SERVICE OF WORSHIP
May 13, 2018 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY’S SERVICE
A scribe wanted to know which was the greatest commandment. What matters most to God? Jesus responds: love God with all that you are and love your neighbor. His response does not surprise us, not in the least. But simply knowing the right answer doesn’t mean we have obeyed the commandment. When it comes to commandments, it’s not just knowledge, but obedience that matters.
GOD’S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

*Waterlife
by David Christiansen

Introit (11 a.m.)

*I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* (Hindustani melody)
words by S. Singh (verses in English, Sudanese and Arabic); Prelude Choir

Call to Worship

Rev. Len Carrell

When you were baptized, God whispered what was always and already true:

**You are my child, whom I love.**

For God is like a heavenly parent,

**a father who welcomes the prodigal,**

**a mother who gathers her children.**

So, welcome home.

*Hymn, No. 475

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*
NETTLETON

*Prayer of Confession

**God of grace,**

**You call us to love:**

- to love when we can’t help it,
- to love when love is hard work,
- to love when we don’t know how.

In Christ, You have shown us what love looks like.

Draw us closer to You, that we might love as You love,

and that we might love what You love. (Silent prayer)

*Assurance of God’s Grace
*Response

Anthem (11 a.m.)  Wonder – Beautiful
by Mark Burrows; Morning Stars

*Passing of the Peace

Words of Welcome

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call to Prayer (8 a.m.)
Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer (8 a.m.)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

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

Baptismal Response

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, Marked with the sign of Christ, our King;
Born of the Spirit, we are God’s children, Joyfully now God’s praises we sing.

Prayer for Illumination

Diann Markley (8 a.m.)
Scott Stanley (9:30 a.m.)
Ruth Johnson (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Mark 12:28-34 (pg. 924)

Anthem (9:30 a.m.)

Gracious Spirit
by Hal Hopson; Village Voices

Sermon

Love Is Not the Only Thing
Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Offertory

Set me as a seal upon your heart,
As a seal upon your arm;
For love is as strong as death,
Many waters cannot quench love,
Nor can the floods drown it.
Set me as a seal upon your heart,
As a seal upon your arm;
For love is as strong as death.
— Text: Song of Solomon
ABOUT TODAY’S MUSIC

Today we celebrate a wonderful year of Children’s Music Ministry with our children singing in the 11 a.m. service. Thank you to our children and their directors — Jenny Hull, Kate Beebe, Rebecca Enslow and Breanne Jeffries — for sharing their musical gifts all year!
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, May 14**  
*John 2:1-12*

Although Mother’s Day is behind us, we can still reflect this interaction between Jesus and his mother. It is Mary who knows her son is able to help. It is Mary who insists Jesus step in. Sometimes people know us better than we know ourselves. Who are the people in your life who know you that well? How trusting are you of their advice, even when you are hesitant to listen?

**Tuesday, May 15**  
*Acts 10:44-48*

Pentecost is coming in a couple weeks and these verses remind us that God’s Spirit cannot be constrained. The Holy Spirit shows up in surprising places; where might the Spirit be at work near you that you have yet to recognize?

**Wednesday, May 16**  
*1 John 5:1-6*

John puts love in terms of action – specifically, our willingness to obey God’s commandments. We don’t often think of healthy love as following someone else’s orders. But for John, God wants nothing but loving redemption for us and all those around us. God’s commandments aim at such redemption. When we can believe in that truth, we find love of God not burdensome, but transforming and restorative.

**Thursday, May 17**  
*John 15:12-178*

Speaking of commandments, Jesus gives us one here. We also read here a reminder that God first chose us. In the more difficult moments in life we do well to remember that God still chooses us, and chooses us first. Always.

**Friday, May 18**  
*Psalm 98*

The language in this psalm is so celebratory it makes one think what would happen in order for us to be so joyful? We discover at the end of the psalm that the reason for the author’s joy is anticipation of God’s coming, and confidence that God’s arrival will bring about much-longed-for righteousness. We find comfort that God’s arrival will bring fair and equal treatment for all.

