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## SERVICE OF WORSHIP

September 24, 2017 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

### ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

In the middle of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus speaks what scholars call the "Antitheses." He says, "You have heard it said..., but I say to you..." He cites a law from the Hebrew Scripture, but then he pushes it higher, makes it more demanding. He was not one to settle with the letter of the law. It would not surprise us if he learned to think like that from his father, Joseph.

## GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

*The Lone, Wild Bird*  
setting by Emma Lou Diemer

Call to Worship

Rev. Jenny McDevitt

In our prayers and our praise,  
in God's Word and God's wonder,  
**we are given enough joy to live each day.**

In sitting down with the grieving,  
in holding up the heartbroken,  
**we are given enough compassion to serve each day.**

In the promises made to all,  
in the mercy offered to each,  
**we are given enough grace to share each day.**

\*Hymn, No. 645

*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*  
MIT FREUDEN ZART

\*Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God,**  
**When we see clearly the path we should follow,**  
**yet still choose our own way, forgive us.**  
**When we recognize you in the suffering of others,**  
**yet still turn our backs, forgive us.**  
**When we know that forgiveness is holy,**  
**yet still long for revenge, forgive us.**  
**When we want you to heal us and make us new,**  
**but doubt that you can or will, forgive us.**  
**We often fail to be true to who we are, O God,**  
**so we have no right to ask this,**  
**but we ask you to be true to who you are,**  
**and forgive us once again. (Silent prayer)**

\*Assurance of God's Grace

\*Response

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!  
Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

\*Passing of the Peace

Words of Welcome

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Sandy Linson (8 a.m.)

Jeff Busche (9:30 a.m.)

Pam Hanson (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Matthew 1:18-25 (pg. 877)

Call to Prayer

Change my heart, O God; \_\_\_ make it ev - er true. \_\_\_  
Change my heart, O God; \_\_\_ may I be like you. \_\_\_

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.**

Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:38-42 (pg. 881)

Sermon

*Joseph: When Righteousness Doesn't Come Easily*

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

\*Hymn, No. 692

*Spirit, Open My Heart*  
WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

Offertory

*The Lord is My Shepherd*  
by John Rutter; Anne Sneller, oboe

\*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. 546

*Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing*  
SICILIAN MARINERS

\*Benediction

\*Benediction Response

*Amen*  
by Peter Lutkin

\*Postlude

*Tocatta in C, BWV 564* (excerpt)  
by Johann Sebastian Bach

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

## MUSIC NOTES

Today we welcome Village Choir member Anne Sneller as our oboist for John Rutter's *The Lord is My Shepherd*. One of the most beloved pieces in the sacred repertoire, *The Lord is My Shepherd* is just one movement of Rutter's larger *Requiem*. We are grateful to Anne and our many other singers and instrumentalists who share the gift of music in worship weekly!

## THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of September 24, 2017)

The following daily Bible readings were written by Rev. Tom Are, Jr. 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. 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, Sept. 25**

**Matthew 5:21-26**

If you have had a relationship endure injury, you understand the importance of this passage. The text is about worship: bringing your gift to the altar. It declares that how we relate to our neighbors is a matter of worship. Doing all we can to ensure right relationships is a gift we bring to God's altar. Who has shown you care for relationships?

### **Tuesday, Sept. 26**

**Psalms 138**

The Psalms are filled with thanksgiving, as is this one. Take your time to reflect on your reasons to be grateful. The practice of giving thanks to God can actually make us more grateful people.

### **Wednesday, Sept. 27**

**Matthew 5:38-48**

Perfect? This does not mean "free from mistakes," but rather "devoted to God's purposes." Those who attack us or are seen as our enemies can influence us – we may react like them. Jesus calls his followers to live as God's children in every circumstance. Think of your most difficult life circumstance. What would it mean to remember that you belong to God even in that circumstance?

### **Thursday, Sept. 28**

**Luke 4:14-30**

Luke tells us that this was Jesus' first sermon. Those who heard it loved it (v22) but they also hated it! What do you love about the teaching of Jesus? What do you find most difficult?

### **Friday, Sept. 29**

**Luke 5:1-11**

Peter had the best day possible for a fisherman. It was on this day, the best day Peter could imagine, that he learns God has bigger plans for his life. How big are your plans?

