



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

May 28, 2017 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

Tucked between stories of healing, persecution and arrests is this story about an organizational meeting. It seems a little tedious at first, but reveals some things about leadership and change which we might find instructive in a world that is forever changing. As God continues to speak into our lives and this world, how are we called to be new and evolving as well?

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Lamento
by Denis Bédard

Call to Worship

Rev. Len Carrell

We gather because we share one hope,
hope in God the creator, redeemer, and sustainer.

We gather because we are recipients of grace,
grace given to us so that we might flourish.

We gather because we are called,
**some to be preachers or poets or prophets,
some to be healers or builders or analysts,
some to be artists or musicians or dancers,
some to be advocates or teachers or counselors.**

We have each been given different gifts,
**all in service of the same Lord,
the one we worship and praise.**

*Hymn, No.240

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks
ALLELUIA NO. 1

*Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God,
We treat the earth as if it is replaceable.
We treat our children as if they are too difficult
and our elders as if they are no longer relevant.
We treat our friends as if they have no needs of their own
and our enemies as if they are evil incarnate.
We treat you as if you are little more than a cosmic custodian,
called upon when we need help cleaning up a mess.
Give us new ways of seeing, O God,
and more faithful ways of living. (Silent prayer)**

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response

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

*Passing of the Peace

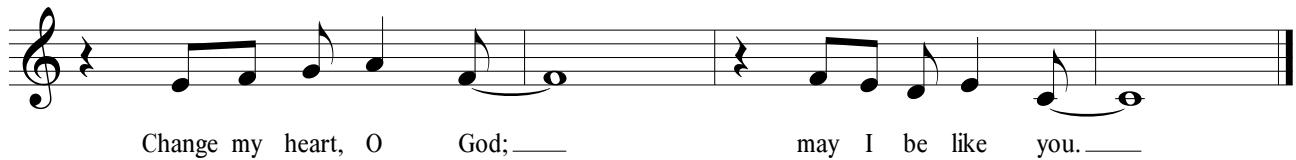
Words of Welcome

Why Village Matters

Dominican Republic Partnership

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call to Prayer



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.

Prayer for Illumination

Diann Markley (8 a.m.)

Bill Hare (9:30 a.m.)

Kim Higgins (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Acts 6:1-7 (pg. 996)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Affirmation of Faith: from the Confession of 1967

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission.

His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being.

His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need.

His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice.

In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong.

*Hymn, No. 47

Bless All Who Trust in God
FRANCONIA

Offertory

Alleluia! Alleluia! Give Thanks to the Risen Lord!
arr. Jeffrey Honoré (8 a.m.)

Jesus The Very Thought Of Thee
arr. Diane Bish; Rachel Priest, soprano (9:30, 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. 377

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
HOUSTON

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

**In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

*Postlude

Präludium and Adagio in g moll
by Georg Böhm

**All who are able may stand*

© A-705103 for all hymns

WORSHIP NOTES

Occasional Reflections on the Elements of Worship

These reflections are written by Village's staff, and it is our hope that knowing a bit more about some of the individual components of the church service may help us to experience more fully the gifts of this time together.

Hymns

written by Ryan Main and Elisa Bickers

Hymns serve as an opportunity to join together in Christian community through the uniting of our individual voices for a musical moment that is greater than the sum of its parts. These carefully selected songs give us time to sing God's praises, proclaim our concerns, or amplify the message of the day. Joyous or solemn, rousing or introspective; these musical selections allow us to bring our own hearts and voices to worship through song.

It is easy to assume that all hymns were born in grand moments of inspiration - mountain-top experiences, for the coronation of some ancient king, or the like. That is certainly true for many of our very favorite hymns. However, the more likely hymn birthplace by far is the common, human experience. For example, both text and tune of today's final hymn were written during an extreme heat wave in St. Louis in 1966. While scrambling around her un-air-conditioned home, trying to pack up her two-year-old child and elderly mother for a journey to Houston to escape the heat, the author found herself bitten by the hymn bug. There, amidst the sweat and hurry, she was inspired to compose a prayer and meditation on the theme of light. This story also serves as a welcome reminder: sometimes, incredible creativity strikes us when we think we are supposed to be doing something else.

THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of May 28, 2017)

The following daily Bible readings were written by Dr. Rodger Nishioka 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 and our mission. Pray for God's world.

Monday, May 29

Hebrews 12:1-2

On this Memorial Day when the United States remembers those who have so faithfully served our nation, the writer of Hebrews reminds us of the "great cloud of witnesses" that surround us. These witnesses are all the faithful men and women who have died and are now in heaven. Given the imagery of running a race, we do well to remember that these witnesses are like those who stand along the race route cheering for the runners. So remember this day those who have died and know that they are even now rooting for us as we follow Jesus.

Tuesday, May 30

Hebrews 12:3-13

As the reading from Hebrews continues, the writer calls us to remember that because Jesus endured so much, when we face hardship and struggle, we should not get discouraged. The writer quotes from Proverbs 3:11-12 and reminds us that discipline helps to shape and mature us. Like a loving parent, God desires the best for us and allows us to face struggles and challenges so that we might grow more dependent upon God than upon ourselves. Reflect on your life and recall times of struggle. How did God see you through those times?

Wednesday, May 31

Hebrews 12:14-17

Today the writer of Hebrews tells us to "pursue peace" and holiness (living rightly according to God) so that others will see the Lord. The message here is that through our living peace-filled and holy lives, others will see God at work in us. The truism that "actions speak louder than words" resonates here. How will you pursue peace and holiness today so that others will notice and see the Lord in you?

Thursday, June 1

Hebrews 12:18-24

In the days before Jesus Christ, the people of God were terrified of encountering God because God was so powerful and awesome that to come face to face with God meant certain death. But Jesus Christ, God in human flesh, changed all that. God came to the world in the person of Jesus Christ so that all of creation might relate to God in a new way. God is still all powerful and awesome but in the humbleness of Jesus, we can approach God without fear. Give thanks to God today for the new covenant between God and creation revealed in Jesus Christ.

Friday, June 2

Hebrews 12:25-29

In her last letter to her husband George Burns, actress and comedian Gracie Allen wrote, "Never place a period where God has placed a comma." Such wisdom is echoed in today's reading. When the writer of Hebrews tell us to "not refuse the one who is speaking," that one is God. The verb here is a continuous one and tells us that God is still speaking. So how do you hear God today? One friend told me that she hears God in the early morning singing of the birds. Another told me that she hears God in the healthy cries of infants. How do you hear God speaking to you?

Saturday, June 3

Hebrews 13:1-8

The reading today includes two of my favorites: verse two and verse eight. Throughout the Bible, God calls on us to demonstrate special care for three specific groups of people: orphans, widows, and strangers. In the ancient world and in many places today, orphans, widows, and strangers are abandoned. And verse eight reminds us of the constancy of Jesus Christ. In the midst of all that is changing around us, be heartened in the sure knowledge that the grace of God revealed to us in Jesus Christ will never change. Thanks be to God!

Join us for

Celebration Dominicana

**A Fundraiser for the
Dominican Republic Medical Partnership
7 p.m. Friday, June 9, at the Vox Theatre**

Caribbean food, drinks, music, dancing and a silent auction.

Get tickets at drmp2017.eventbrite.com



**VILLAGE CHURCH
CHILD & FAMILY
DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

Community Open House & Dedication

**3-5 p.m.
Sunday, June 11**

Tours, activities for kids & refreshments!

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 Dave Francisco by Jean Francisco.

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 – Memorial Day Sunday: There is no Sunday School for grades K-5th.

Club V6 (6th Grade) – Recently graduated 6th graders are now part of Middle School Youth. Meet in the Youth Loft.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

Summer Adult Sunday Morning Class

FAITH SEEKING UNDERSTANDING. SUMMER SERMON BIBLE TEXT CONVERSATION FOR ADULTS – Beginning June 4 and continuing each Sunday through Aug. 20, all adults are invited to study and discuss the Bible text for the day's sermon. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, director of adult educational ministry, will lead the majority of classes. The class will meet in Rooms 126-127 from 10:45-11:45 a.m. The class welcomes persons who are new to the Bible as well as those who are more familiar with the Bible. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we will explore the context of the Bible passage, discuss what the preacher said in the sermon, and better understand what it means to us as followers of Jesus.

