



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

March 26, 2017 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

There is a surprising moment in Jesus' ministry. He meets a scribe who gets all the answers right. Jesus tells the scribe that he is not far from the Kingdom of God. "Not far." Is that not far as in "almost?" Or not far as in "missed it by a mile?"

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Élégie
by James David Christie

Introit (11 a.m.)

Inscription of Hope
music: Z Randall Stroope, Village Voices

Call to Worship

Rev. Len Carrell

The Lord is God:

**creator, redeemer, sustainer,
the one who flung stars into the sky to light our way.**

The Lord is God:

**adored and adoring, truth-teller and justice-seeker,
the one who journeys to the cross and bids us follow.**

The Lord is God:

**as invisible as air, as ever-present as breath,
the one who is with us always, to the end of the age.**

*Hymn, No. 63

The Lord Is God
AZMON

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

**Forgive us when the distance between our head and our heart
is the longest, hardest journey of all.**

**Forgive us when we know the right answers,
but do not follow with right action.**

**Forgive us when we know you are God,
but we are too afraid to trust you.**

**Forgive us when we know our neighbors need us,
but we remain unconvinced our little lives can make a difference.** (Silent prayer)

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia!

*Passing of the Peace

Words of Welcome

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call to Prayer



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing. Lord, send your Spir-it in this place.



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

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

Come, Teach Us, Spirit of Our God
Anna Laura Page; Village Choir

Prayer for Illumination

Carol Tucker (8 a.m.)
Jeff Busche (9:30 a.m.)
Lisa Ball (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Mark 12:28-34 (pg. 924)

Sermon

He Got Everything Right and Still Missed It By That Much

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 203

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love
CHEREPONI

Offertory

Pastorale on FOREST GREEN
arr. Dale Wood; Morning Bells (8 a.m.); Village Ringers (9:30 a.m.)
Canzonetta in G, BuxWV 171
by Dieterich Buxtehude; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ (11 a.m.)

*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. 757

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples
KINGSFOLD

*Benediction

*Choral Response

Village Choir

*Postlude

Fantasy on *Kingsfold*
by Aaron David Miller

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

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

An “elegy” is a serious, reflective poem. During this season of Lent, it seems fitting to begin our worship with a piece of music that invites some introspection. To look inside oneself, into the corners of our mind and hearts, is an important spiritual practice. In those corners we sometimes find things to be afraid of, but we may also find strength that we didn’t know we had, or memories that we haven’t considered in quite some time.

Some of the magic of music lies in its ability to communicate a wide range of stories and emotions, even with one simple tune. Today’s postlude is a festive celebration based on the tune of our closing hymn: KINGSFOLD. A great many hymn texts have been set to this tune, from the more confident *The Mighty God with Power Speaks* (#13), to the narrative *O Sing a Song of Bethlehem* (#159), to the vulnerable *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* (#182). This is a tune that can work its way into your ears and keep you company all week long!

THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of March 27, 2017)

The following daily Bible readings were written by Rev. Jenny McDevitt 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, March 27

Proverbs 1

This little-read book offers instruction, understanding and insight. "Fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction." In a way, this is a collection of handed down wisdom. What wisdom was handed down to you from family or a mentor or friend? What wisdom in you is most worth sharing?

Tuesday, March 28

Proverbs 3

Verses 5-6 were among the first Bible verses I ever memorized. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding." How often we need to be reminded of this!

I confess that all too often, I think I know more than I really do. What is going on in your life right now that would benefit from trusting God? What do you need to let go of?

Wednesday, March 29

Proverbs 6

This chapter is titled "Practical Admonitions." Some of these instructions make good common sense, and others are bewildering. Learn from the ant, it reads, learn about hard work and focus. But then it continues: if you slumber, poverty will come upon you. Perhaps it means to refer to extreme circumstances, but it reads a bit harshly, doesn't it? Have you ever said something and then thought, "That's not exactly what I meant to say?" How did you follow up?

