



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

March 31, 2019 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

Character requires courage. It is relatively easy to choose “good” when “bad” is the alternative. But the place in which we more often find ourselves is having to choose between good and a greater good. When that is the case, we almost never find consensus. Others—and often our friends—see things differently. When the good you seek is out of step with those around you, courage is required.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Toccata in G
by Johann Adam Reincken

Words of Welcome

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

Introit (11 a.m.)

Be Still
music: Mary McDonald; Village Voices

Why Village Matters: Stephen Ministry

Trish Byall

Call to Worship

Rev. Zach Walker

Let the righteous give thanks to God,

for God is the source of all righteousness.

Let the unrighteous give praise to God,

for God is the source of all grace.

You, the faithful and the faltering,

you are all invited into the presence of God.

We come in hope, for the love of God calls us by name.

*Hymn, No. 408

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit
SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT

*Prayer of Confession

God of grace,

We have endeavored to live in a virtuous manner this week

and to turn from sin.

In some ways we have done just that.

But our virtue, no doubt, appears more righteous to us than to others.

Standing in Your presence,

we are slow to confess our sin,

but, even more, we are embarrassed to speak to You of our virtue.

This alone is reason to ask for Your forgiveness. (Silent prayer)

Lord, _____ have mer - cy. Christ, _____ have
mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy. _____

*Assurance of God's Grace

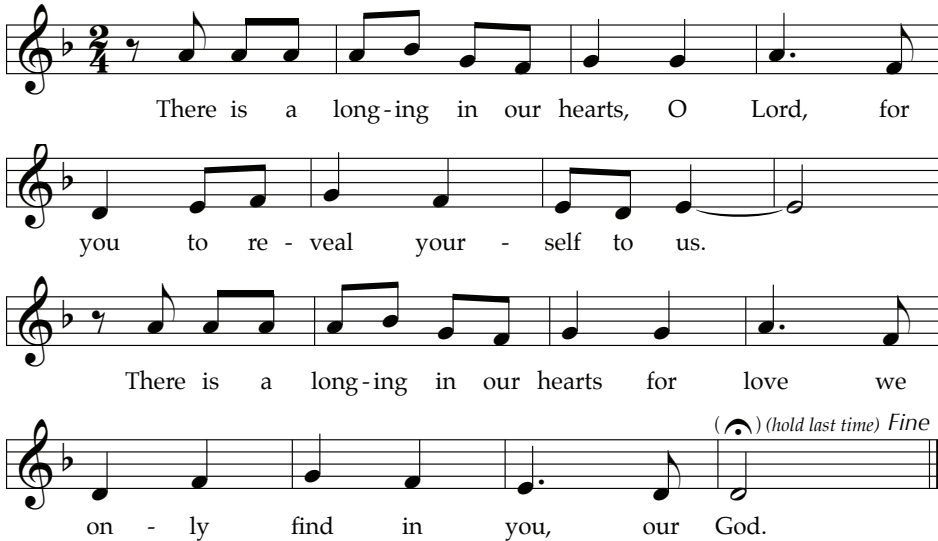
*Response

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.
A - men, A - men. A - men.

*Passing of the Peace

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call to Prayer (Congregation sings refrain when invited)



There is a long-ing in our hearts, O Lord, for
you to re - veal your - self to us.
There is a long-ing in our hearts for love we
on - ly find in you, our God. (hold last time) Fine

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.)

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say
music: Jan Kraybill; The More Love Chorale

Prayer for Illumination

Elder Carol Tucker (8 a.m.)
Elder Judy Heeter (9:30 a.m.)
Elder Sam Vaughan (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

2 Kings 5:1-19 (pg. 332)

Sermon

Character Requires Courage

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No.833

O Love that Wilt Not Let Me Go
ST. MARGARET

Offertory

Pie Jesu

by Andrew Lloyd Webber/arr. Wagner; Village Choir;

Soloists: Roslinde Rivera (all services),

Judy Bliss (8 a.m.), Carol Royster (9:30 a.m.), and Patricia Schultz (11 a.m.)

