



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

September 11, 2016 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

Today we begin a new sermon series entitled, "Love Your Neighbor and Other Spiritual Truths." Christian faith is a faith that cannot be lived alone. Christian faith shows up in our relationships. We will explore what that means for ourselves, for our neighbors, for our community and even the world.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Saturday-Night Waltz
by Aaron Copland

Call to Worship

Rev. Len Carrell

The world says: Stand tall, run fast, and do not stumble.

Jesus says: Come to me, all you who are weary and carrying heavy burdens.

The world says: Independence is the goal.

God says: It is not good for humans to be alone.

The world says: Look out for number one.

Jesus says: Love your neighbor as yourself.

The world says: It is what it is.

God says: I am doing a new thing. Do you not perceive it?

*Hymn, No. 308

O God in Whom All Life Begins
NOEL

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

Life can be hard,

and when we are afraid or insecure,

we struggle to be our best selves.

The more we need help,

the more we insist, "I'm fine."

The more we lament our own limitations,

the more we undercut the abilities of others.

The more we forge our own path,

the more we limit the power of collaboration.

Remind us why you created us for relationships.

Help us to see the beauty in one another,

so that we might encounter more joy. (Silent prayer)

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The musical score consists of two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics 'Al-le-lu-ia' repeated three times in each system. The bass line provides harmonic support with chords and single notes.

*Passing of the Peace

Words of Welcome

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination Diann Markley (8 a.m.); Cindy Kueck (9:30 a.m.); Kim Higgins (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading Genesis 2:4b-9,15-25 (pg.2)

Call to Prayer

Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of

liv - ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing

and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

The musical score is written on a single treble staff in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat. The melody is a simple, flowing line with lyrics 'Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of liv - ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.' The score ends with a double bar line.

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

The King of Love

music: Paul Christiansen; words: Henry Williams Baker; Village Choir

Scripture Reading

Philippians 2:1-8 (pg. 1069)

Sermon

It is Not Good That the Human is Alone

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith

from the Confession of 1967

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of our minds.

God created us to be in relationship.

God created us male and female and gave us life.

Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage.

We are free to live our lives within the purpose of God:

to develop and protect resources for common welfare

and to work for justice and peace in society.

God's redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of our lives:

social and cultural, economic and political,

scientific and technological, individual and corporate.

Already God's reign is present in the world, stirring hope in us.

With an urgency born of this hope,

we apply ourselves to present tasks and strive for a better world.

*Hymn, No. 306

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

DENNIS

Offertory

Inspiratio

music: D. Portier (8, 9:30 a.m.)

The Gift of Love

music: Hal Hopson; Village Voices (11 a.m.)

*Response

Great God of Every Blessing
AURELIA

**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. 761

Called as Partners in Christ's Service
BEECHER

*Benediction

*Response

Sevenfold Amen
Peter Lutkin; Village Choir

*Postlude

Invention No. 8
by J. S. Bach

**All who are able may stand*

© A-705103 for all hymns

Congregational Meeting Next Sunday

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting for next Sunday, Sept. 18. This meeting will take place in the Sanctuary, immediately following the 11 a.m. worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect new church officers for the positions of Elder, Elder/Trustee and Deacon. At-large members of the Nominating Committee will also be elected. Ordination of new church officers will take place in early January 2017.

THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of September 12, 2016)

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, Sept. 12

Genesis 1:26-31

That sixth day of creation is dedicated to the creation of humankind. There is a plurality to God in these verses saying, "Let us make them in our image." This is not to say that God is a multiplicity of gods, but that God creates us to be in God's own image - a community. God is not creating a couple, man and woman; but creating a people, male and female. Our living out the image of God is to live as the beloved community, as children of God.

Tuesday, Sept. 13

Genesis 27:41-28:5

After Jacob deceives his brother Esau by securing his father Isaac's blessing, Esau swears to avenge this wrongdoing of his brother. Rebekah, worrying over losing both of her sons, sends Jacob to her brother Laban's land until Esau's anger "turns away." When Isaac charges Jacob to flee, he is concerned with one thing. That he will not be alone. He tells his son to "take a wife," and to become a "company of people." Isaac knows that the people of God are never to be alone.

Wednesday, Sept. 14

Jeremiah 31:31-34

This passage is God's promise to restore relationship with the family of Israel. Using this language of "New Covenant" God is promising that there will never be a day when God's people will not know the promises of God, because the writing will be written on "their hearts" as a family. The community in God's new promised day should be a family built on forgiveness and restored relationship.

Thursday, Sept. 15

Psalms 148

This song of praise is a hymn of the entire community. It is a call for every part of creation to join with them in lifting up the Creator's name. From the most powerful of creatures - as mighty as a sea monster, to the smallest of creations - as tiny as creeping things, the Lord alone is exalted above earth and heaven. This song of praise reminds us that our community is larger and more bountiful than merely our own view of it. It impacts all of creation.

