What is truth? Is it something we know? Is it something we believe? Is it objective? Is it knowable at all? In this sermon series we will consider important questions about the nature of truth. But we will also reflect on a prior question: how do you know what you believe to be true is actually true? As people of faith, we care about truth, so these questions are important matters of faith.
GOD’S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring
arr. Myra Hess; J.S. Bach

Call to Worship

Rev. Hallie Hottle

We gather with big questions:

What is truth?
Who will love me?
Can this hurt be healed?
Where are we going?
When will we get there?

Into all of our curiosity and uncertainty, Jesus reminds us:

“I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life.”

Because of this, we gather with big questions,
but also with great hope.

*Hymn, No. 15 (v. 1-4)

All Creatures of Our God and King
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,
Forgive us when we think we know it all.
Forgive us when we think the truth comes from us,
and depends upon our cleverness.
Forgive us when we prioritize ideas over people,
and being correct over being Christian.
Forgive us when, in pursuit of your answers,
we trample on your grace. (Silent prayer)

*Assurance of God's Grace
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.

The Sacrament of Baptism (9:30, 11 a.m.)

Baptismal Response

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 a.m.)

Spirit of Truth  
music: Philip Wilby; Village Voices

Scripture Reading

John 14:1-7 (pg. 982)
RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No.410

God Is Calling through the Whisper
W ŻLOBIE LEZY

Offertory

If Ye Love Me
Thomas Tallis; Village Choir

If ye love me, keep my commandments,
and I will pray the Father,
and he shall give you another comforter,
that he may ‘bide with you forever,
e'en the spirit of truth. (John 14:15-17)

*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

*Hymn, No. 475 (v. 1,2)

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
NETTLETON

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

O to grace how great a debtor daily I’m constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee,
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here’s my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

*Postlude

Blessed Assurance
arr. Mark Hayes

*All who are able may stand
© A-705103 for all hymns
ABOUT TODAY’S MUSIC

Today’s Choral Anthem, *If Ye Love Me*, is a motet composed during the reign of Edward VI. Each syllable has one note, and the four parts – Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass – sing the first words together (“If ye love me, keep my commandments”). Then each voice enters separately for the rest of the verses from St. John’s Gospel (“and I will pray the Father . . . e'en the spirit of truth”), creating a complex, though clear, interweaving of the voices. Tallis also repeats the last part of the verse: “that he may 'bide with you forever, e'en the spirit of truth.” —Stephanie Mann

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Dedicated Pipe Organ Recital

The Bach Aria Soloists & Opus 22 played by Dr. Elisa Bickers

7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10

Get tickets at bachariasoloists.com
The following daily Bible readings were written by Rev. Jenny McDevitt 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. 22**

Psalm 13

Of our 150 psalms, one-third of them are psalms of lament. This reminds us that we are not the first to express grief, anger, fear, and confusion to God. God can handle it; in fact, God wants to be in relationship with us — on our best days and on our worst days. And notice this: at the end of each psalm of lament, even still, there is praise to God. Are you in the habit of expressing lament in your prayers? How might this strengthen your prayer life?

**Tuesday, Jan. 23**

Psalm 23

This is the most familiar psalm of all. We often associate it with funerals, but this psalm also has a word for the living. It is a word of steadfast care in all situations. It is a word of care for all of God’s children, including our enemies. It reassures us that God’s goodness and mercy are with us always. Who in your life needs to be reminded of this today?

**Wednesday, Jan. 24**

Psalm 22

Having read Psalm 23 yesterday, put it in conversation with Psalm 22 today. Psalm 23 assures us of God’s everlasting presence; Psalm 22 begins with a heartbreaking question: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Jesus echoes these words toward the end of his life, but he was not the first to say this. These two psalms, taken together, affirm that in life and in death, when our hearts are broken and when are hearts are full, God is with us. When life feels like Psalm 22, remember that Psalm 23 is coming.

**Thursday, Jan. 25**

Psalm 119

This is the longest psalm of all — and it details the delight of the law. How often do we give thanks for rules and commandments? However, this psalm reminds us that God gives us guidance in all things, and offers us structure when the world is shaking. When else in your life have you been grateful for the law — of any sort? How does God’s law reflect God’s love?

**Friday, Jan. 26**

Psalm 136

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; God’s steadfast love endures forever. Today, create your own psalm using this refrain. List moments when you have trusted — or are trying to trust — that God’s steadfast love endures. It is always the right time to practice thanksgiving.

**Saturday, Jan. 27**

Psalm 139

This is a much beloved psalm. It reminds us that there is no corner of creation that can keep us hidden from God. Not the heights of heaven nor the depths of hell; not as far as the eye can see or the eagle can fly. Not even darkness can keep God away. We have been known from the first moment of our existence. Toward the end, the psalmist prays: search me, O God, and know my heart. What would God find in your heart today? What would you want God to find?
All-Church Winter Bowling 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.

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM TODAY – Please welcome these newest members into our faith community as we celebrate the baptisms of the following children: **9:30 a.m.**: Cora June and Maxwell Jennings Berka (Jennifer and Ed Berka, parents); Silas Boyd Walker Holladay (Meredith Holladay and Zach Walker, parents); and at **11 a.m.**: Emily Elizabeth Kinkade (Allison and Tony Kinkade, parents); Lillian Grace Logan (Jordan and Chris Logan, parents).

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.

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

VILLAGE U SPRING 2018 – Registration is now open. See the website for a listing of the over 60 courses offered. Go to villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes.