*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. 741 (v. 1-4)

Guide My Feet

GUIDE MY FEET

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

Guide My Feet

by Wendell Whalum

*Postlude

Christ Lag in Todesbanden (Christ lay in Death's Bands)

by Johann Sebastian Bach

**All who are able may stand*

© A-705103 for all hymns

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

The organ prelude and postlude, both by German Baroque composers, reflect the realities of courage. Reincken's "Toccatina in G," with its great variety of sections, demonstrates the many ways courage can show up in our lives – sometimes it's with great gusto, and other times it's quieter. And more often than we wish, courage of character seems absent when we need it most . . . still, in those times we live in the hope that our determined Christian character will return to us, that we might be emboldened to take a stand when we are called to. "Christ lag in todesbanden" is an Easter hymn penned by Martin Luther, and its *seven stanzas* remind us that Christ's journey toward Resurrection wasn't an easy one, but instead was one that required a constant reliance on his heavenly father to give him the courage to press forward.

–Dr. Elisa Bickers

THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of April 1, 2019)

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, April 1

Hebrews 10:4-10

Here is this letter we find words reminding us we are in the season of Lent – a season when we remember we are marching toward Easter through the event of Christ on the cross. Consider not just the way Jesus said, “Here I am, I have come to do your will,” but the ways in which you are called to proclaim those same words today.

Tuesday, April 2

Luke 15:11-32

This parable is titled “The Lost Son” or “The Prodigal Son.” While the focus of the story does seem to be about the younger child, it could perhaps be titled “The Lost Sons.” Each of the man’s sons seems to be lost, but only one son is inside taking part in the celebration at the end. It gives us pause to wonder, which child is truly lost here?

Wednesday, April 3

Psalms 32

This psalm is heavy on the need for confession and the way it frees us to truly see the love and care of God. What is something you are living with that weighs you down? How might you offer it to God and ask for God’s help and/or forgiveness?

Thursday, April 4

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Similar to Psalm 32, there are notes of confession and reconciliation here. The need for these comes from the call to be ambassadors for Christ. Reflect on the ways in which you are accurately reflecting and speaking about the person of Jesus today, as well as ways in which you might better demonstrate Christ.

Friday, April 5

Joshua 5:9-12

This is a short story about the Israelites, who for so long survived by eating the mana God provided, were able to begin eating from what the land of Canaan provided. It was, for a certain perspective, a bittersweet moment. On the one hand, there is good reason to celebrate and appreciate the land providing what was needed. On the other hand, eating God’s mana provided a daily, tangible exercise and reminder of the way God provided. Take a moment to list the ways you have seen God provide for you in the past year.

Saturday, April 6

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

These words from Paul can make some a little uncomfortable. Paul warns them of temptation but also assures them that God does not tempt them beyond what they can bear. Is this really true? It does us well to remember that Paul is writing to a community of people here, as is clear in the early verses of this passage when he references the experiences of the Israelites in the desert. Community, for Paul, is essential when working through difficult or tempting times; we are not meant to handle difficulty alone and we endure better when we do so with others.

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE DAILY BIBLE READINGS EMAILS

Subscribe now at www.villagepres.org/subscribe. Emails arrive first thing in the morning Monday through Saturday.

IN PARADISUM

Fauré Requiem and Poulenc Organ Concerto

3 p.m. Sunday, April 7

Village Church on Mission

Featuring the Village Chamber Choir and Orchestra and
organist Dr. Elisa Bickers

Free admission

ART
& **HORS D'OEUVRES**

5:30-7 p.m. FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2019 Village Church on Mission Rd.

TODAY AT VILLAGE

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

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES IS PLANNING FOR FALL VILLAGE U – If you are interested in teaching a course, know someone who may be interested, or haven't taught in a while and 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:

MARCUS BORG: FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD: SHEPHERDING LIFE ON EARTH – Best-selling Author Marcus Borg was an internationally revered speaker and scholar who authored or co-authored 21 books and on his final visit to Village Church gave a presentation titled, "For God So Loved the World: Shepherding Life on Earth." Class participants will watch a 56-minute video and a discussion will be facilitated by Jerry Rees. 7-8:30 p.m. Monday, April 1. Room 127.