Friday, Sept. 16

Matthew 5:1-11

In Matthew's Gospel, right after Jesus calls his first disciples, whom he calls in pairings of two, he finds himself surrounded by crowds of people. It is here he gives us words to live by. They are known as the Beatitudes. What cannot be overlooked is how these words are addressed to an assembly of people. They will be comforted. They will inherit the earth. They will be filled. They will see God. Jesus' words are for the whole world.

Saturday, Sept. 17

Acts 15:6-11

This meeting in Jerusalem of the main actors in Acts is a turning point for the church. It is a scene of great debate, compromise and compassion among the community. Paul stands up and proclaims the new things, in a new time, that God is doing. He says that God has given the Gentiles the Holy Spirit, just as they were given. So there will be no "distinction between them and us." Being made into a new beloved community means not parsing out divisions between "them and us."

Organ Arriving Next Sunday, Sept. 18, and We Need Your Help!

Anyone from the congregation and community is invited to help bring in pieces of the new pipe organ from the delivery truck starting at 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18. Come be a part of this historic day for Village Church! We'll be unloading all afternoon, so come when you can to help. Children are welcome to help unload, and if you need someone to watch your younger child while you do the heavy lifting, child care will be offered from 4-6 p.m. Contact Marjean (marjean@villagepres.org or 913-671-2322) to make reservations.



PEANUT BUTTER SUNDAY

Sept. 18, 2016

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING
VILLAGE FOOD PANTRY
WITH JARS OF PEANUT BUTTER.

THE GATHERING

AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH TO WORSHIP

5 p.m. Sundays in Friendship Hall

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.

TAIZÉ SERVICE – NEW TIME, NEW LOCATION, STARTING TONIGHT! Join us at 6:30 p.m. tonight for the Taizé worship service at the Village Church Child and Family Development Center, 9900 Mission Road, Overland Park. We're excited about being in this beautiful new location. Taizé is held every second Sunday of every month.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

TODAY IS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF A BRAND NEW YEAR OF SUNDAY SCHOOL!

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 GRADE new curriculum! 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.

CONNECT WITH 6TH GRADE – Fun and relevant discussions for today's 'tweens. Room 302. 9:30-10:30 a.m.

PARENTS OF 6TH GRADERS – Our first event is an overnight retreat at Heartland Center, Sept.30-Oct. 1. Call Cheryl at 913-671-2355 for more information.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

VERY BASIC COMPUTER CLASS-DAYTIME AND EVENING – This course allows students with limited computer experience to become comfortable with Microsoft Word, the internet and email. No prior experience using a computer is required. The computers have recently been upgraded to the Windows 10 operating system. Seating is limited. These classes are free. 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Sept. 13-27; Oct. 4, or 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 14- 28; Oct. 5, in Room 316.

TASTE OF MOPS – Are you a M.O.P. (mother of a preschooler including newborns through kindergarten)? We are hosting "Taste of MOPS" for you to have an opportunity to get to know what MOPS is all about and to get excited about the start of the group in the fall. Bethany Ramsey, instructor. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 14. Room 126.

BREAKFAST AND BIBLE WITH YOUR BUDDIES – Join our senior pastor, the Rev. Tom Are, Jr. for a morning Bible study for men from 7:30-8:30 a.m. Tuesdays, Sept. 20-Nov. 15, in Room 228. Chef Emily will prepare a hot breakfast, and Rev. Are will offer a reflection on passages from scripture. There will be time for discussion as well. To make a reservation for breakfast, contact Marianne at marianne.weber@villagepres.org. Cost: \$6.

HUMAN SEXUALITY-JUST SAY KNOW – Designed to prepare children for adolescent changes, this workshop is for children in the fourth and fifth grades. Parents and/or caregivers are invited to attend with their child. The workshop stresses God's plan for the gift of sexuality, and communication skills between parents/caregivers and child will be emphasized, practiced, and enhanced. Rev. Karen Wagner Wright, instructor. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21. Room 126.

SABBATH YOGA WEDNESDAYS – Join us after Wednesday night dinner for a relaxing session of gentle and restorative yoga with centering prayer meditation. Please wear comfortable clothing and bring your own yoga mat. Katherine Caputo, instructor. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 28-Dec. 14. Rooms 307/309/311.

ENROLL FOR VILLAGE U CLASSES at villagpres.org or email marianne.weber@villagepres.org or call 913-671-2333.

