Tuesday, Jan. 16**

_Acts 16:11-15_

Paul, among many other things, was a traveler. He had a passion for going to new places and encountering new people for the sake of Christ. While we aren’t all adventurous travelers like Paul, how do you encounter new and different people in your day-to-day life? And how do you bring the Good News of love and compassion into their lives?

**Wednesday, Jan. 17**

_Matthew 26:26-30_

It’s easy to overlook how often Christ gave thanks; in these verses of the Last Supper before he is betrayed, Christ gives thanks twice. One can’t help but wonder what, on this night of all nights, Jesus offered up as thanks. How do we give thanks, even if we know there are issues and challenges ahead of us?

**Thursday, Jan. 18**

_Colossians 2:6-7_

Paul encourages the Colossians, and us, to be rooted and built up, abounding in thanksgiving. In what ways must we recognize God’s love for us in order to accomplish this? Spend some time reflecting on what it means that God loves you. How do you return that love?

**Friday, Jan. 19**

_Psalm 51_

Brokenness comes in many different forms. Sometimes it is not the brokenness of the surrounding world that harms us as much as our own inner brokenness. This psalm reaches out to God in brokenness honestly and with an open desire for God to heal.

**Saturday, Jan. 20**

_Luke 3:15-17, 21-22_

Who do other people say you are? And who do you know yourself to be? Do those two things line up? And, perhaps most important, how do you think those answers come as a result of who God calls us to be in this world? Perhaps we are our best selves – our fullest expression of humanity – when we seek to discover who we are in light of who God is to us, and to all of Creation, and then act in gratitude and response.
All-Church Winter Event
Ward Parkway Lanes
2-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28
Contact Cindy at cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY
FEB. 4
BRING CANS OF HEARTY SOUP TO CHURCH FOR THE FOOD PANTRY
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. 11, March 25 and June 10. Contact cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org for info.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL TODAY are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Dottie and Deke Harberts by their family.

PLEASE WELCOME SIX NEW STEPHEN MINISTERS – Today we celebrate the commissioning of six new Stephen Ministers: Becky Anderson, Jim Bolton, Diane Johnson, Chris Lewis, Julia Scammahorn and Suzi Sheperd. Sally Huggins and Rachel Reuber will be serving our neighbors at Colonial Church of Prairie Village. These faithful individuals have received more than 50 hours of training so that they may walk alongside those who are grieving and facing life’s transitions. We are truly grateful for the spirit of grace and truth in these new Stephen Ministers.

TRY TAIZÉ TONIGHT – Need a moment of peace and quiet? Wishing to receive communion? Come at 6:30 p.m. tonight to the Taizé worship at the VCCFDC at 9900 Mission Road. Experience worship filled with song, scripture, communion, candlelight and moments of silence and contemplation.

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.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

VILLAGE U SPRING 2018 – Registration for church members is now open. Community registration opens at 9 a.m. this Tuesday, Jan. 16. See the website for a listing of the over 60 courses offered. Go to villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes.

SPECIAL SUNDAY MORNING CLASS DISCUSSION ON KANSAS MEDICAID EXPANSION – 10:45-11:45 a.m. Jan. 21. Join Village member and State Senator Barbara Bollier (R-6th District) and Sheldon Weisgrau, director of Health Reform Resource Project, for a conversation on Medicaid expansion in Kansas, one of the issues that is coming to the state legislature. Why should we care about this? What are the positives and negatives? Moderated by Dr. Rodger Nishioka. Room 232-233.

SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES, 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. 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.

**KID’S KINGDOM SUNDAY SCHOOL – NEW** – 9:25-10:30 a.m., K-6 beginning in Room 309 for ALL-Sing. Please see signage for pick-up room location.

**MORNING STARS CHILDREN’S CHOIRS** – We invite parents to enjoy the new near-by coffee and “Friendship” space. Prelude choir (K-2) Room 307; Morning Stars choir (3-6) Room 305.

**BAPTISMS** – Next Sunday, Jan. 21.

**NEW BABIES** – Please contact our department with your news so that we can share the announcement and help the Church family celebrate the new birth. Call Kate Ruecker 913-671-2350 or email kate.ruecker@villagepres.org.

