



---

## SERVICE OF WORSHIP

February 5, 2017 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

### ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

"No one comes to the Father except through me." There has been a portion of the American Church that has interpreted these verses as a commentary on heaven and hell, and consequently only those who believe in Jesus are welcomed into heaven. Some will draw this statement more narrowly and require you to believe in Jesus in the same manner as they do to enter heaven. But the text says we come to the Father through Jesus—not through *belief* in Jesus. That's different.

# GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

*Aria, BuxWV 258*  
by Dieterich Buxtehude

Call to Worship

Dr. Rodger Nishioka (8, 9:30 a.m.)  
Rev. Zach Walker (11 a.m.)

We are all strangers seeking a homeland:  
**searching for peace in a world full of chaos.**

We are all strangers seeking a homeland:  
**longing for comfort when life is too painful.**

We are all strangers seeking a homeland:  
**desperate for love and a sense of belonging.**

We are all strangers seeking a homeland:  
**eager for a new beginning and another chance.**

We are all strangers seeking a homeland:  
**trusting the promise that God has made a place for us all.**

\*Hymn, No. 311

*Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather*  
TOKYO

\*Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, forgive us,  
for we have become a people of fear —  
afraid that sharing will lead to scarcity  
and that hospitality will end up harming us;  
afraid that love is a zero-sum game  
and that facts and figures are what set us free.  
afraid that salvation depends on us  
and that grace might not be strong enough.  
We have fallen into the habit of giving ourselves too much credit  
and not giving you enough.  
Help us remember that when the angels say, "Do not be afraid,"  
it is your word arriving on their wings.** (Silent prayer)

\*Assurance of God's Grace

\*Response

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia!  
**Response: Alleluia, Alleluia!**

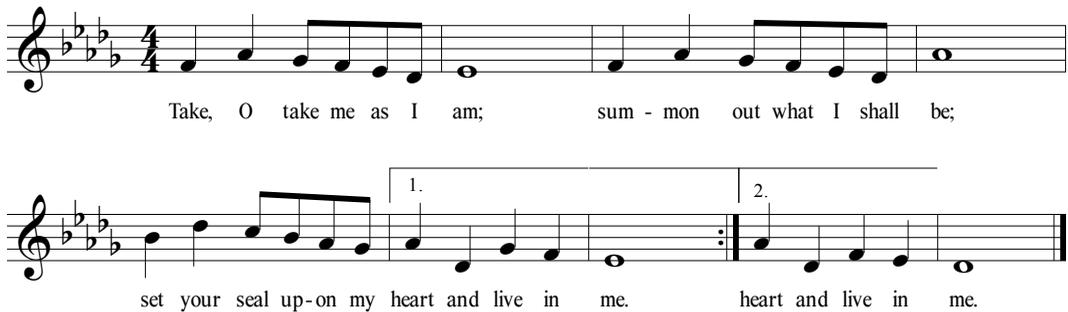
\*Passing of the Peace

Words of Welcome

Rev. Zach Walker

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call to Prayer



Take, O take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;

1.  
set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

2.  
heart and live in me.

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.**

Anthem (9:30 a.m.)

*Christ Has Broken Down the Wall*  
music: Mark A. Miller; Village Voices

Prayer for Illumination

Carol Tucker (8 a.m.)  
Kathy Lueckert (9:30 a.m.)  
Janice Gill (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

John 14:1-7 (pg.982)

Sermon

*"Jesus is the Only Way to Salvation."  
This is Not About You. This is About God.*

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

\*Hymn, No. 301

*Let Us Build a House*  
TWO OAKS

Offertory

*Come To The Water*  
music: Howard Helvey; Village Choir

\*Response

**Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,  
you are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.  
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start.  
Sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn, No.679

*Let the Whole Creation Cry*  
SALZBURG

\*Benediction

\*Response

Choral Response; Village Choir

\*Postlude

*Toccata in F, BuxWV 157*  
by Dieterich Buxtehude

*\*All who are able may stand*

© A-705103 for all hymns

## THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of February 5, 2016)

The following daily Bible readings were written by Rev. Tom Are, Jr. 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, Feb. 6**

**Hebrew 11:1-12**

This is a passage about hope. So, it is interesting that the writer of Hebrews reminds the church of its past. But hope is like that ... it grows in the soil of memory. As Christians, remembering the stories of God's faithfulness yesterday nourishes our hope as we look to tomorrow. What Biblical stories encourage you?