COMPROMISING POSITIONS: POLITICAL SEX SCANDALS AND AMERICAN CHRISTIANITY – Dr. Leslie Durrugh Smith will teach and lead conversation around the publication of her new book, "Compromising Positions." In her fascinating book, she argues that sex scandals aren't really about sex. Rather, they are a form of public storytelling, the purpose of which is to use specific racial and gendered symbols to endorse certain political ideals. 6:30-8 p.m. Beginning Wednesday, April 3. Room 132.

CHRISTIANS AND RACE IN THE 21st CENTURY – The issue of race in America continues to perplex and confound us. These three classes will explore the complexity of race in the United States through the Christian perspective. What does the Bible say about race? Who are we as God's people of different races? How are we called to abide with one another? How do we work together to dismantle racism today? Facilitated by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, May 8, 15, 22. Rooms 132 and 133.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:25-10:30 a.m. – **2 to 4-year-olds/Pre-K**—Preschool Sunday School meets on the first floor. Registration and age specific room assignments are posted outside Room 107. **K-6th grade**—Kids' Kingdom Sunday school meets on the third floor. Registration and grade specific room assignments are posted outside Room 307. Room information is also posted outside Room 207.

MORNING STARS – 3-year-olds through 6th graders are welcome to join and sing. We meet from 10:30-11 a.m. Angel Choir (3 to 4-year-olds) meet in Room 203; Prelude Choir (K-2nd grade) meet in Room 201; Hallelujah Choir (3rd-6th grade) meet in Room 204. Pick up for all children is on the 2nd floor.

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 – Our menu for April 3 is pork loin roast, scalloped potatoes, vegetarian entrée, 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. Call Liz Middleton 913-671-2359 or email liz.middleton@villagepres.org to make your reservations by noon tomorrow.

VILLAGE GOLF OUTINGS RESUME – Do you like a casual golf outing? Then, these outings are for you! The monthly outings are a four-person scramble format and continues through October. All are invited. You do not need to be a member of Village Church. The next outing is at Deer Creek on Tuesday, April 23. Tee Time is 8 a.m. RSVP by April 15 to Brad Steil at 913-469 5683 or bradsteil@everestkc.net.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COMMITTEE

LENTEN PLEDGE – Take the Village Church Lenten Pledge. What we choose to eat and how we treat our food are some of the most significant ways we be good stewards of God's creation. During Lent, you are invited to pledge to eat less meat, to fast, and to reduce the amount of food wasted. Pledge cards from the Environmental Action committee are available throughout the church. For more information, see villagepres.org/environmental-action.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY – Spring is here and tomorrow is April 1, the day the Clothes Closet starts accepting spring and summer clothing - no fooling! As you update your wardrobes, please remember the Closet's clients. The Food Pantry is asking for canned tuna and canned chicken. These canned items make for quick lunches or dinner casseroles for hungry families. Thank you for all your donations.

SPRING SESSION, OPERATION BREAKTHROUGH READING PROGRAM – Partner with a pre-K reading buddy, 9:30-11 a.m. Wednesdays, now through April 24. Contact Cindy Whitham at ciwhitham@aol.com or 913-262-3062 for info. Call Pam Southerland at 913-671-2352 or email pam.southerland@villagepres.org to make a reservation for child care by the Wednesday prior to the day you plan to volunteer.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (PDA) is responding to floods along the Missouri River Basin, including Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas. PDA have deployed National Response Teams to the presbyteries that have invited them in, and are processing grant requests as we receive them. If you would like to support the relief efforts you can donate to the PDA at <https://pma.pcusa.org/donate/make-a-gift/gift-info/DR000191/> or to give by phone, call 800-872-3283. To send a check, designate where you want your gift on the memo line and mail to: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. Note DR000191 on your check.