**Saturday, May 19**  
*Malachi 3:1-4*

One of the promises of the Old Testament is that God seeks us, chooses us, and promises to send a messenger to us. What a delight to know a God who keeps promises, who assures us that we are never forgotten, and settles for nothing less than to be with us.
PLEASE JOIN US FOR A
Solo Organ Recital & Hymn Festival
with Dr. Jan Kraybill
7:30 p.m. Friday, May 18
Village on Mission Sanctuary
Admission is Free.

JOIN US FOR THE
Service of Installation
for Rev. Dr. Brandon Frick
Site Pastor at Village on Antioch
7 p.m.
Monday, May 21
Village on Antioch Sanctuary
WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH! Please join us every week. Refreshments are available in Friendship Hall following the worship service.

HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY! Enjoy your flowers on this special day!

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM – We welcome these newest members into our faith community. 9:30 a.m.: Bentley Michael Bedrosian and Elizabeth Marie Bedrosian (Amber Hitchcock and Justin Bedrosian, parents); Maxine Avery Jones (Lee Stiegemeier and Nick Jones, parents); Thomas Baldwin Keller (Katie and Jack Keller, parents); London Rose King (Hannah and Brad King, parents); Mildred Noel McCabe (Leigh and Benjamin McCabe, parents); Charles Alan Monger, Francesca Katherine Monger and Raymond Michael Monger (Gina and Brett Monger, parents); Cecilia Marian Nohl and Oliver Frank Nohl (Amy and Brent Nohl, parents); Charles Patrick Sheehy (Robyn and Matt Sheehy, parents); and Colton William Smith and Grayson Starr Smith (Natalie and Timothy Smith, parents). 11 a.m.: Nicholas Ionut Ciordas (Rachel and Ionut Ciordas, parents); Violet Boomer Dean (Logan and Spencer Dean, parents); Jack Martin Hodes (Blair and Jesse Hodes, parents); Parker Owen Maughan (Kevin and Lacey Maughan, parents); and Calla Marina Alexander Svaty (Kimberly and Josh Svaty, parents).

TONIGHT’S TAIZÉ IS CANCELLED – Because today is Mother’s Day, the Taizé service scheduled for this evening has been cancelled.

VILLAGE CHURCH – Village receives new members every other month at a special Sunday luncheon. The upcoming date is June 10. Contact cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org for information.

VILLAGE FORUM – Now-May 20, Rev. Dr. John Borden is teaching Early Christianity and Beginning of the Church, examining such topics as the world of the ancient Middle East, the thought, religion and culture in the time of Christ and the early church. Room 126.
PSALMS FOR LIFE – Dr. Rodger Nishioka is teaching a class on the Psalms. The Psalms are sources of inspiration and instruction. We will explore some of the most popular such as Psalm 23 to the most challenging. This class is for the novice and seasoned Bible reader and runs through May 20 in Rooms 132 and 133.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

INFANTS-6TH GRADERS – Registration, classroom and choir information is outside of Rooms 107, 205 & 307.

INFANTS-TODDLERS – Child care is available during all services in Rooms 111 & 114.

NEW BABY AND BAPTISM INFORMATION – Call 913-671-2350 or email kate.ruecker@villagepres.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL IMPORTANT DATES – Next Sunday, May 20, is the last day of School Year Sunday School; and June 3 is the first day of Summer Sunday School. Family Worship Sunday is May 27.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL UPDATE – Youth and all adults, please join our biggest ministry week of the year, July 16-20. Nearly 200 children are enrolled in Village on Mission’s VBS. Invite family and friends to join you to pray, sing, create, prepare crafts and meals at home, teach, read, lead, love and more. Come touch children’s lives at our VBS Week Extraordinaire! Call 913-671-2350.

HEARTLAND TRAVELING DAY CAMP UPDATE – Limited time and space for camper registration remaining with the end of this week, May 18, as the deadline. Call 913-671-2350 to register.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

VILLAGE GOLF OUTING – Do you like a casual golf outing? Then, these outings are for you! The monthly outings are a four-person scramble format and runs now thru October. All are invited. You do not need to be a member of Village Church. The next outing is at Prairie Highlands on Tuesday, June 12, with 8 a.m. Tee Time. RSVP by June 1 to Brad Steil, 913-469-5683, bradsteil@everestkc.net, or Art Newcomer, 913-752-7540, artnewcome@aol.com.