### **Saturday, Sept. 30**

**Psalms 119:105-114**

The Psalmist says, "I do not forget your law." Every day we make decisions...most of them small. All of them matter to God. This is good news, for it means our lives are important to God. When we know that our lives are valued by God (like parents care about how our children live...love always cares!), it is then that we want to remember God's law. Remembering God's purposes for our lives becomes a gift we give to God.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

*Dedicated*  
**Pipe Organ**  
*Recital*

World-renowned organist  
**Douglas Cleveland**  
3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 24  
Village on Mission

**TODAY**

JOIN US FOR A **FREE CONCERT** WITH  
KANSAS CITY JAZZ SINGER

**ANGELA  
HAGENBACH**

**7 P.M. FRIDAY  
OCT. 6  
VILLAGE CHURCH  
ON MISSION**

## 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 Jack Miller by Jean.

**OPUS 22 RECITAL TODAY** – Internationally acclaimed concert organist, Douglas Cleveland, will perform on Opus 22 at 3 p.m. today. This concert is jointly offered by the Village Presbyterian Church Music Ministry and the Greater Kansas City Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. No tickets or reservations required!

**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 should 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 curricula! Kindergarten meets in Room 311. 1st 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.

## ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

**AARP 55 ALIVE DRIVING CLASS** will be held from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Oct. 12 and 13, in Room 133. Classes will be taught by veteran instructor, Terry Barker. The cost is \$20 (\$15 if you are an AARP member) per person payable to AARP. To enroll, call Marianne, 913-671-2333.

**Fall 2017 Village U** registration is open. Register at [villagepres.org](http://villagepres.org) or call Marianne at 913-671-2333.

### UPCOMING CLASSES INCLUDE:

**GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION** – If you're interested in reading selections that stimulate your critical thinking, come discuss many of the great authors and their ideas which support our western civilization. Books are ordered from The Great Books Foundation. The Great Books Group will welcome you on the first Tuesday of each month. Child care is not available. 2-3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3, Room 127.

**DRAWING WITH THE NELSON-ATKINS MUSEUM** – An introductory experience working with pencil, charcoal, pen, watercolor, and ink. Subjects include landscape, face or portrait, mark-making, and still life. Topics include hand/eye coordination, hue and form, composition and perspective. The first three sessions are at the church, and the last session is at the Nelson-Atkins Museum. 6-7:30 p.m. Thursdays, Oct. 5-26, Room 15. Child care will be offered on Oct. 26 from 5:45-8 p.m.

**GAME NIGHT** – Looking for a fun night out? Come the first Thursday of the month to learn a new board game or play an old favorite. No previous experience needed! Come laugh and meet new friends. Games provided but feel free to bring your own, too! 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursdays, Oct. 5, Nov. 2 and Dec. 7, Room 233.

**POWERPOINT-DAYTIME OR EVENING** – This class explores the basic skills necessary to develop a simple presentation using PowerPoint. Topics covered include adding and deleting slides, using charts, graphs and pictures in presentations and utilizing the Notes feature. 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 10, Room 316, OR 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 12, Room 316.

**OLDER ADULT SPIRITUALITY - A JOURNEY IN STORYTELLING** – Our lives are made of stories, stories within stories and then more stories. It is our stories that bring us closer together and when we're able to connect our stories, we become closer. Our personal stories are our faith stories are worth sharing and will unite us spiritually. Taught by Rev. Bud Cooper. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Oct. 11-25, Room 124.

**DAY TRIP** – A trip to the Weston Red Barn Farm is like visiting a turn of the century working farm. In the fall, we celebrate the harvest being brought in and offer visitors the chance to have some old-fashioned farm fun. Cost for the bus is \$30 per person; participants pay for their own lunches. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 12.

**SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASSES: 9:30 a.m.**

**FAITH JOURNEY** – The class is studying the book, *The Witness of Religion in an Age of Fear*, by Michael Kinnamon. We live in a world driven by fear. But should we allow fear to play such a large role in our lives? According to the religions of the world, the answer is no. In this helpful and illuminating book, the author challenges readers to consider why. Led by Kathy Ray. Room 230.

**FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH: WHEN EGYPT WAS IN ISRAEL'S LAND** – Long before the Kingdom of Israel arose in the land of Canaan, Egyptian influence colored the lives of the peoples who populated the land. Biblical tradition holds that ancient Israel was unique and distinct from these other peoples and nations. Rev. Dwight Tawney leads the class to explore the impact that Egypt exercised on the religion and culture of the emerging community of Israel. Now-Oct. 29. Room 132.