SPECIAL CLASS: NOW THAT YOU HAVE YOUR GOOGLE ID, WHAT DO YOU DO WITH IT? – The Village Church Computer Ministry is hosting "water cooler sessions" on the first Wednesday of the month on June 7, July 5, Aug. 2 and Sept. 6. Learn how the Google suite of products can be used to collaborate with others while doing God's work in the church and the community. Topics will include Gmail and InBox, Google Calendar, Google Docs, Google Spreadsheets, Google Drive, and Google Keep. 6:30-8 p.m. in Room 316.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

70s AND UP DINNER – 4 p.m. Thursday, June 1. You are invited to meet at the Salsa Grill Mexican restaurant in Mission to enjoy low-seasoned dishes, good prices and neighborhood friendliness with other Village Church friends. We'll gather for an early dinner located on 6508 Martway, Mission. Salsa Grill is located south of Johnson Drive, across from the Hy-Vee Grocery Store. We hope you can come and enjoy the fellowship of friends and a wonderful meal! We'll go "Dutch" (each person pays for their meal). Space is limited, so RSVP to Liz Middleton at 913-671-2359 or liz.middleton@villagepres.org.

40S & 50S DINNER – 6 p.m. Thursday, June 15. Couples and singles are invited to meet at the Olive Garden Italian Restaurant at 6750 W. 95th Street in Overland Park. Olive Garden is located on 95th Street, just east of Metcalf. The reservation is under "Village Church Group". Each person is responsible for their own tab. Come and enjoy the fellowship of friends and a wonderful meal! RSVP to liz.middleton@villagepres.org or call 913-671-2359. Space is limited!

TELL ME MORE ABOUT THIS CHURCH – This a special opportunity for those newer to Village Church to spend time with Senior Pastor Tom Are, Jr. and learn more about Village Church. This is a two-part, free class that will be offered from 6-8 p.m. on Tuesdays, May 30 (part 1), and June 6 (part 2), in Room 232 (south end of the building/2nd floor). A box dinner will be provided. To register, contact Liz Middleton at 913-671-2359 or liz.middleton@villagepres.org. Child care is available for this event with (7 days) advance notice reservation. Make your child care reservations by contacting marjean.lindquist@villagepres.org or call 913-671-2322.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY – Summer is definitely here, and the Clothes Closet is looking for summer clothing - clean, gently used, in all sizes. As you purchase new clothes, don't forget the Closet can use your hand-me-downs. Also hats, sunglasses, shoes, etc. are needed. The Food Pantry needs the summer personal care items: sunscreen, deodorant, insect repellent, etc. The Pantry is also asking for 1lb. bags of all varieties of dried beans and rice. Thank you.

WITNESS OFFERING is coming on Pentecost Sunday, June 4. 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 are available in the hymnal slot in the pew in front of you.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

WE ARE GRATEFUL AND BLESSED BY OUR MILITARY – If you serve in the military or have family members or friends who are currently serving, we'd be honored to add your/his/her name to our prayer list. Contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org with the person's name, rank, where he/she is based, and any other information you would like to share.

JOIN US JUNE 6 FOR FAITH & GRIEF LUNCH – Grieving the loss of someone close is a challenging journey; sometimes being with others who are facing this same challenge can help. Join others who are also grieving at the monthly Faith and Grief Lunch. There is a short program and conversation around tables led by a trained facilitator. Lunch is provided. Come every month, come when your schedule allows, or just come once to check it out. Faith & Grief lunches are from noon-1 p.m. in Friendship Hall. Register 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.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

WOMEN WITH SPIRIT GIRLS' NIGHT OUT – We're going casual for the summer month of June! Throw on your comfy jeans and join us at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 15, in Waldo at the Bier Company, 310 W. 79 St., Kansas City, Mo. You can buy food/drinks there or even bring your own bottle of wine for a \$10 corking fee. Email pam.southerland@villagepres.org by June 8 for child care reservations. Child care is available from 6-8:30 p.m.