FALL ADULT SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES begin today. Check villagepres.org for more details.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER SEPT. 14 – Chicken fajitas, vegetable fajitas, flour and corn tortillas, Mexican rice, corn casserole. Each Wednesday, price is \$7 for full buffet, \$6 for salad bar and dessert. \$3-children ages 3-10. Children under 3 are free. Reservations are required by noon every Monday. Just call Liz at 913-671-2359, email liz.middleton@villagepres.org or go to villagepres.org/wednesday-dinners.html.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

ELECTRIC CARS AT VILLAGE SEPT. 14 – Local electric car enthusiasts will display their vehicles (including a Tesla!), answer questions and get you revved up to consider whether an electric car would fit into your lifestyle. Cruise through the South parking lot from 4:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 14. The Environmental Action Committee sponsors this annual event during National Drive Electric Week. Contact Al Pugsley at apphs58@yahoo.com for more information.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY – Next Sunday is PEANUT BUTTER SUNDAY, the third food drive for the Food Pantry in 2016. Peanut butter is a staple in the diet of all of the Pantry's clients and they receive one jar in each monthly visit. Please be generous with your donations; and bring several jars into church next week - creamy, crunchy, low fat in plastic 1 lb. or 2 lb. jars. The Pantry can never have too much peanut butter! Thank you.

POT AND PAN DRIVE FOR HOMELESS MINISTRY – Hillcrest Transitional Housing of Kansas is seeking donations of new and gently used kitchenware, especially pots, pans and casserole dishes. Drop off donations at the Village Church Reception Desk at the south entrance. Contact Deborah White in the Mission Office at 913-671-2369. Donations are needed by this Thursday, Sept. 15.

STRUGGLING DINNER – From 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11, in Friendship Hall, Village Presbyterian Church presents Struggling in the Land of Opportunity dinner and forum. Tickets are \$13 per person. For reservations, stop by the table in Friendship Hall between 9 a.m. and noon on Sept. 18 or 25, or contact Carolyn Eakins at carolyneakins@gmail.com or register online at villagepres.org.

MUSIC MINISTRY

"AND THOU, AMERICA!" CONCERT AT THE KAUFFMAN CENTER – This free concert of patriotic music and poetry of great American artists on Sunday, Nov. 6, in Helzberg Hall, features the Village Chamber Choir, Lawrence High School, Lawrence Free State High School and Kearney High School choirs and the Kansas City Wind Symphony. A retiring offering will benefit Kansas City Youth Ambassadors. Tickets are required. Reserve seats beginning tomorrow, Sept. 12, either online at kauffmancenter.org or by calling 816-994-7222.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

GROWING THROUGH GRIEF-NEW SERIES STARTS THIS WEDNESDAY – Growing Through Grief is designed to help those who have lost a loved one discover God's healing presence during this difficult time. The next five-week series is at 5-6:15 p.m. every Wednesday, Sept. 14-Oct. 12, in Room 124. If you're interested in attending, contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

DON'T MISS THE CLASSIC CITIZENS CELEBRATION – If you are 75 or more years young, enjoy entertainment, hearing the latest from Tom Are, and laughing with friends, you will definitely want to come to the Classic Citizens Celebration! Join us from 1:30-3:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 22, in Friendship Hall. Chef Emily is preparing delicious food and drinks. Need a ride? We've got you covered – a ride to and from the church is available upon request. Let Linda Alley know if you are coming at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

CAREER CONNECTIONS: FROM SEARCH TO SUCCESS – Looking for a new job? Come and learn the best approach to securing that new position. Class is at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 26, in Room 316. If you are interested in attending, contact Linda Alley at linda.alley@villagepres.org or 913-671-2327.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

FALL SESSION, OPERATION BREAKTHROUGH READING PROGRAM – No experience necessary! Partner with a preschool reading buddy, 9:30-11 a.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 21-Oct. 26. Orientation coffee is 9 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21, in the Youth Loft. Contact Cindy Whitham at ciwhitham@aol.com or 913-262-3062 for info. Need child care? Call Pam Southerland at 913-671-2352 or email pam.southerland@villagepres.org to make a reservation by the Wednesday prior to the day you plan to volunteer.

MISSION SEWING – Fall is here, and it's time to think knitting and crocheting and sewing. We need hats, all sizes; mittens, all children's sizes; baby hats (we have special yarn for these); and scarves, child and adult sizes (we have yarn for these). We also have at home projects such as cutting out items, sewing items, etc. Stop by the sewing room any Tuesday from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. For more information, call Edie Hultman at 913-432-3515.

WOMEN OF WISDOM (WOW) opens the fall season on Tuesday, Sept. 20, with a noon lunch at Lidia's, 101 W. 22nd St., popular for its Italian cuisine, followed by a free 22-minute Streetcar ride through downtown, or, time to enjoy Union Station. Complimentary van accommodates 14 and leaves from the church's north parking lot at 11:30 a.m. RSVP by Sunday, Sept. 18, to Diane Lee at 913-432-4321 or dianelee@att.net. All women are warmly invited!

