SERVICE OF WORSHIP
July 3, 2016 • 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY’S SERVICE
This story of a passive aggressive king, ungrateful guests, slaves, troops, murder, a missing wedding garment and the threat of gnashing teeth makes it seem like this banquet is one you may prefer to skip. But the master story teller shows us something of grace and regret, of freedom and responsibility, of love and the difference it makes. On this Fourth of July weekend, we would do well to sit with this story, and remember the one who told it.
Prelude

Our Great Savior
arr. by David Ritter; Matt Schaich, violin; Laurel Schaich, piano

Call to Worship

Praise to the God who created the heavens and stretched out the sky,
who painted purple mountains majesty and amber waves of grain.

Praise to the God who breathed beautiful life into leftover dust,
who fashioned us with minds that think carefully and hearts that love fiercely.

Praise to the God who gives birth to our dreams and fills us with hope,
who shows us the way and helps lead us home.

*Hymn, No. 338

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies
MATERNA

*Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,
You made us in your image,
but our lives don’t always reflect who you are.
We see through the mirror so dimly.

We forget what love looks like,
and that it, like most things in life, is a two-way street.

We forget what freedom is for,
and that it always comes with great responsibility.

We forget that grace is always free, but never cheap,
and that it expects we will bring our best selves forward.

Remind us, O God,
what it means to be your children.
Invite us to your table once again. (Silent prayer)

*Assurance of God’s Grace
*Response

Music © 1993 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.
MUSIC: William P. Rowan, 1992
TEXT: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1991

*Passing of the Peace

Words of Welcome

Time with the Children (9:30 a.m.)

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call to Prayer

Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind. Jesus whispers, “Peace, be still.” Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In stillness, hear his voice.
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.**

Musical Offering

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*
Matt and Laurel Schaich, violin; Elisa Bickers, piano

Prayer for Illumination

Lizzy Fredrick (9:30 a.m.)
Sarah Parrott (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Matthew 22:1-14 (pg. 900)

Sermon

*He Just Wanted a Simple Wedding*
Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 503*

*Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation*

O QUANTA QUALIA

Offertory

*Hymn for America*

music: Stephen Paulus; words: Michael Dennis Browne; The Summer Choir

We have loved you for your rivers, we have loved you for your shores,
Every treasure you have shown us, every seed that you have sown;
We have loved you for your mountains, for your prairies, for your fields,
All these gifts we have been given, all these glories that we share;
Now we thank you for these blessings, we, your people, everywhere.

Many are the stars of heaven, many are the hopes of earth;
All around us worlds unfolding, all around these dreams to grow.
From the moment of our rising ‘til we rest when day is done,
May we tell our hearts’ own story, hearts that honor and believe,
Through our care for one another, for this life and land we love.
Lord of all good, our gifts we bring to you; use them your holy purpose to fulfill, tokens of love and pledges brought anew, that our whole lives are offered to your will.

I'm gonna eat at the welcome table
Here all the world will find a welcome
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table


*Response

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn

*Benediction

*Response

*Postlude

*All who are able may stand
© A-705103 for all hymns
The following are daily Bible readings 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, July 4**  
*Mark 4:35-41*

The disciples are in the midst of a storm. Unsurprisingly, they are afraid. Jesus, when awakened, asks them, “Why are you afraid?” It is perhaps the most important question of scripture. Why are we afraid? If we belong to God, if we are God’s children, what ultimate threat is there for us?

**Tuesday, July 5**  
*Acts 5:27-39*

Wise Gamaliel may not know the apostles, but he does know something about God. Gamaliel knows that even when the ways of God may seem to be hidden or ignored or even defeated, ultimately, the way of God cannot be stopped. Love is the strongest power in history.

**Wednesday, July 6**  
*Acts 6:1-15*

Stephen, because he is faithful, is brought before the council; like Jesus before, and John the Baptist before him, and the prophets before him, and on and on. There is something about the Gospel that frightens us. The word of God does not rest completely comfortably in our hearts. Think about what you know of Jesus. Is there any demand he makes that causes you to second guess him or be frightened by his way? If so, you are not alone.

**Thursday, July 7**  
*Mark 10:35-45*

Who are the greatest people you know? What makes them great in your estimation? Having thought about that, how do you respond to Jesus’ wisdom about what makes us great in this world?

**Friday, July 8**  
*Psalm 51*

Some say this Psalm describes David’s reaction after his adulterous behavior with Bathsheba. That may be. What it does declare is that even in our worst moments, God has the power to heal us, to redeem that which we cannot make whole or right. Create in me a clean heart, O God.

**Saturday, July 9**  
*John 5:1-9*

Do you want to be healed? We would assume the answer would be a resounding yes, but that is not the case. It’s hard to tell if this man wishes healing or has made his peace with his own brokenness. Sometimes we would rather live with our frailties than risk the change that healing brings.
An Invitation to SING!