HERMAN MELVILLE: THE SHORTER WORKS – Arguably the greatest U.S. writer of the nineteenth century, Herman Melville was consumed by making sense of, or at times just making fun of, the deep inequalities surrounding him in the post-Revolutionary United States. Individuals from all circumstances engaged both Melville’s attention and sympathies. Taught by Kelly Fast. 6:30-8 p.m. Thursdays, Feb. 1-May 10, Room 232.

BREAKFAST AND BIBLE WITH YOUR BUDDIES – Join Rev. Tom Are, Jr. for a morning Bible study. Chef Emily will prepare a hot breakfast, and Rev. Are will offer a reflection on passages from Scripture. There will be time for discussion as well. To make a reservation for breakfast, contact marianne.weber@villagepres.org. 7:30-8:30 a.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 6-27; March 6-20, Room 228 Cost: $6. Child care is not available.

DAILY PRACTICE OF YOGA – Meditation, yoga and breathing exercises help individuals with an overall sense of peace and calm, greater clarity of mind, flexibility of body and an expanded self-awareness. Taught by Jack Whitaker, Chopra Center certified instructor. 10-11:30 a.m. Tuesdays, Room 15. Session one: seven classes, Feb. 6-27 and March 6-20. The first class is free. The remaining six classes are $50 per session.

MAKING SENSE OF THE DOCTRINE OF THE TRINITY – For many, the notion of the Trinity is the most puzzling of our theological claims; yet it is essential to how we understand the very nature of God and God’s activity in the world. We will explore the doctrine of the Trinity and how it has evolved throughout the life of the church. Taught by Dr. Rodger Nishioka. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 7-28, Rooms 126/127.

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. 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** – If you are interested in biblically-based lessons that help you increase your impact on others in your life, then you should drop into Room 124 at 9:30 a.m. You'll find a small group exploring the Acts of the Apostles. Facilitated by Lawrence Andre, the group is asking where we are called as apostles and what that even means.

**SPECIAL SUNDAY MORNING CLASS DISCUSSION ON KANSAS MEDICAID EXPANSION** – 10:45-11:45 a.m. today. 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.

**CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY**

**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 and the evening Gathering in Rooms 111 and 114.

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

**K-6th GRADERS** – Kids’ Kingdom Sunday School begins in Room 309 with “All-sing” at 9:25 a.m.

**CHILDREN’S CHOIRS** – Morning Stars Prelude Choir for K-2nd graders meets in Room 307. Morning Stars Choir for 3rd-6th graders meets in Room 305. They go directly from Sunday School at 10:30-11 a.m.

**BAPTISMS** – Future baptism dates are March 18 and May 13. An education class is offered for those members new to Village baptism. Call Kate Ruecker 913-671-2350 or email kate.ruecker@villagepres.org for information or registration.

**STORYTIME** – 10-11 a.m. Jan. 23. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month in the Children’s Library and Creation Station. Call 913-671-2350 to RSVP.

**NEW BABIES** – Please help us welcome new babies and celebrate their birth! Call Kate Ruecker at 913-671-2350 or email kate.ruecker@villagepres.org.

**VILLAGE U CHILD CARE REGISTRATION** for the spring semester has begun. Call Pam Southerland at 913-671-2352 to register.

**VILLAGE ON MISSION PRESCHOOL 2018/2019 ENROLLMENT** – Community enrollment begins tomorrow. Contact Sarah McKee at 913-671-2338 or sarah.mckee@villagepres.org with questions.

**VILLAGE ON MISSION PRESCHOOL PARENT WORKSHOP** – Kindergarten Readiness and Transition is from 9:30-11:15 a.m. Friday, Jan. 26, in Room 127. Join Sarah McKee for discussion and a panel of parents who have recently sent their children to Kindergarten.

**CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES**

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER** – Our menu for Jan. 24 is tuna noodle casserole, chicken cacciatore over quinoa pilaf. 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 two weeks until SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY and this week there were no cans of hearty soups on the shelves of the Food Pantry. YOU can make a difference for the clients of the Pantry by bringing several cans of hearty soup (and maybe crackers) to church on Feb. 7. If everyone does that we can fill the shelves for several months. A warm bowl of soup with some crackers is a blessing to the clients.
**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. 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 or 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.

**MUSIC MINISTRY**

**RESCHEDULED SECOND THURSDAY RECITAL** - Pianist Robert Weirich was not able to play Jan. 11 due to the church closing for a snow day. We’ve RESCHEDULED him to perform from 12:15-12:45 p.m. this Thursday, Jan. 25, in the Village on Mission Chapel. Admission is free.

**PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING**

**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.

**DO WE HAVE EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION FOR YOU?** – One way Village helps care for our members is by having emergency contact information on file for each person. This information is extremely helpful when there is an injury or illness that happens at the church, or if a member is hospitalized and we need to locate him/her. Let Linda Alley know the contact person’s name, phone number and relationship to you; she can be reached at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

**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. Bring your own lunch or take advantage of the Village Cup. For more information, call Edie Hultman at 913-432-3515.

**THEOLOGY THURSDAYS** – 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday night. 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.

**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!
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 today, Jan. 21, 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.

JOIN US for a WELCOME RECEPTION FOR
THE REV. DR. BRANDON FRICK
New Site Pastor at Village on Antioch
Following 9:30 a.m. worship Sunday, Feb. 4, at Village on Antioch

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.
SERMON SERIES

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

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.

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.