ABOUT TODAY’S SERVICE

Paul says he is called to be an apostle, to be someone “who is sent.” In ministry we are both called and sent. For Paul, that meant preaching good news in places like Galatia and Philippi, Thessalonica and Ephesus. It meant sharing relationships in ministry with Silas and Timothy, Mark and Onesimus, Priscilla and Aquila. It meant being called and sent to a community of brothers and sisters. Sometimes, especially for Paul, it meant being called and sent to a place he had never been before. Paul knew God was doing all of this, and God’s intention was witnessed in and through the church. We are all called to share our spiritual gifts, but where that usually leads us is to the gift of each other’s faith.
GOD’S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

Gathered in this place we have come to worship a living God.

We are the lost and forsaken, the proud and strong, the young and old.

We are God’s people, the sheep of His pasture.

In this space we speak our fears and envision our dreams.

We are awakened, and rise at the sound of our name.

Let us enter God’s gates with thanksgiving, and Her courts with praise.

In here God’s love welcomes us, and God’s love sends us out.

Give us the courage to enter the song.

Make a joyful noise all the earth, come into God’s presence with singing.

*Hymn, No. 401

*Prayer of Confession

Harmonious God,

You have fashioned us that even though we are many, we are one body;

   even though we are different, we follow one shepherd;

   even though we are diverse, we are held together by one holy love.

Forgive us, when we say we are open, but closed to some,

   when we claim to be forgiving and just, but not for all,

   when we know we have the power to change, but are afraid,

   when we trust love to be the answer, but love is not how we answer.

Renew us, God, for we know what we are doing, and we do it anyway.

Turn our hearts to You, that we may turn our lives to You in reply. (Silent prayer)
*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response

Glo-ry to our cre-a-tor, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly

Spir-it: as it was in the be-gin-ning,

is now, and will be for-e-ver.


*Passing of the Peace

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Time with Children

Prayer for Illumination

Elder Carol Tucker (8 a.m.)
Elder Scott Carr (9:30 a.m.)
Elder Walt Tegtmeier (11 a.m.)
RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 693  Though I May Speak
GIFT OF LOVE

*Response (from Hymn, No. 694)

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

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation
Prayer of Thanksgiving 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.
Words of Institution
Sharing the Elements
(At the indication of the pastor, we will all be invited to partake of the bread together, giving visible expression to the unity we share as Christ’s body. You are invited to partake of the cup as it is served to you.)

Prayer of Response

*Hymn, No. 69 (v. 1 men; v. 2 women; v. 3 all)  
*I, the Lord of Sea and Sky
HERE I AM

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

*Postlude

*All who are able may stand
© A-705103 for all hymns

MUSIC NOTES

Today we welcome the Village Chamber choir to worship. The Chamber Choir rehearses major works weekly after Village Choir, and gives performances both alone and in collaboration with other area choruses. Recent concerts include “The Peacemakers” and “Tidings of Joy,” with music of Rachmaninoff, Howells, Paulus and Fischer. Come hear the Village Chamber Choir sing Faure’s Requiem at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 7, in a concert entitled “In Paradisum.” That concert will also feature Elisa Bickers playing Poulenc’s "Organ Concerto."

Discover Village Information Center

A place for you to connect and ask questions. You’re invited to stop by our Discover Village desk, between worship services, at the north Welcome Center entrance. Hosts will be available at the desk every Sunday morning; a place where you can share conversation and enjoy a cookie. We look forward to meeting you!
THE CHURCH’S BOOK  (Week of March 11, 2019)

The following daily Bible readings were written by Rev. Len Carrell 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, March 11  Psalm 100
This Psalm is summoning all the earth into joyful, holy noise making. Notice how God calls people, sheep and pasture together; even the gates and courts of royalty are included. Nothing on this earth or in this world is separated from each other or from God. In fact, all of life is intended for the glory and praise of God and that is a life of joyful, holy noise making.