Thursday, March 30

Proverbs 14

Wisdom and foolishness. Those are the themes of this chapter. What wisdom looks like, and what foolishness looks like. I'd argue that context is everything in making this sort of determination. Staying silent in some circumstances is wise; staying silent in other circumstances is foolish and/or dangerous. Nevertheless, what does wisdom look like to you? How do you endeavor to gain wisdom?

Friday, March 31

Proverbs 26

This chapter contains one of my favorite contradictions: "Do not answer fools according to their folly, or you will be a fool yourself. Answer fools according to their folly, or they will be wise in their own eyes." So that's perfectly clear, right? Perhaps again we are invited to consider context. Yet the question remains: when have you acted or spoken foolishly? Our friends and family can bring out the best in us, but they can also witness the worst in us. Some would invite us to "rise above" in moments like this. How do you "rise above?" Where do you find faith in that?

Saturday, April 1

Proverbs 27

"Do not boast about tomorrow," this chapter begins, "for you do not know what a day might bring." While other verses from this book have brought me questions, this verse speaks truth right into my heart. We do not know what each day will hold, nor how many days we have. The poem "The Summer Day" by Mary Oliver concludes this way: "Tell me, what do you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?" So, friends: what do you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?

ART & HORS D'OEUVRES

5-7 P.M. • FRIDAY, MARCH 31 • VILLAGE CHURCH

J. S. BACH

SAINT JOHN PASSION

PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 9, 2017 | 3 P.M.

VILLAGE CHURCH
SANCTUARY

PERFORMED IN ENGLISH BY

Village Chamber Choir

Te Deum Chamber Choir

Kansas City Baroque
Consortium

FREE ADMISSION

A Retiring Offering will benefit

Jewish Vocational Service Refugee Services

TODAY AT VILLAGE

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

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL TODAY are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Jean Sullivan by her family.

KANSAS CITY WIND SYMPHONY CONCERT TONIGHT - Join us for a free concert at 7 p.m. tonight in the Sanctuary. The program will include Rimsky Korsakov's *Scheherazade* and *Procession of the Noble*, and Stravinsky's *Berceuse* and *Finale* from *The Firebird*. Kansas City harpist Tabitha Steiner will perform several music selections. Visit kcwindsymphony.org for more information.

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. 9:30-10:30 a.m. Room 302.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

AARP 55 ALIVE DRIVING CLASS will be held from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday and Friday, April 6 and 7, in Room 133. \$20 (\$15 if you are an AARP member) per person payable to AARP. Call Marianne, 913-671-233, to enroll.

Please register for the classes you wish to attend to assist in our planning purposes.

Upcoming Village U classes include:

GAME NIGHT – Are you looking for a fun night out? Come to Game Night! Bring your favorite board game or play one provided. Come learn a new game, and meet new friends. 6:30-8 p.m. Thursdays, March 30 and April 27. Room 233. Hosted by Kyle and Sandra Stephens.

INFANT, CHILD AND ADULT CPR BASICS-EVENING – Learn critical skills needed to respond and to manage a first aid, choking or sudden cardiac emergency in the first few minutes until emergency services arrive. 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 4. Room 232. Additional course materials fee: \$12/person.

APRIL TECH NIGHTS – Tech nights address specific questions regarding Word, Excel and email using a Microsoft Windows computer. Members of the Computer Ministry are available to provide individual assistance. Bring your laptop or tablet. Desktop computers will also be available. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, April 5-26. Room 316.

GROWING A VIBRANT, STICKY FAITH IN OUR CHILDREN – Co-led by Cheryl Couch-Thomas, director of Children and Family Ministries, and Dr. Rodger Nishioka, director of Adult Educational Ministries, this class will help parents live out their faith with their children in real and expressive ways so that faith in Jesus Christ will stick as they grow older. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, April 5-26. Rooms 132 and 133.