Everyone who likes to sing is invited to participate in Summer Choir. The music is fairly easy and fun, and the only rehearsal is at 8:45 a.m. preceding the 9:30 a.m. worship service. Rehearsal is in Room 14 in the lower level of the Sanctuary building.

Please join us for a

Farewell Reception
for Mark Ball

Following the 11 a.m.
Worship Service
Next Sunday, July 10, in Friendship Hall
Remarks at 12:30 p.m.
TODAY AT VILLAGE

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

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

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP - At our 9:30 a.m. services, all children are invited to sit with their families for the start of worship. We’ll have a “Time for Children,” both to engage our kids in worship, and also to remind us all that Jesus made special time for his youngest followers; and we should too. After the Time for Children, they are invited to meet teachers at the back of the Sanctuary to continue on in Sunday School, or to stay and keep worshipping with their families. (Or see other options below.)

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.

BROADLY-GRADED ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL - Children who have completed K-5th grades meet from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Room 203 (Creation Station) for a totally fun way to look at favorite Old Testament stories.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

SUMMER SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY - More than a Summer Picnic: Food for the Journey of Faith
Come join us as we explore the sermon text for the day based around meals in the gospels of Matthew and Luke. Adults of all ages are welcome. 10:45-11:45 a.m. in Rooms 126 and 127.

Upcoming classes include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Scripture</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 10</td>
<td>Luke 10:38-42</td>
<td>Jesus Eating at Martha’s home, taught by Dr. Rodger Nishioka</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WATCH FOR THE FALL 2016 VILLAGE U CATALOG … COMING SOON! The fall 2016 Village U curriculum encompasses a myriad of adult learning opportunities. Village Church is a learning community with a long commitment to providing opportunities for adults — young and older—to grow in knowledge and faith together. A wide spectrum of classes in the areas of Art, Christian Living, Computer, Family Life, Health and Wellness, Leisure and Life Skills will be offered. We hope you will spend some time discovering all that is available. Village U 2016 fall term registration for Village Church members begins on Monday, Aug. 15. For community members, registration begins on Monday, Aug. 22.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY - During July, the Food Pantry will be collecting personal care products - soap, deodorant, sunscreen, insect repellent, shampoo, etc. When you’re shopping for your family, please throw a personal care item for the Pantry’s clients in your cart. The Clothes Closet is asking for large sized clothing (cleaned and gently used), and bed, bath and kitchen linens.

VILLAGE CHURCH COOKS A MEAL AT CROSS-LINES - Friday, July 8, Village will for cook and serve a meal at the Cross-Lines kitchen in Kansas City, Kansas. We need two to three people from 9:30-11 a.m. for prep and six to seven volunteers to serve and clean up from 11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m. We also need cookie donations, and they can be dropped off at the church reception desk from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on Thursday, July 7. If you can help, contact Marianne Weber at 913-671-2333 or marianne.weber@villagepres.org.
PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

FAITH AND GRIEF LUNCH THIS TUESDAY, JULY 5 - Members and those in the community who have lost a loved one are invited to come to the Faith and Grief lunches where comfort and resources are shared. A box lunch will be provided. Join us on the first Tuesday of each month from noon-1 p.m. in Friendship Hall. You must register every time you attend; register online at faithandgrief.org or call 469-251-9612. If you have questions, contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THOSE WHO SERVE OUR COUNTRY - If you have family members or friends who are currently serving in the military, we would be happy to add them to the prayer list. Please 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. We appreciate all that they do to keep America the land of the free.

TAIZÉ SERVICE IS JULY 10 – We hope you come to the Taizé worship service where you will experience a beautiful service filled with song, scripture, candlelight, sacred silence and communion. This summer Taizé starts at 7 p.m. next Sunday in the Chapel.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

MISSION SEWING - Attention: Knitters! We need to start stockpiling mittens for Family Conservatory. We have yarn for you to pick up on any Tuesday between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. We still need hats, too, both baby and children’s sizes. Contact Edie Hultman at 913-432-3515 for more information.

WOW LUNCH AT THE TAVERN AT MISSION FARMS - Ladies of all ages are welcome to come to the Women of Wisdom (WOW) lunch at noon on Wednesday, July 20. We will meet at The Tavern at Mission Farms, 10681 Mission Road in Leawood, a popular restaurant that features classic American cuisine served in a stylish, comfortable setting. RSVP by July 19 to Marvie Sneegas, sneegi@kc.rr.com or 913-209-9608. We look forward to sharing warm fellowship with you.