Tuesday, March 12  Matthew 4:18-22
This is Jesus calling his first disciples, and we know this: they were fishermen. They were two sets of brothers. They were on the same beach. But were they rival businesses? These two sets of brothers, they worked the same sea and sold their fish in the same marketplace. Jesus redefines their work. It is no longer about who has the most fish. Their mission now is to work together and serve all of God’s people.

Wednesday, March 13  Deuteronomy 26:1-11
The future tense of this text instructs the Israelites what to do...collect the first fruits of their harvest and bring them to God who provided the harvest in the first place. It is about returning to God some of all that has been given to us by God. In this Lenten season, what are you harvesting and offering to God?

Thursday, March 14  Psalm 91
The psalmist uses many images of God as refuge and shelter, and a protector and keeper of life. Destruction and peril and sword and enemy seem to be all around us, but God is here too. The fear of night and the slings and arrows of day are real, but God covers and shields us. What is your prayer today, "God cover me," or, "Thank God, you’re here?"

It has always been alarming to me in the story of Jesus’ temptation in the wilderness, that the devil quotes scripture. He actually quotes Psalm 91, testing Jesus to throw himself from the highest mountain and "commanding angels to protect him" and "on their hands bear him up." The psalm and Jesus' reply is not about testing God's protection of us, it is about knowing God protects us.

Saturday, March 16  Romans 5:1-5
Justified by faith through grace: this is a core Reformed theological claim. We are not saved by our own doing; it is by grace alone. But what is faith if not a faith that trusts in the actions of God’s grace moving us to our shared human struggle into a hope that never disappoints? Do you have a hope that never disappoints? How does that hope strengthen your faith?
Celebration of Faithful Women

10 a.m. Saturday, March 23, in Friendship Hall

Please join us in celebrating our PW Honorary Life Members:

**Ann Colston, Susie Dixon and Lucy Tidwell**

**Rev. Jessie Light-Wells** will give the meditation.
She will speak on Hebrews 12:1-2 “The Gift of a Cloud.”

Reservations are $16 a person and available online at [www.villagepres.org/pw](http://www.villagepres.org/pw)
The reservation deadline is March 17.

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**SUMMER CAMPS REGISTRATION**

**8 a.m.-noon March 18**
Church members, current
Preschool, KDO and
VCCFDC families

**8 a.m.-noon March 25**
Community members

More info at
TODAY AT VILLAGE

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

TE DEUM ANTIQUA – “CONVENT MUSIC” - 7 p.m. tonight at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. For this concert, the women of Te Deum Antiqua will explore the music of 16th and 17th century Italian cloistered nuns and the sacred riches that came from this period. Tickets are $15 a person. (available at the door or at te-deum.org). St. Paul’s Episcopal Church is located at 11 E. 40th St. in Kansas City, Missouri.

NEW TO US? Village Presbyterian Church is a family of faith actively shaped by the life of Christ to love one another, providing leadership for the transformation of our communities and serving the world. We are a Presbyterian (USA) family of faith that is inclusive, generous and welcoming of all people. Village is 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). If you would like a tour of Village on Mission, contact Cindy Wilcox at cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org or 913-671-2331.

JOINING VILLAGE CHURCH – Village welcomes new members every other month at a special Sunday luncheon. Join us April 7, June 2, Aug. 4, Sept. 29 and Dec. 8. Contact cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org for info.

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

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES IS PLANNING FOR THE FALL 2019 SESSION OF VILLAGE U – Whether you have taught previously or are new to Village U, we would like to hear from you. If you have a great idea for a course, contact Sunni Battin at sunni.battin@villagepres.org.

To register for Village U classes, visit villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes:

MEN’S BREAKFAST AND BIBLE WITH REV. TOM ARE – Join Rev. Tom Are for a morning Bible study and hot breakfast. Invite a friend and join the fellowship. To make a reservation for breakfast, please register online. Cost: $6. Child care is not available. 7:30-8:30 a.m. Tuesdays, March 12, 19 & 26. Room 228.