MUSIC MINISTRY

SECOND THURSDAY RECITAL – We invite you to our next Second Thursday Recital from 12:15-12:45 p.m. on Thursday, April 11, when Dr. Roseann Penner Kaufman will play the Village Church on Mission pipe organ. Dr. Kaufman is minister of music and worship for Rainbow Mennonite Church in Kansas City, Kansas. Her program will include "Prelude" by Dietrich Buxtehude, "Andante Sostenuto" by Charles-Marie Widor, "Veni Creator Spiritus" by Philip Swanson, for which she will be joined by her husband, trombonist Mitch Kaufman, and a toccata on the tune "Now the Green Blade Riseth" by Marcel Dupré. Admission is free.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

VISIT WITH A STEPHEN MINISTER TODAY – Stephen Ministry provides confidential, one-to-one Christian care to people who are experiencing difficulties in their lives. If you are interested in learning about the training (Village Church is now accepting candidates for the fall training class of 2019) or how to refer relative or a friend who may benefit from a Stephen Minister, visit with a Stephen Minister after the service today in Friendship Hall or the Welcome Center.

COME TO THE FAITH AND GRIEF LUNCH THIS TUESDAY – If you or someone you know has lost a loved one, join us at the Faith and Grief lunch noon-1 p.m. this Tuesday, April 2, in Friendship Hall. You'll receive comfort, resources and a box lunch. Register online at www.faithandgrief.org or call 469-251-9612. Contact Linda Alley with any questions at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

EASTER LILIES NEED LEGS! Every year, those who cannot physically come to the church on Easter Sunday receive a beautiful Easter lily. More than 250 Easter lilies will be taken to members all over the metro area—and we could use your help. We will be trying a new way to get the lilies delivered—it will be like our poinsettia delivery process. Come to the Welcome Center between any of the services to pick up instructions and an Easter lily, sorted by zip code areas. All but 96 Easter lilies can go anytime; those remaining 96 will need to be taken after the last service. Prefer early pick up? Come to the Welcome Center on Saturday, April 20, from 9-10 a.m. Contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you and appreciate your help!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

MISSION SEWING – Mission Sewing is getting low on fabric. We need Christmas 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. Call Edie Hultman at 913-432-3515 for more information.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

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

THEOLOGY THURSDAYS – 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 4, at Village Presbyterian Church (3rd Floor, Youth Loft). This Lenten season we're experimenting with tuning into our spiritual selves. Head down. Eyes closed. Hands together. As presbyterians in this time and place, we have a very "flat" way of understanding prayer. What about our friends around the world who pray with their whole bodies? Let's explore. More info: VillagePresYA.org/thursdays.

COUPLES WITH KIDS BIBLE STUDY – 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesday, April 10, 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. All 20's and 30's with children welcome! RSVP at VillagePresYA.org/couples.

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.

ALPHA & OMEGA (middle and high school Sunday mornings) – 9:30 a.m. today, Youth Loft (Room 333).

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

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

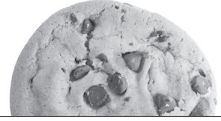
GPS (middle school youth group) – 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, in the Youth Loft (Room 333).

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

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.

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!



Holy Week Worship Services

Maundy Thursday, April 18 – 6 p.m. The Gathering in Friendship Hall. 7 p.m. traditional service in the Village Church on Mission Sanctuary

Good Friday, April 19 – 7 p.m. at Village on Mission & Village on Antioch

Easter Sunday, April 21 – Traditional worship services at 8, 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. in the Village on Mission Sanctuary. There will be an additional 9:30 a.m. service led by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka in Friendship Hall. The Gathering Worship is at 5 p.m. in Friendship Hall. Village on Antioch traditional worship is at 9:30 a.m., followed by an Easter Egg Hunt.

Village Church on Mission will provide free shuttle bus service from 8:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Easter morning. Buses will pick up at the Blue Moose parking lot at the Shops of Prairie Village and drop off at the west entrance of the church.

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 worshippers encounter the grace of God.”



Easter Lily Memorial

You may purchase a potted lily in memory of a loved one by sending a check for \$10 payable to Village Church and including the memorial name. Send your check to the church ATTN: Janice Gill. The deadline to receive checks is Friday, April 12. The list of memorials/donors will be listed in the May 1 "Good News."

LENTEN SERMON SERIES

Character is Always Chosen

March 17-April 21

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. 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

Brooke Latas, director of children and family 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.

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.