### **Tuesday, Feb. 7**

**Psalms 62**

This is a song of praise declaring that God is God. The scriptures speak of the constant temptation to prioritize insignificant things. The Psalmist speaks of true life resting in God's purpose for us all. Every day is a collection of choices, all of which reflect what we believe to be important. Let your choices today be a song of praise to the living God.

### **Wednesday, Feb. 8**

**Mark 8:14-21**

The reading from Monday includes a recital of the stories of God from days gone by. The reading today illustrates the struggles the disciples have when they cannot/do not remember what Jesus had done among them. Think about your own journey of faith: when has God blessed you? How does that encourage you today?

### **Thursday, Feb. 9**

**Mark 8:27-9:1**

Knowing who Jesus is matters. But following Jesus is what really matters. Of course, we cannot follow him without knowing him, but the goal is to follow. Following is the difficult part because we cannot control where he goes.

### **Friday, Feb. 10**

**Isaiah 55**

The joy in this text echoes many places in scripture. The people of God have passed through the storm or made it through the difficult season. From the other side they see that God has been faithful, and they offer this as a hymn of praise. We all walk through storms. When we are wise, we take time to recognize the power that brings us through.

### **Saturday, Feb. 11**

**Hebrews 12:1-2**

All of chapter 11 is a recital of the heroes of the faith. The letter to the Hebrews wants us to remember those who have gone before us in faith. Of course, there are many more saints of the faith since this letter was written. If you were to write a story of saints who have influenced your life, who would be part of your cloud of witnesses?

VISITING  
SCHOLAR

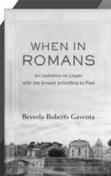


# Dr. Beverly Gaventa Reopening the Letters of Paul

7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24

Reception and book signing follow the program.

9 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 25



*Tickets are available online at [villagepres.org](http://villagepres.org) and  
click Connect, Adults, then Visiting Scholar*



VILLAGE PRES YOUTH

# CHILI COOKOFF

FREE ENTRY  
for those who  
ENTER A CHILI  
(traditional, spicy,  
vegetarian, or other)

6-8 p.m. SUNDAY, FEB. 26

Tickets go on sale TODAY  
in Friendship Hall  
\$10/person  
(\$35 max per family)

## TODAY AT VILLAGE

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

**GLOBAL MISSION OFFERING TODAY** - Help support the Dominican Republic Medical Partnership providing health care services to Haitian cane cutters and their families via partnership with the Good Samaritan Hospital in La Romana, Dominican Republic; and the youth spring break international mission project. Yellow envelopes for this offering are available in the hymnal slot in the pew in front of you.

**THE FOOD PANTRY** – Today is SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY! The Food Pantry hopes that your hands were carrying several cans of hearty soup to church this morning for the Pantry's clients. If you weren't able to shop or forgot and left them on the kitchen table, you can bring them on your next visit to church; or the Pantry will gratefully accept checks or cash. Thank you from the Pantry and its clients.

**BUY YOUR TICKET NOW FOR 2017 VISITING SCHOLAR** – Dr. Beverly Roberts Gaventa, distinguished professor, author and scholar of New Testament studies, will be “Reopening the Letters of Paul” on Feb. 24-25 at Village Church. Tickets are available in Friendship Hall between worship services now through Feb. 19. Tickets for Friday only or Saturday only are \$15; or combined, \$25. Come, accept Dr. Gaventa’s invitation to linger with Paul. Book sales and book signing, plus delicious cookies.

**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

**PRESCHOOL CHURCH SCHOOL** – Parents may check in their preschool-age child on the first floor in the Preschool wing. Church school classes are available at 9:30 and 11 a.m.