SEEING IS BELIEVING: EXPLORING MISSION IN THE HEARTLAND PRESBYTERY – Rev. Sally Wright, who serves us and all of the Heartland Presbytery as acting associate executive Presbyter, will help us understand what it means to be a missional congregation. Wednesdays, 6:30-8 p.m. April 5-26. Room 127.

HARRY S. TRUMAN PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM DAY TRIP – Join us to experience the eventful and triumphant life of America's 33rd President. 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, April 6. Facilitated by Georgia Klein. Cost: \$30 per person includes tour and lunch. Call 913-671-2333 to register.

BOOK CLUB – Join us for an interesting book discussion while your children enjoy child care. Our last spring selection is *The Light of the World, A Memoir* by Elizabeth Alexander. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 18. Room 206. Led by Nicki Johnston.

SPRING ADULT SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES meet at 9:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Check villagepres.org for more details.

THE ANCIENT PRESENT FUTURE CHURCH – Now-April 30 (except Easter), Dr. Rodger Nishioka leads this new adult class. The Acts of the Apostles is the story of the new movement of followers of Jesus that eventually became the Church. 10:45-11:45 a.m. Rooms 126-127.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER, MARCH 29 – Beer battered cod, red beans and rice (vegetarian), chicken tenders, cole slaw. Cost: \$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 for children ages 3-10. Children under 3 are free. Reservations are required by noon on the Monday preceding the Wednesday Night Dinner if you wish to attend. Call 913-671-2359 or email liz.middleton@villagepres.org or go to villagepres.org/wednesday-dinners to make a reservation.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY – During March, the Food Pantry has asked for canned vegetables. The donations so far have given us a variety of canned vegetables and, again this week the request is for variety - i.e. beets, spinach, refried beans, okra. The Clothes Closet is asking for shoes and all sizes are needed. On April 1, the Clothes Closet will start accepting spring clothing—clean, sized and gently used.

COFFEE AND DONUTS WITH HABITAT – Would you like to become involved as a Kansas City Habitat for Humanity volunteer? Join us for an informational meeting to kick off the 2017 construction season at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, March 29, in Room 129. Representatives from Habitat and Village Church, as well as members of the Tuesday-Thursday crew, will be on hand to discuss plans and building sites. Contact Dave Lillard at 913-649-8930 or Deborah White at 913-671-2369 for more information.

JOIN THE VILLAGE COMMUNITY GARDEN TEAM – We need volunteers to work the soil, pull weeds, harvest vegetables and water crops. All produce goes to clients of the Village Food Pantry. Find out more at our community garden information table in Friendship Hall from 9 a.m.–noon today, or call Deborah White at 913-671-2369 or deborah.white@villagepres.org.

HELP NEEDED – From 10 a.m-2 p.m. Saturday, April 1, Village Church will paint our sponsored Hillcrest Transitional Living apartment at 9630 Bluejacket in Overland Park. Contact Karen Reimer at kreimer2@kc.rr.com or Nancy Gatewood at nngatewood@gmail.com.

MUSIC MINISTRY

SECOND THURSDAY RECITAL APRIL 13 – Please join us at 12:15 p.m. Thursday, April 13, in the Village Chapel, when harpsichordist Charles Metz will perform three pieces by Jean Philippe Rameau: *Les Tourbillons*, *L'entretien Des Muses* and *Les Niais de Sologne*. The program will also include J.S. Bach's *Italian Concerto*. The recital is free and open to the community.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

JOIN US FOR THE FAITH AND GRIEF LUNCH APRIL 4 – If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, come to the Faith and Grief lunch from noon-1 p.m. Tuesday, April 4, in Friendship Hall. There will be a short program and conversation around tables led by a trained facilitator. Lunch is included. Registration is extremely helpful; go online at faithandgrief.org. If you have questions or would like more information, contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

GROWING THROUGH GRIEF STARTS APRIL 5 – Growing Through Grief is a five-week class where you can meet others who are grieving and understand your struggles. One of the Pastoral Care pastors is the facilitator. The next series is from 5-6:45 p.m. every Wednesday, April 5–May 3, in Room 124. You'll receive your own copy of *Understanding Your Grief—Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart*, by Alan D. Wolfelt, Ph.D. Reading this book is optional yet is very helpful. The series and book are offered at no cost. Registration is required. Contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org for more information or to register.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

WOMEN WITH SPIRIT invite you to join us at The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art on Thursday, March 30. Happy hour begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Bloch Building lobby. You may choose to join one of two docent-led tours of the collection highlights; the first begins at 6:30 p.m., the second at 7:30 p.m.