MISSION

FOOD PANTRY – Thank you from the Food Pantry for your generous donations to Canned Fruit Sunday. We collected a total of 493 pounds from both church campuses. School is almost over and some children will not be receiving free breakfasts this summer. The Pantry is asking for all varieties of cereal to fill our shelves and allow the clients to pick their favorite cereal. The Clothes Closet is joyfully accepting spring and summer clothing. Thank you.

WITNESS OFFERING (May 20, Pentecost Sunday): This offering is divided among Village Church (40%) for programs focused on supporting youth in Village and Heartland Presbytery and General Assembly for children at risk advocacy (10%), ministries with youth (25%) and ministries with young adults (25%). Yellow envelopes for this offering reside in the hymnal slot in the pew in front of you.

CELEBRATION DOMINICANA – Please join the Dominican Republic Medical Partnership (DRMP) of Village Church for our annual fundraiser, Celebration Dominicana, from 7-10 p.m. Friday, June 15, at the Madrid Theatre. This festive evening enables our non-profit organization to provide health care and health education to poverty-stricken communities in the DR. Single tickets are $65 if purchased by May 18. Cost is $75 a person after May 18. Go to drmp2018.eventbrite.com to buy tickets and learn about sponsorship opportunities.
MUSIC MINISTRY

SOLO ORGAN RECITAL & HYMN FESTIVAL WITH DR. JAN KRAYBILL – Please join us at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 18, in the Village on Mission Sanctuary, for this final concert in the Village Pipe Organ Dedicatory Recital Series. Admission is free.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

GUEST SPEAKER MEGAN CLARK PRESENTS THIS THURSDAY – Join us at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 17, for the Families for Mental Health Meeting in Room 126. Megan Clark from Johnson County Mental Health will be discussing suicide prevention. There is a share and care time following the program for those who would like to stay.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

WOW LUNCHEON – After adverse weather caused cancellation of an earlier WOW lunch at Cheesecake Factory, Women of Wisdom again invites all ladies to this fun restaurant at 6675 W. 119th, in Overland Park at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 23. Please note the earlier start time which is necessary to reserve a table. RSVP to Diane Lee, 913-432-4321, or dianelee@att.net by Tuesday, May 22.

MISSION SEWING needs non sewers to stuff pillows, do hand sewing, some sorting and pressing. If this appeals to you, come join us on Tuesdays starting at 8 a.m. and running until 3 p.m. Come and go as your time permits, or stay as long as you like. Lunch is from noon-1 p.m. Bring your own or visit "The Cup." Call Edie Hultman for more information at 913-432-3515.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

THEOLOGY THURSDAYS – 6:30-8:30 p.m. Village Courtyard (outside the Cup). We’re spending May following our sermon series: Curate Your Heart. Come, let’s do some heart work, together. Food provided.

ART PROJECT WITH SYRIAN NEIGHBORS – 4-5:30 p.m. Saturday, May 26, Rolling Hills Presbyterian Church (9300 Nall Ave.) Every Saturday afternoon our friends with the Arabic Presbyterian Fellowship meet with the Syrian refugee families in KC for ESL classes. While they learn together, we’ll gather the children for art and play. Come, let’s show our Syrian neighbors some love. Let us know you’re coming at villagepres.org/youngadults.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Join us for any of our weekly activities – All are welcome regardless of previous Village attendance and no sign-up is required. Check villagepresyouth.org for more details.

SUNDAY SCHOOL (middle school and high school) – 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the Youth Loft (Room 333).

PROGRAMS ON BREAK – As we approach the end of the school year our programs pause to allow space for graduations, studying for finals, and other end-of-school year events. Don’t forget Youth Week starts on June 3 (see below) and our summer programming starts June 10!