**KIDS’ KINGDOM – K–1st GRADES** new curricula! Kindergarten meets in Room 311. First Grade meets in Room 303. 9:30-10:30 a.m. **2nd–5th GRADES** – Sign-in elementary (2nd-5th) aged students on the 3rd floor. Check the large bulletin boards located in the Children and Family wing for each grade’s class location. 9:30-10:30 a.m. **Club V6 (6th Grade)** – Relevant discussions for today’s ‘tweens. Room 302. 9:30-10:30 a.m.

## ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

**Upcoming Village U classes include:**

**MEN’S BIBLE STUDY - 6:30-8 A.M. TUESDAYS, YEAR ROUND, ROOM 230** - A group of members and non-members meet weekly. Child care is not available. Led by Dave Greenlee.

**GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION, 2-3:30 P.M. FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH THRU MAY 2, ROOM 127** - If you’re interested in reading selections that stimulate your critical thinking, come discuss many of the great authors and their ideas which support our western civilization. We gather on the first Tuesday of each month. Child care is not available. Led by Betty Long.

**PATH WITH HEART, 10-11:30 A.M. MONDAYS, YEAR ROUND, ROOM 305** - The group will select books of interest through the semester from a wide variety of authors. Participants develop quality friendships and explore new insights. Led by Marcene Borthwick.

**KNIFE SKILLS - 9:30-11:30 A.M. FRIDAY, FEB. 10, ROOM 126** - Chefs know proper knife skills make all the difference, and this class can show you how. You’ll learn how to pick the right tools, explore sharpening and storage and get some all-important hands-on experience in cutting vegetables the right way. Participants should bring a cutting board, chef knife, three onions, one head cabbage, four carrots, 1 lb. potatoes and two bell peppers. Students will go home with the makings of a great vegetable soup. Taught by Rachel Ciordas.

**SOUTHERN GOTHIC REVISITED: FAULKNER, O'CONNOR, PERCY, & WELTY** - This semester, we are going to continue our exploration of William Faulkner with *Absalom, Absalom!* We will explore other Southern Gothic works, namely, Flannery O'Connor's short stories, Walker Percy's *The Moviegoer*, and Eudora Welty's *The Optimist's Daughter*. For the first class, please read the first four chapters of *Absalom, Absalom!* 6:30-8 p.m. Thursdays, now-May 11. Room 232. Taught by Kelly Fast and Michael Sanem.

**BREAKFAST AND BIBLE WITH YOUR BUDDIES** - Join Rev. Tom Are 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. So, invite a friend and join the fellowship Tuesday mornings. To make a reservation for breakfast, contact [marianne.weber@villagepres.org](mailto:marianne.weber@villagepres.org). Cost: \$6. Child care is not available. 7:30-8:30 a.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 7-April 11. Room 228.

**REMEMBER THOSE WHO ARE IN PRISON (HEBREWS 13:3) – A JOURNEY OF POETRY AND RELATIONSHIPS** - In this course, participants will start by viewing life in prison “from the outside” looking through the lens of scripture to discuss mass incarceration, the war on drugs, for-profit prisons, the death penalty and justice. The second session will look at prison “from the inside,” hearing poems and perspectives from former inmates followed by a question and answer session. 6:30-8 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 16. Wednesdays, Feb. 8 & 15. Room 127. Taught by Arlin Buyert.

**GROWING AT VILLAGE: SHIFTING FROM A CULTURE OF HOSPITALITY TO INVITATION** - Church growth specialists agree that a crucial factor in attracting new persons to a congregation is hospitality. But waiting to greet those who come to us still puts us in a largely passive role. This course will begin to shift our emphasis from passively greeting people who come to us to actively inviting persons to join us as followers of Jesus Christ. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 8-22. Rooms 132 & 133. Taught by Dr. Rodger Nishioka and Cindy Wilcox.