THE HUGUENOT MIGRATION TO AMERICA – This course will offer an overview of 17th century French Protestant Life and worship in the face of growing persecution by the government of Louis XIV. The course will pay particular attention to the Huguenots of the western maritime provinces of France who formed the core of migration to the American colonies in Massachusetts, New York, Virginia and South Carolina. Facilitated by Rev. Dr. Lonnie Lee. 6:30-8 p.m. Beginning Wednesday, March 13, Room 127.

WHAT DOES “GRACE” REALLY MEAN? – Grace. This simple word is rich in meaning and important for our understanding of God's love for humankind. Rev. Dr. John Borden will lead an exploration of the concept of “grace” and what it means for Christians to live as grace-filled people. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 20, Room 15.

FAITH-BASED ADVOCACY: SAFETY AND EFFECTIVENESS TIPS FOR TURBULENT TIMES – The purpose of this two-part class is to show how important safety and effectiveness standards are in advocating for societal remedies, not just medicinal ones. Best practices will be examined from a range of faith-based and non-profit organizations. Facilitated by Barry Speert. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, March 20 & 27, Room 232.

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday classes include:

FAITH JOURNEY – We are studying, "Mending the Divide–Creative Love in a Conflicted World" by Jon Huckins/Jer Swigart. The authors invite us to explore God's vision for peacemaking in our world and what our part can be in bringing that vision to life. Facilitated by Kathy Ray. Room 230.

FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH – Rev. Dwight Tawney is teaching “Looking Towards the Heavens,” exploring a variety of cosmologies that have helped people fathom the deepest mysteries that surround them. Facilitated by Diann Markley. Room 15.
GROWING TOGETHER – Each week, we are growing together in faith by digging into the stories behind the Apostle Paul’s letters. You are invited to drop in for a mixture of video content and group discussion as we bring alive the stories of the New Testament. Facilitated by Lawrence Andre. Room 124.

VILLAGE FORUM – Beginning today, we will be discussing Father Richard Rohr’s video series, “Embracing and Alternative Orthodoxy: Richard Rohr on the Legacy of St. Francis.” The short videos have sessions on Atonement Theology, Eco-Spirituality, The Cosmic Christ, Orthodoxy vs. Orthopaxy and Mysticisms over Moralism. Facilitated by Gus Breytspraak. Rooms 126 and 127.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

ALL SERVICES–CHILD CARE – Infants to 4-year-olds are welcome in Rooms 114, 111 and/or 107.

FAMILY WORSHIP SUNDAY TODAY due to spring break. Children are invited to worship with their families in the Sanctuary.

NO MORNING STARS TODAY due to spring break.

SUMMER SIGN UP – Registration for KDO, Creations by Kids summer camps, and Music and Drama Camp begins for Village Church members and current KDO, Preschool and Day Care families on March 18. Visit villagepres.org/summercamp2019 for registration information and forms.

BAPTISMS and NEW BABIES – The next baptism dates are May 12 and July 21. An education class is offered for members who are new to Village baptism. Share news of your new baby so we can welcome and commemorate the new family member’s arrival. Call 913-671-2350 or email kate.ruecker@villagepres.org.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER – spring break—no dinner on March 13.

SINGLE ADULT MINISTRY SPEAKERS SERIES – Single adults age 40 and up are invited to this series of presentations suited for singles at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays in Room 230. March 12-Lisa Ball, travel designer, on “Traveling Single.” More info at www.villagepres.org/single-adult-ministry.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY – The Food Pantry has been getting many requests from the clients for toothpaste, toothbrushes and shampoo - so that will be the Pantry’s requests during March. On your trip to the Pharmacy, please pick up several for the clients. The Clothes Closet is preparing for Spring and April showers and is asking for umbrellas, raincoats and light jackets. Thank you for your donations.