**VILLAGE ON MISSION 2018/2019 PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT** – Tuesday, Jan. 16, is the first enrollment date 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 913-671-2338 or sarah.mckee@villagepres.org with questions.

**PARENT WORKSHOP - KINDERGARTEN READINESS and TRANSITION** – Please join VOM Preschool Director Sarah McKee for discussion and a panel of parents who have recently sent their children to Kindergarten, to answer your questions. 9:30-11:15 a.m. Friday, Jan. 26, in Room 127. Call Pam Southerland at 913-671-2352 for child care reservations by Thursday, Jan. 18.

**VILLAGE ON MISSION VILLAGE U CHILD CARE REGISTRATION** for the spring semester has begun for church members and alumni. Community members sign up begins at 9 a.m. this Tuesday, Jan. 16. Call Pam Southerland at 913-671-2352 to make your child care reservations.

**CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES**

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER** – Our menu for Jan. 17 is beef stew, vegetarian stew and mini corn dogs. 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** – The "big" football game is Sunday, Feb. 4, which is, of course, the date of the Food Pantry’s first food drive of 2018 - Souper Bowl Sunday. You have three weeks to search the sales for hearty soups. Please be generous. Hearty soups (a staple in the diets of the Pantry's clients) along with a box of crackers will make a warm lunch or dinner on a cold winter day. Thank you.

**BLOOD DRIVE** - Village will host a blood drive from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 23, in Rooms 132 and 133. To make an appointment online, visit esavealifenow.org and use sponsor code of “villagepres” or stop by our registration table in Friendship Hall from 9 a.m.-noon today and Jan. 21. For additional details, contact Ann Colston at 913-722-0165 or acolston1113@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. Contact info at 913-671-2369 or deborah.white@villagepres.org.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

DELIVERING FLOWERS BRIGHTENS LIVES – If you would like to deliver flowers to those who are hospitalized or cannot make it to church, consider helping throughout the year. Find out more at the annual Dates and Doughnuts today between services (9-9:30, 10:30-11 a.m. and noon-12:15 p.m.) Nancy Skidmore will be in the Welcome Center so please stop by, get information, a schedule and of course, a doughnut!

NEW WINTER SESSION DATES FOR GROWING THROUGH GRIEF – Growing Through Grief, a five-week class for those who have lost a loved one, has a new winter schedule. Classes begin Feb. 7 and will be from 4:45-6 p.m. every Wednesday, Feb. 7-March 7, in Room 124. Registration is required; to find out more or to register, contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

MEMORIES IN THE MAKING/ALZHEIMER’S SUPPORT GROUP MEETS THIS WEEK – Memories in the Making helps those with Alzheimer’s express their inner feelings and thoughts through painting. A support group meets at the same time in a different room. You are invited to come to the first session of the year from 3-5 p.m. this Wednesday, Jan. 17. Painting is in Room 126 and the Support Group meets in Room 124. Contact Rev. Len Carrell at len.carrell@villagepres.org to find out more.

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.

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 Thursday, Jan. 18.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES RESUME JAN. 21 – All of our regular programs are on a short break while we are away on (and then recovering from) our annual ski retreat in Colorado with over 120 students! Weekly programs will start back on Sunday, Jan. 21, with Sunday School (9:30 a.m.) and SNL (high school youth group, 6:30-8:30 p.m.), Twosdays (middle school after-school program, Tuesdays 4-5:30 p.m.), GPS (middle school youth group, Wednesdays 6:30-8 p.m.), and Early Table (high school morning devotional, Thursdays 7:30-8:15 a.m.). Check the youth website (villagepresyouth.org) for more information. And please pray for our group as we travel, ski and hear about God’s work in our lives.

PLEASE NOTE: Village Church will be closed Monday, Jan. 15, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
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 CAMPUS – 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 CAMPUS – 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.

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.

What if you were following a plan for your money that you KNEW worked? With Dave Ramsey’s class Financial Peace University, you CAN take control of your money, get out of debt, and create a plan for your future. If you’re interested in learning more, call Molly Sirridge at 913-671-2325.
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 Sirridge, 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.