**WOMEN OF THE U.S. SUPREME COURT** - The first woman to be appointed to the United Supreme Court was Sandra Day O'Connor in 1981, 190 years after the court was organized in 1790. Since Associate Justice O'Connor, three other women have joined this exclusive group: Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Sonia Sotomayor, and Elena Kagan. Participants in this course will explore each of these remarkable women and what they have brought and continue to bring to the work of the highest court in the land. Wednesdays, 6:30-8 p.m. Feb. 8-22. Room 230. Taught by Marlene Katz.

**Spring Adult Sunday Morning Classes meet at 9:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Please check [villagepres.org](http://villagepres.org) for more details.**

**THE ANCIENT PRESENT FUTURE CHURCH** - A new class led by Dr. Rodger Nishioka, will meet today through April 30 (except Easter). The class will meet for twelve Sunday mornings to study the Acts of the Apostles in the New Testament. The Acts of the Apostles is the story of the new movement of followers of Jesus that eventually became the Church. Together, we will discover how the ancient church has shaped our present church and what this all means for the future church! 10:45-11:45 a.m. Rooms 126-127.

**VILLAGE FORUM SUNDAY CLASS** - Have you ever thought of the Apostle Paul as a woman nursing her infant children? The apostle uses this metaphor for himself in his first letter to the church in Thessalonica. In preparation for Dr. Beverly Gaventa, our 2017 Visiting Scholar, Dr. Rodger Nishioka will lead two sessions of the Village Forum class on Feb. 12 & 19 based on her book, *Our Mother Saint Paul*, published in 2007. We will examine the maternal imagery that the Apostle Paul uses and discuss why he would choose this and what it meant for the early church and more importantly, what it might mean for us today. 9:30 a.m. in Room 126.

## CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER FEB. 8** – BBQ pork & chicken, cheesy corn, vegetarian entree. \$7 for full buffet, \$6 for salad bar and dessert. Salad bar starts serving at 5:15 p.m. followed by the hot food bar from 5:30-6:30 p.m. \$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](mailto:liz.middleton@villagepres.org) or go to [villagepres.org/wednesday-dinners](http://villagepres.org/wednesday-dinners) to make a reservation.

## ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

**UPDATE ON CLIMATE CHANGE: WHERE ARE WE? WHERE ARE WE GOING? FEB. 6** - Dr. Chris King, retired U. S. Brigadier General, will assess the current status of climate change, including America's approach and that of the other signatories to the 2015 Paris Climate Change Summit and discuss future steps from 7-9 p.m. tomorrow, Feb. 6, in Room 127. Dr. King represents the U.S. on an international military advisory council dealing with security and climate and is an authority on the impact that climate change, water scarcity and other environmental issues have on national security and international stability.

## MISSION

**ARTS IN PRISON INMATE POETRY READING** – Join us for the second annual Arts in Prison Inmate Poetry Reading at The Johnson County Library, 9875 W. 87th St. in Overland Park at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21. Contact Village Church member Arlin Buyert at 913-909-2915 or email [arlin85@att.net](mailto:arlin85@att.net) for more information.

**THE VILLAGE CHURCH MISSION COMMITTEE** is currently accepting applications for local community grants in the areas of homelessness, hunger, and childhood education. Grants range from \$2,000 to \$25,000. 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](mailto:deborah.white@villagepres.org).

**THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MEDICAL PARTNERSHIP** has started a regular electronic newsletter highlighting the ministry's activities, successes and upcoming events. If you would like to receive this mailing, contact [drmp.info@gmail.com](mailto:drmp.info@gmail.com).

## MUSIC MINISTRY

**SECOND THURSDAY RECITAL FEB. 9** – Join us at 12:15 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, in the Village Chapel for violinist Véronique Mathieu. The program will include works by Ingrid Stolz, Vivaldi and Beethoven.

**KC WIND SYMPHONY CONCERT FEB. 12** - The Kansas City Wind Symphony will present a free concert at 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12, in the Village Church Sanctuary. The theme of this concert is "Songs of the Earth and Sea." The concert will feature an exciting piece entitled *Of Sailors and Whales – Five Scenes from Moby Dick*, with Rev. Tom Are narrating passages from the famous novel. The program will also include a piece called *Clash* composed and directed by Ryan Main.

## PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

**FAITH AND GRIEF LUNCH IS THIS TUESDAY** - If you or someone you know has lost a loved one, you are invited to the Faith and Grief lunch noon-1 p.m. this Tuesday, Feb. 7, in Friendship Hall. You'll receive comfort and resources. A box lunch is provided. Register online at [faithandgrief.org](http://faithandgrief.org) or call 469-251-9612.

**CAREER CONNECTIONS CLASS STARTS THIS WEEK!** – If finding a new position in 2017 is a goal, the Career Connections class can help. Classes will be at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 7-21, in the Heritage Dining Room (#230). If you are interested in attending, contact Linda Alley at [linda.alley@villagepres.org](mailto:linda.alley@villagepres.org) or 913-671-2327.

**COME TO THE TAIZÉ EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE** - Join us at 6:30 p.m. next Sunday, Feb. 12, for Taizé at the VCCFDC at 9900 Mission Road. Taizé is a worship service filled with song, scripture, communion and moments of silence and contemplation.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

**WOMEN WITH SPIRIT - A TOAST TO WINE & CHEESE** - Join us from 6:30-9 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 10, at the home of Erin and Trevor Gustafson as we experience wine and cheese from around the world (appetizers also included)! Donations will be accepted at the door to cover the costs of this delectable evening. RSVP to Carol Solenberger at carol4977@yahoo.com.

**MISSION SEWING** needs donations of large pieces of fabric, at least one yard (mostly cotton and cotton blends ... no fancy fabrics, please). We also accept yarn. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. every Tuesday. Come and go at your convenience, and lunch is at noon. Sack lunch or purchase lunch at The Cup. Not a sewer? Maybe you would like to stuff pillows or press fabric. In 2016 we sent out 8,632 items and clocked 11,179 hours. Contact Edie Hultman at 913-432-3515 for more information.

**WOMEN OF WISDOM (WOW)** invites all ladies to join them on Tuesday, Feb. 21, for a noon lunch at Hereford House in Town Center in Leawood (5001 Town Center Dr.) We look forward to an enjoyable lunch and warm fellowship. RSVP by Sunday, Feb. 19, to Diane Lee, 913-432-4321 or dianelee@att.net.

## YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

**THURSDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUP** - 7 p.m. upstairs at Village Church. Faith is a practice. It cannot be something we learn, or search for, or think about. It must be something we do, and do regularly enough that the lines between sacred and secular are blurred by eyes that can't help but to see the holy. We're reading Barbara Brown Taylor's *An Altar In The World* and practicing community together. All 20s and 30s invited. Pizza provided.

**SUPER BOWL PARTY** - Today after The Gathering, we'll move to Rev. Len Carrell's house for football, food and fun! RSVP [signup.com/go/VillagePresYA](http://signup.com/go/VillagePresYA).

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES** - Will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Youth Loft Room 333/332.

**SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE (SNL)** - The new name for our high school youth group! SNL meets tonight from 6:30-8:30 p.m. All are welcome for a night of discussion, amazing people and a great time!

**TWOSDAYS** - Middle schoolers join us Tuesdays after school from 4-5:30 p.m. in the Youth Loft, Room 333.

**GPS** - Middle school youth group, meets Wednesday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Join us for a great night of people, games and conversation. We hope to see you there!

**SUPER BOWL PARTY TODAY** - We are not meeting tonight due to the Super Bowl Party (see below)! SNL will return next Sunday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. All are welcome for a night of discussion, amazing people and a great time!

**CHILI COOK OFF TICKETS ON SALE IN FRIENDSHIP HALL** - This year's Cook Off is 6-8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26; and the fundraiser supports Youth Mission Trips. Tickets are \$10/person or \$35/family. We hope you can join us for this fun church event for a great cause.



**WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY** - If weather is predicted to have 4 inches or more snowfall during Saturday night, the 8 a.m. service will be cancelled.

## 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 Is There a Devil?
- 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 and bridge site pastor of Village on Antioch  
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](http://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.*