COMMUNITY GARDEN VOLUNTEERS – With the spring thaw comes the Village Community Garden at 99th and Mission Road. Village needs volunteers to help plant, weed, water and harvest during 2019 growing season. Garden produce is donated to the Village Food Pantry. If you would like to join the community garden team, call Deborah White at 913-671-2369 or email deborah.white@villagepres.org.

MUSIC MINISTRY

MARCH 14 SECOND THURSDAY RECITAL – Join us from 12:15-12:45 p.m. in the Village Church on Mission Sanctuary for our March 14 Second Thursday Recital with soprano Rachel Priest. Admission is free.

UMKC CONSERVATORY SINGERS IN CONCERT – 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 19, in the Village on Mission Sanctuary. This select chamber ensemble is dedicated to performing music of the 16-21st centuries at the highest possible artistic level. Admission is free.

LIZ LONGLEY CONCERT AT VILLAGE ON MISSION – 7-9 p.m. Thursday, March 21, in Friendship Hall. Her music has been featured on TV shows such as ABC’s “Beauty & The Beast” and Lifetime’s “Army Wives.” Admission is free. For more information and to RSVP, go to VPCTheGathering.org/concert.
KANSAS CITY WIND SYMPHONY CONCERT – 7 p.m. on Sunday, March 24, in the Village Church on Mission Sanctuary. Admission is free. The program will feature two chamber works by Robert Spittal and Karel Husa, and a hymn inspired full ensemble pieces by Claude T. Smith, David Gillingham, and David Maslanka.

ORGANIST DEXTER KENNEDY – 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 26, in Village on Mission Sanctuary. The concert is co-presented by Village Church and the Kansas City Chapter of the American Guild of Organist (AGO). Admission is free.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

TAIZÉ IS TUESDAY – Come at 6:30 p.m Tuesday, March 12, to the Village on Mission Chapel for our Taizé worship service. Join us for a special time of prayer, scripture and song. Communion will be served. This will be a bittersweet time as this is the last Taizé service Rev. Len Carrell will officiate for us.

DO WE HAVE YOUR EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION? – 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 an injury or illness happens at the church, or if you are hospitalized and we need to locate you. Let Linda Alley know your contact person's name, phone number and relationship to you; you may list up to three people. Contact Linda at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

AMAZING GRACES – The tour of the Church of the Resurrection's Sacred Window is rescheduled for March 13. Arrive at 5:30 p.m. at the south entrance. The tour starts promptly at 6 p.m. Afterwards, we'll convene at the home of Martha Tatman for refreshments.

WOMEN OF WISDOM (WOW) LUNCH – WOW is delighted to invite all ladies to a noon lunch Tuesday, March 19. We'll be dining in a private room at the new location of Plaza III Steakhouse, 12631 Metcalf. With the same great American food, lunch there will be fine dining in a stunning atmosphere. RSVP by March 18 to Marvie Sneegas, sneegi@kc.rr.com, 913-209-9608. Come and bring a friend.

WOMEN WITH SPIRIT EVENT – WWS Lost & Found Brunch with Dr. Rodger Nishioka from 9:30 a.m.-noon Tuesday, March 26, at Kenyon Vrooman's house (9518 Chadwick Dr., Leawood). Please bring a dish to share. To RSVP, email shelbykrumm@yahoo.com. Child care is available with a prior reservation.

MISSION SEWING – Mission Sewing is getting low on fabric. Fabric in one yard lengths in cotton and cotton blends suitable for children’s dresses, large adult dresses and various shapes and sizes of pillows. Items can be dropped off at the switchboard or brought to Room 115 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. on any Tuesday. For more information, call Edie Hultman at 913-432-3515.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Young Adult Ministry is for all people in their 20’s and 30’s.