CELEBRATION OF FAITHFUL WOMEN 2017 BRUNCH will honor three amazing volunteers: Marilyn Borel, Julie Foster and Virginia Stuhr at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 8. Join us for a delicious meal and a presentation by our featured speaker, Sarah Are. We will enjoy friendship and fellowship at this very special event. Reservations are \$16 per person and can be made between services today in Friendship Hall.

MISSION SEWING accepts fabric (one yard pieces or larger) in cotton, cotton blends and wool. We also need yarn and embroidery floss. Contact Edie Hultman at 913-432-3515 regarding other items to be donated and general information. If you don't machine sew, perhaps you would enjoy doing some hand sewing, stuffing pillows or pressing. Come and go as your time permits. Lunch is from noon-1 p.m. Bring your lunch or purchase at the Village Cup.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

THURSDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUP – 6:30 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.

YOUTH MINISTRY

HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES – Will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Youth Loft, Rooms 332/333.

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 for our after-school program from 4-5:30 p.m. in the Youth Loft, Room 333. All are welcome!

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!

Holy Week Worship Services

7 p.m. Maundy Thursday, April 13

7 p.m. Good Friday, April 14

Easter Sunday, April 16 — 8, 9:30 and 11:15 a.m.

Village is offering free shuttle bus service Easter morning. Buses will pick up at the Blue Moose parking lot at Prairie Village Shopping Center and drop off at the church.

Last Day to Submit Nominations For 2018 Village Church Officers

The Village Church Nominating Committee needs your help in matching abilities with responsibilities. They are seeking recommendations for elders, elder trustees and deacons for 2018. Submit the form on our website: villagepres.org under the "About" section and "Officers" page. The link is at the top of the Officers page. Printed forms are also available at the Receptionist Desk. Forms must be received by today, March 26.

Creative Spaces

Throughout the past year, we have explored different possibilities for artistic expression in our worship spaces and in the Welcome Center. More hands, hearts and minds are welcome to contribute to this process. If you have a creative streak, or would like to develop one, join us. Contact Rev. Jenny McDevitt at jenny.mcdevitt@villagepres.org.

Easter Lily Memorials

Honor a loved one by purchasing a potted lily. Mail a check for \$10 payable to Village Church (include the memorial/honorary name with the check). Send your check to the church, Attn: Janice Gill with "Easter Memorial" referenced on both the envelope and the check. This must be received by Wednesday, April 12, to be included in the May 3 *Good News* listing of donors.

LENTEN SERMON SERIES

The People You Meet Along the Way

Jesus journeyed to Jerusalem. It was a journey on foot and a journey of the heart. A cross awaited him. When you know the end is near your time is precious and you pay attention to the people around you. Jesus spoke with his followers and with a rich man. He noticed children and an impoverished woman. Jesus paid attention to them all. We will pay attention to them as well, and discover that there is a little bit of all of them in us. I suppose that means we are on the journey as well, at least the journey of the heart.

March 5	Let's Go Over This One More Time For James and John
March 12	This Guy Thinks It's All About Him
March 19	Jesus Is Interrupted and Schooled By a Courageous Woman
March 26	He Got Everything Right and Still Missed It By That Much
April 2	Would You Want To Be a Kid Again?
April 9	Do You See That Woman . . . She Looks a Lot Like Jesus
Maundy Thursday	That's Just the Way Of the World
Good Friday	Tenebrae Service
Easter: April 16	The Heart Of the Matter

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.
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.*