SACRISTY COMMITTEE

COMMUNION will be part of the Pentecost Sunday service next week. For those with gluten allergies, gluten free wafers and napkins (in which to hold the wafer) will be available before you enter the Sanctuary - at the back of the Sanctuary on the Narthex credenza - at the east and west entrances at the front of the sanctuary - and in the balcony. The ushers greeting at those doors will direct you to the gluten free wafers. Please hold your wafer in the napkin until we all partake of the sacraments during the service.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

BIER AND BIBLE – 7 p.m. Thursday night, KC Bier Company. We're talking about the gospel of Mark. With a short attention span, no need for "fluff," and a knack for political critique, this gospel was written for young adults (not really, but kind of). Let's read it together. Bring a Bible (Rev. Hallie would love to give you one if you ask!). Pizza provided.

YOUTH MINISTRY

HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES – Will attend the 9:30 a.m. service service in the Youth Loft (Room 333).

YOUTH WEEK – Want to kick summer off to a great start? Join us for Youth Week, June 4-8. Activities range from Worlds of Fun to volunteering to a day at Powerplay! Check the youth website for the form to sign-up.

Summer Worship Schedule Begins June 4

Sunday Worship Services at Village on Mission

9:30 and 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary

5 p.m. The Gathering, alternative worship, in Friendship Hall

Sunday Worship at Village on Antioch

11 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Our worship service radio broadcast on 1660 AM KMBZ, the Business Channel will be a recorded broadcast of the previous Sunday's service starting Sunday, June 11.

Single Adult Ministry

Village Presbyterian Church launched a new Single Adult Ministry this spring. This new ministry will offer a variety of programs and events for all single adults (age 40 & up) in our congregation and community. Our plan, initially, is to focus on four programming areas which include:

1. Taste-of-KC (meet for dinner in local restaurants)
2. Service Projects (work on mission/service projects together)
3. Faith & Film (watch a movie/eat together, followed by discussion)
4. Outdoor Activities (gather for walks, bike rides, etc.)

We also have a Single Adult Leadership Team in place with eight members: Ben Hard, Dee Couch, Jean Jennings, Judy Wiseman, Mary Kapka, Joni Kimsey, Denise Ray and Richard Frederick. This team is working to create programming opportunities for 2017. The Village staff contact for this new ministry is Cindy Wilcox, director of Connectional Ministries.

The Single Adults just completed their first service project last Saturday, May 13, which included building an outdoor prayer labyrinth next to our Community Garden at the Village Church Reverend Robert and Shirley Meneilly Center for Mission (99th & Mission Rd.). Below is information about two more upcoming events. **RSVP to Liz Middleton at liz.middleton@villagepres.org.**

TASTE-OF-KC DINNER – 6 p.m. Friday, June 30, at Red Robin Gourmet Burgers, 95th and Metcalf in Overland Park.

FAITH & FILM – 6:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20. View movie: *Collateral Beauty*-followed by discussion.

SERMON NOTES

SERMON SERIES

Living Unafraid In a Frightening World

When Easter was over and the world got back to normal, some recognized there was a new normal now. The world today is a place of crosses. Bodies fail and hearts break, systems and structures crush the powerless. There is enough in this world to scare you to death. But Jesus is alive now—there is a new normal. Jesus is alive now, so we can live, even in this world, as a people who are living unafraid in a frightening world.

April 30	Act 1:6-11	You Shall Be My Witnesses
May 7	Acts: 7	Carry This Story With You
May 14	Acts 9:36-43	We All Need Dorcas in Our Lives
May 21	Acts 9:1-19	Being Converted to Christ Every Day
May 28	Acts 6:1-7	Now Hiring
June 4	Acts 2:1-13	Who Needs to Be There?
June 11	Acts 10	The Last Person I Thought I Would Need
June 18	Act 15	When God Shows Up At Your Meeting
June 25	Acts 20:7-12	A Lesson From Eutychus
July 2	Acts 15: 36-41	Barnabas: Son of Encouragement
July 9	Acts 26:12-18	Have I Told You This Story Before?
July 16	Acts 28:23-30	It Doesn't Get Any Better Than This?

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, senior associate ❖ 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.