SOCIAL WITNESS AND ADVOCACY

GETTING OUT THE VOTE IN KANSAS! The Village Church Social Witness & Advocacy Task Force will address questions and distribute information about the Aug. 2 Kansas primary election after the 9:30 and 11 a.m. Sanctuary worship services and the 5 p.m. Gathering service on Sundays, July 10-31, in Friendship Hall. President Franklin D. Roosevelt asserted: “Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves, and the only way they could do this is by not voting.”

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY is a new ministry of Village Church for all 20s and 30s. Connect with us: Facebook.com/VillagePresYA, Twitter @VillagePresYA.

EXTENDED TABLE - Worship 5 p.m, Dinner 6 p.m, Friendship Hall - We’ll gather after The Gathering for relaxed dinner and conversation about that week’s topic in Friendship Hall. Sleep in, then come feed your body and your soul.

BIER AND BONHOEFFER - Every Thursday in July, we’ll meet at 7 p.m. at KC Bier Company at 310 W. 79th Street in Kansas City, Mo. We’ll read Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s Life Together and consider what “community” means today. Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a German pastor who resisted the Nazis and encouraged Christian thinking in a secularized society. He was ultimately executed for his failed assassination plot of Hitler, but left behind writing that has remained relevant, perhaps especially today. It’s $5 for the book!

SOFTBALL ACROSS STATE LINES! - 6 p.m. Saturday, July 30, (field location TBA). No softball skills necessary (though helpful) to play with the first ever Village YA Softball Team as we take on Second Pres. KC’s Young Adults! Email hallie.hottle@villagepres.org to sign up!
### Village Cup Seeking Teen Barista

Village is looking for responsible youth to be Teen Baristas in the Village Cup coffee shop. This is a paid position. The ideal candidate will be able to:

- Work when scheduled, including Sundays and evenings.
- Greet customers with a smile.
- Make all drinks and pastries according to established procedures and recipes.
- Operate the cash register, including credit card and gift card processing, and make change.
- Work well under pressure and close supervision.
- Be able to work long hours on their feet, and lift 20 pounds.
- Take initiative to stock and clean the area as needed.

Please complete a job application found on our website villagepres.org. Click the “STAY INFORMED” tab and then “Employment Opportunities.” Submit it to Emily Berns, director of Food Service, at emily.berns@villagepres.org.

### YOUTH MINISTRY

#### HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES
- will meet in the Youth Loft at 9:30 a.m. Room 333.

#### AROUND THE WORLD IN 9 MEALS
- 6-7:30 p.m. on Sunday evenings in the Youth Loft. 6th-12th graders. We will be spending nine Sunday dinners exploring cuisine from different parts of the world!

#### LATE NITE
- 8-10 p.m. on Tuesday evenings in the Youth Loft. 9-12th graders. Just like last summer, Late Nite is an evening for High Schoolers to hang out with friends for fun and fellowship.

#### MISSION DAYS
- 10:30 a.m.–2 p.m. on Wednesdays in the Youth Loft. Graduated 6th–8th graders. What better way to use the middle of your week than to help others through local missions!

#### VIEW & CHEW
- 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on Thursdays in Room 304. Graduated 6th-8th graders. We’ll be eating lunch, watching a movie and spending time in fellowship!

#### (RE)ACTION
- 2-4:30 p.m. Thursdays, meet in the Youth Loft. 9th-12th graders. High Schoolers, here is your chance to explore Kansas City! Each week we will check out a new and fun spot around the city.
Village Church will be closed Monday, July 4, for the Independence Day holiday. Have a safe and happy 4th of July!
SUMMER SERMON SERIES

More than a Summer Picnic

Someone once said, in Luke’s Gospel Jesus seems to be at a meal, on his way to a meal, or on his way from a meal. The table is an important place. It is a place of story telling. It is a place of community building. Sometimes the table is the place where we gain a glimpse of the promised day of God. When Jesus is at the table, grace is served; and life is good. When Jesus is at the table, there is always enough; and there is always room for others. This summer we will join Jesus at the table of his ministry. There we will find not simply a summer picnic, but a feast!

June 12 Jesus and the Zero-Star Restaurant
June 19 Sinners, Pharisees and Plenty of Oil
June 26 Lonely in Bethsaida

July 3 He Just Wanted a Simple Wedding
July 10 Sister Act: Mary and Martha
July 17 I Believe You Are In My Pew!
July 24 I Can’t Make It: You Won’t Believe What Happened
July 31 All The Lonely People, Where Do They All Come From?
Aug. 7 Is It “Today” Yet?
Aug. 14 Life and Death at the Table
Aug. 21 Do You Eat Fish?
Aug. 28 Youth Sunday

MINISTERS
All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM
Rev. Thomas L. Are, Jr., senior pastor ▶ Mark Ball, director of music
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
Marjean Lindquist, director of child care ▶ Kathy Lueckert, director of finance and administration
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 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary worship service is broadcast the following Sunday morning at 8 a.m. 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.