SUMMER TRIP REGISTRATION IS OPEN! – Sign up for the middle school mission trip, high school Montreat and Boundary Waters adventure. Register and pay for trips online at villagepresyouth.org/form.

YOUTH WEEK STARTS JUNE 3! – Kick off summer with a bang and join in on any or all of the Youth Week activities. Registration forms can be found on the youth website (see above) on the Forms page. Meet interns, get the summer shirt, and have a blast! All recently finished 6th graders through recently graduated 12th graders are welcome.
**Congregational Meeting**
The Session has called a congregational meeting to follow the 9:30 a.m. service on May 20. The purpose is to extend a call to Dr. Rodger Nishioka to serve as senior associate for Village Presbyterian Church.

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**Summer Worship Schedule Begins May 27**
Village Church will switch to its summer worship schedule on Sunday, May 27. We will worship at 9:30 and 11 a.m. in the Village on Mission Sanctuary, with The Gathering at 5 p.m. in Friendship Hall.
Village on Antioch will worship at 10 a.m. starting Sunday, May 27.
Our radio broadcast at 8 a.m. Sundays on 1660 AM KMBZ, the Business Channel, will be a week delayed pre-recorded worship service starting June 3.
We return to our regular worship schedule on Sunday, Sept. 9.

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**Awe Moment**
In March, the deacons of Village Church participated in a volunteer work day. One of the non-profit organizations they volunteered with was Avenue of Life in Kansas City, Kan. This organization supports homeless families. Our deacons painted offices and hallways, sorted clothing in the clothes closet and planted early spring seeds in the raised garden beds. An "Awe"day all around and very appreciated by Avenue of Life.
But the "Awe" day gets even better! While our deacons worked, they heard that the organization’s vacuum had been stolen recently, making it a struggle to keep the carpets clean. Unbeknownst to anyone, when two of our deacons left at the end of their shift, they didn’t head home but instead went out, purchased two new vacuums and delivered the vacuums to Avenue of Life later that afternoon!
Your generosity brings our mission to life and we are grateful.

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**Village on Antioch Upcoming Event**
Community Food Truck Festival
5:30-7:30 p.m. Sunday, May 20, Village on Antioch
Please join us at Village on Antioch for our second annual Community Food Truck Festival. We will have four trucks, a bounce house, face painting and live music. Food is very reasonably priced.
Curate Your Heart

Some have said we are defined by our work. Some have said we are what we eat. At the deepest level, we are what we love. We can love all manner of things. We love our families and we love vacation. We love our country and we can love good coffee. It seems that love just happens, that love is something into which we fall. But love is also chosen. It is important to ask ourselves if we love the right things. In this sermon series, we will explore how following the life of Christ is a practice of training our hearts to want what God wants, to love the right things. If we are what we love, then curating our hearts is important work.

April 15 What Do You Want?
April 22 This Is Not the Time for Trivia
April 29 We Are Part of a Long Amazing Story
May 6 It’s Not Always About Bliss
May 13 Love Is Not the Only Thing
May 20 It’s Not Always About Me—Even When It Is
May 27 Do You Have Time, or Does Time Have You?

MINISTERS
All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Thomas L. Are, Jr., senior pastor ❖ Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist
Will Breytspraak, director of music ❖ Rev. Len Carrell, pastor of pastoral care
Rev. 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 ❖ Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate
Matthew C. Shepard, associate director of music ❖ Molly Sirridge, director of stewardship and endowments
Rev. Zach Walker, pastor of youth ministries ❖ Deborah White, director of mission
Cindy A. Wilcox, director of connectional ministries ❖ Ellen Wootton, interim director of children and family ministry
Rev. Dr. Robert H. Meneilly, pastor emeritus

Streaming video of all the Sunday morning Sanctuary services is available at villagepres.org.
Click the home page link “Live Sermon and Sermon Archives.”
The Sanctuary worship service is broadcast live at 8 a.m. on 1660 AM KMBZ, The Business Channel.
We kindly request that cell phones be turned off during worship.
Please note that additional parking is available across Mission Road in the Prairie School parking lots.
If you are not taking your bulletin with you, hand it to an usher so it may be recycled.