COUPLES WITH KIDS BIBLE STUDY – 5:30-7 p.m. this Wednesday, March 13, in the Heritage Dining Room. Come for family dinner at 5:30 p.m., and stay for Bible Study while your kiddos go downstairs for lessons of their own. Because of spring break there is no Wednesday Night Dinner this month, so we’ll be having pizza. All 20’s and 30’s with children welcome!

THEOLOGY THURSDAYS – 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 14, at Village on Mission (3rd floor). The French philosopher and Jesuit priest Chardin said, “We are not human being having a spiritual experience, but spiritual beings having a human experience.” This Lenten season we’ll encounter philosophers, mystics, meditations and more, as we experiment with tuning into our spiritual selves. More info: VillagePresYA.org/thursdays.

YOUTH MINISTRY

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES ARE OFF THIS WEEK DUE TO SPRING BREAK!

SUMMER TRIPS REGISTRATION OPEN – You can now register for all of our summer trips: San Francisco, a local KC trip, HS Montreat and the MS Float Trip! Just head to villagepresyouth.org/forms or pick up a hard copy by the youth offices or in the Youth Loft.
**Congregational Meeting**

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting for March 17, following the 9:30 a.m. worship service at Village on Mission. The purposes of this meeting will be to act on the request of Rev. Len Carrell to dissolve his pastoral relationship with Village that he might accept the call to serve as pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Columbia, Tennessee. The congregation will also act on a report from the nominating committee to elect an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.

**Rev. Len Carrell Farewell Reception**

Rev. Len Carrell has accepted a new call to be the pastor and head of staff at First Presbyterian Church in Columbia, Tennessee. Please join us as we wish him well at his Farewell Reception following the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, March 17, in Friendship Hall.

**Traveling Exhibit “Come to the Table,” On Display in the Welcome Center Now-April 21**

This Christians in the Visual Arts (CIVA) traveling exhibit titled “Come to the Table” features 34 selected works in a variety of media, from historical pieces by Albrecht Durer, to modernist work by Jasper Johns and Sadao Watanabe, to fresh contemporary pieces created by CIVA artists. Collectively, according to the exhibition statement, the works celebrate “the Table: a place of invitation, relationship, abundance, generosity, and reconciliation, where communities gather and where worshipers encounter the grace of God.”

**Stewardship HEART at Work…**

The Village Church Food Pantry serves 15,224 individuals with an average of 11,375 households visiting the Pantry during the year. 83 percent of Pantry food comes from food donations and a total of 678,731 pounds of food are collected. Your generosity has fed thousands of hungry people. Thank You.
In these weeks that lead us, once again, to the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we will reflect on who we are called to be as we take our own journey toward the fullness of resurrection. “Who we are called to be” is the point of this sermon series. In his book, "The Road to Character," David Brooks says, “Most of us have clearer strategies for how to achieve career success than we do for how to develop a profound character.” There is wisdom in Brook’s remarks, as character is not something that just happens; character is always chosen. Physical growth happens naturally. Spiritual growth requires discipline, intention and choice. We will reflect on some of the strategies for choosing character in this sermon series.

March 17    Character: The Most Important Thing
March 24    Choices…not Evolution
March 31    Character Requires Courage
April 7    Character Requires Hope
April 14    Palm Sunday: Humility May be Out of Style, but Not for Us
April 21    Easter: The Possibility of Getting it Right

MINISTERS
All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM
Rev. Tom Are, Jr., senior pastor ♦ Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist
Will Breytspraak, director of music ♦ Rev. Len Carrell, pastor of pastoral care
Rev. Becky Chamberlain, interim pastor of pastoral care ♦ Rev. Dr. Brandon Frick, site pastor of Village on Antioch
Rev. Hallie Hottle, pastor of young adult ministry ♦ Marjean Lindquist, director of child care
Kathy Lueckert, director of finance and administration ♦ Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate pastor
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 ♦ Rev. Dr. Robert H. Meneilly, pastor emeritus

Large print bulletins are available in the Narthex. Ask an usher to bring you one.