WOMEN WITH SPIRIT OKTOBERFEST – Come to WWS Oktoberfest by yourself, with a friend, date or spouse. Bring your favorite six pack of beer-three bottles to share and three to swap. You will go home with three new bottles to try. Appetizers will be served. RSVP to Shelby Krumm at shelbykrumm@yahoo.com. The celebration kicks off at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30, at the home of Berent and Shelby Krumm. If child care is needed, reservations must be made by Sept. 16 (space is limited). Call Pam at 913-671-2352 or email pam.southerland@villagepres.org.

SAVE THE DATE FOR VISITING SCHOLAR FEB. 24-25 – Dr. Beverly Roberts Gaventa, distinguished professor, author and scholar of New Testament studies, is the 2017 Visiting Scholar. A leader among American biblical scholars, Dr. Gaventa will be "Reopening the Letters of Paul" including her upcoming publication, *When in Romans: An Invitation to Linger with the Gospel According to Paul*. Online and mail-in tickets sales begin Oct. 10 through villagepres.org.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

BIER AND BIBLE - Every Wednesday night, 7 p.m., KC Bier Co. – Every week this fall we'll learn to read the Bible together, while continuing to grow in all that it means to be community. All 20s and 30s welcome!

MMPM – Midweek Morning Prayer for Mamas! Wednesday mornings, 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel. Being a mom is beautiful, and challenging. Every Wed. morning this fall we'll pray for each other, then join for coffee and convo. in the Cup! All 20s and 30s moms welcome! Begins Sept. 14.

SERVE: HOMELESS CONNECT KC – Please join us Tuesday Sept. 13, for Homeless Connect KC, a one day event that brings community partners into one building so those experiencing homelessness can access the resources they need most. See more at projecthomelessconnectkc.com, and sign up by emailing Rev. Hallie at hallie.hottle@villagepres.org.

YOUNG ADULT CHURCH MEMBERSHIP CLASS – 6 p.m. Wednesday Sept. 14, at KC Bier Co. Wondering what "Church Membership" even means? Have questions about what "Presbyterian" is? Join this convo. and find out! Opportunity to join Village Church Sept. 25. Can't come but still want to join? Email hallie.hottle@villagepres.org!

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

FALL KICKOFF – Cheer, our high school youth group kicks off tonight from 6:30-9 p.m. GPS which is our middle school youth group, will kickoff from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday evening, Sept. 14. We hope to see you there!

THOUGHTS FROM VILLAGE COMMITMENT

No one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another.
– Charles Dickens

DONATE A BOOK! Sunday, Sept. 25

benefiting Operation Breakthrough and Talk, Read, Play

Please bring a NEW book appropriate for children, newborn to 5 years old.

Topics: diversity, friendship, food, nature, animals and love.

Drop books at the Village Commitment table in Friendship Hall.

Thank you!



VILLAGE
COMMITMENT

VILLAGE COMMITMENT



The Village Commitment Committee introduces an easy way to gift toward your annual pledge. Around church you will find posters that include a QR code. All you need to do is download a QR scan reader on your smart phone, scan the code on the poster and you will be taken to the Fellowship One sign-in page and on to the online giving page. Your annual gift is impacting every aspect of our church and we thank you!



VILLAGE
COMMITMENT

ESTATE PLANNING WORKSHOP

If you are interested in learning how to set up your estate plan, this workshop is for you!
2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18, Room 132

Stacey Janssen will present a workshop which includes reviewing the importance of estate planning documents such as Last Will and Testament; a Testamentary or a Living Trust for the support of the family; and an explanation of Probate, Guardianship and Conservatorship. Sponsored by Village Presbyterian Church Endowment Trust.

RSVP - Molly Sirridge, 913-671-2325 or molly.sirridge@villagepres.org.

NEW SERMON SERIES

Love Your Neighbor and Other Spiritual Truths

When Europe was falling apart in the 1940's, Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote a little book called *Life Together*. It was an exploration of the fundamental "neighborly" or communal aspect of Christian faith. Sometimes we say that the love of Christ shows up in our hearts. A better way to say that is the love of Christ shows up in our relationships. We are part of many communities: family, church family, national community...the list goes on. Paying attention to this fundamental truth of Christian faith is what gives our faith energy and hope. But, because people are people, it is also why we need to time and again remind ourselves that Jesus calls us to love our neighbor.

Sept. 11	It is Not Good That the Human is Alone
Sept. 18	We Keep Bumping Into All Those Other Followers of Jesus
Sept. 25	For Once, It's All About You
Oct. 2	Don't Be A Goat
Oct. 9	Blind Spots
Oct. 16	A More Perfect Union

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
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.