**VILLAGE FORUM: THE SEARCH FOR GOD-EVOLVING FROM SEARCH INTO THEOLOGY** – This series continues series led by John Borden in the spring. Today's class looks at various current theologies. Oct. 1-15 class will view a biopic documentary on Martin Luther. Discussion will draw on materials prepared by various Lutheran groups for this excellent film. Led by Gus Breytspraak and various instructors. Room 127.

## CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER** – Our menu for Sept. 27 is roasted chicken (GF), wild rice pilaf (V & GF), tomato pie V, vegetable and dessert. The salad bar opens at 5:15 p.m.; hot food buffet is open 5:30-6:30 p.m. Full meal with salad bar and dessert is \$7. Salad bar and dessert is \$6. Children ages 4-10 are \$3 and children age 3 and under are no charge. Contact Liz Middleton (913-671-2359) or [liz.middleton@villagepres.org](mailto:liz.middleton@villagepres.org) for reservations by noon tomorrow, Sept. 25.

**ANGELA HAGENBACH JAZZ CONCERT** – Join us at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 6, for a free concert by the Angela Hagenbach Quartet in the Village on Mission Sanctuary. Singer/songwriter Angela Hagenbach, a native Kansas Citian, is widely known as a masterful interpreter of great songs. Seating is on a first-come basis. A retiring offering will be collected to benefit La Paz House, an after-school program for school age children, offered through Grandview Park Presbyterian Church in Kansas City, Kan. Email [cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org](mailto:cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org) with questions. This concert is sponsored by Connectional Ministries of Village Presbyterian Church.

## MISSION

**THE FOOD PANTRY** – The Food Pantry is requesting through the month of September hearty soups and canned meat and fish-tuna, salmon, chicken, ham, etc. The Pantry again has a need for plastic grocery sacks for bagging groceries. The Clothes Closet will be accepting fall clothing - sweaters, light jackets, socks and warmer children's clothing-starting Oct. 1. The request continues for manual can openers. Thank you from all the clients!

**BE THE CHURCH SERVICE DAY** – On Sunday, Oct. 22, Village Presbyterian Church will be sponsoring the annual "Be the Church Service Day" along with other Presbyterian Churches in the area. From 6:30-7:30 p.m., this year we have the opportunity to participate in a number of service projects. All ages are welcome. During the evening, food is provided to all who participate. If you would like to volunteer for the Village Service Night, you can do so online at [bethechurch.online](http://bethechurch.online). For more information, call Deborah White in the Mission Office at 913-671-2369 or email [deborah.white@villagepres.org](mailto:deborah.white@villagepres.org).

## PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

**FROM SEARCH TO SUCCESS-CAREER CONNECTIONS STARTS TUESDAY** – If you are looking for a new job, Career Connections can help. Find out information about resumes, interviews and more in today's market. Classes will be at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Sept. 26-Oct. 10, in Room 230. If you are interested in attending, contact Linda Alley at [linda.alley@villagepres.org](mailto:linda.alley@villagepres.org) or 913-671-2327.

**"REDISCOVERING A GOD OF GOODNESS"** – Sue Sullivan shares her personal rediscovery of faith after losing her 23-year-old son to suicidal depression at the next Faith and Grief Lunch on Tuesday, Oct. 3. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, join us from noon-1 p.m. in Friendship Hall. Registration is extremely helpful; go online at [faithandgrief.org](http://faithandgrief.org). If you have questions or would like more information, contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or [linda.alley@villagepres.org](mailto:linda.alley@villagepres.org).

**YOU'RE INVITED TO THE CLASSIC CITIZEN CELEBRATION** – Come and let the good times roll starting at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 5! There'll be good food, music, friends and lots of laughter. This annual event is for those who are 75 or more years young at heart. Tom Are will talk about the latest at Village and answer your questions. Transportation is provided if requested. Let Linda Alley know if you are coming; contact her at 913-671-2327 or [linda.alley@villagepres.org](mailto:linda.alley@villagepres.org).

**MEMORIES IN THE MAKING** – Consider becoming a volunteer for this new ministry that helps those with Alzheimer's express their inner expressions through painting. Volunteers are needed to sit with participants as they paint; you yourself don't need to be an artist. Sessions will be held for one hour twice a month on Wednesdays. This ministry is in collaboration with the Alzheimer's Association. Contact Rev. Len Carrell at [len.carrell@villagepres.org](mailto:len.carrell@villagepres.org) to find out more.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

**WOMEN OF WISDOM (WOW)** will enjoy lunch at Pinstripes, located at Prairie Fire at 13500 Nall, on Thursday, Sept. 28, at noon. Please RSVP by Wednesday, Sept. 27, to Marvie Sneegas, [sneegi@kc.rr.com](mailto:sneegi@kc.rr.com) or 913-209-9608. All women are warmly welcomed at our lunches. We hope you will bring a friend and join us for delicious food, fun and fellowship!

## YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

**ADULTING WITH JESUS** – 6:30 p.m. Thursday nights at rotating locations - check the Village Church website for a list of places and dates. This fall we'll be looking at some of our most common young adult questions, but from a Christian perspective. All invited. Pizza provided.

**RACE AND RACISM INTENSIVE READING GROUP** – 6-8 p.m. Wednesdays. Sign up by emailing [hottle@villagepres.org](mailto:hottle@villagepres.org).

**YOUNG ADULT US/MEXICO BORDER TRIP** – There is lots of talk about our US/Mexico border these days. What are we actually talking about? Let's go find out. We'll spend 3 days exploring life on our southernmost border with Frontera de Cristo, a PC(USA) ministry in Douglas, Ariz. and Agua Prieta, Mexico. All young adults are welcome. Nov. 10-13. Price is \$450. To reserve a spot, email [becky.bliss@villagepres.org](mailto:becky.bliss@villagepres.org).

## 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](http://villagepresyouth.org) for more details.

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

**SNL** (high school youth group) – Sundays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Youth Loft (Room 333).

**GPS** (middle school youth group) – Wednesdays, 6:30-8 p.m. in the Youth Loft (Room 333).

**EARLY TABLE** (morning devotional for high schoolers-with food!) – Thursdays, 7:30-8:15 a.m. at Zach and Meredith's house at 5401 W. 77th St., Prairie Village.

**SKY ZONE FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL TODAY** – All 7th and 8th graders join us at Sky Zone (6495 Quivira Road) from 1-3:30 p.m. today for a fun afternoon! Cost is \$15 and forms can be found online or you can fill one out when you arrive. See you there!

**TRIPS** – Registration is now open for our annual January Ski Trip and the Spring Break Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic! Come pick up a form in the Youth Loft or find them online at the address above.

### An Ordination Invitation

You are invited to celebrate the ordination of Sarah Are, by joining us in a worship service to celebrate Sarah's ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 10, in the Village on Mission Sanctuary.



Sarah is the daughter of Tom and Carol Are, and a child of Village Church. She is also the daughter of six generations of Presbyterian pastors. Sarah graduated from Columbia Theological Seminary in May, and has accepted a position as the designated associate pastor for youth and young adults at Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church in Dallas. Thus, Sarah is finally within driving distance to KC—a fact her entire family celebrated.

In Sarah's words, "I would not be who I am without Village. This church has loved me unconditionally, encouraged me endlessly, and supported throughout my time in seminary. I learned how to sing in the youth choir, I learned how to be a leader in the youth group, I learned how to pray in these pews, and I learned what the community of Saints looks like from this church. There is simply no other place I would want to be ordained than at Village Presbyterian Church, for Village will always be home."

We hope you will consider joining Sarah and her family on Oct. 10.

**Today**, the Village Commitment committee would like to share with you how your generosity is helping us keep our buildings maintained and beautiful. Village Commitment committee members will be passing out informational cards before and after worship services. Please take a card and read about projects that are in progress or completed through the capital expenditure budget.

Thank you for your generosity to the annual fund.



## SERMON SERIES

### **It Takes a Village**

We sometimes assume that Jesus, by the time he was old enough to talk, was fully aware that he was the Christ and knew just how to live as God's son in human history. But there are moments in the Gospel story when Jesus encountered others who seemed to teach him who he was or at least how to live as God's son. It's not too much to say that in some of these encounters Jesus learned how to be Jesus. There is not a one of us who comes to a life of faith and faithfulness without the mentoring of others. That seems to be true for Jesus as well. Perhaps we can learn from those who taught him.

- Sept. 10     Mary and the Hour  
Sept. 17     Satan and the Unending Questions  
**Sept. 24     Joseph: When Righteousness Doesn't Come Easily**  
Oct. 1        World Communion Service: Dr. Nishioka Preaching  
Oct. 8        John the Baptist and Disappointment  
Oct. 15       A Canaanite Woman, Dogs and Gentiles in General

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## 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. 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  
Rev. Jenny McDevitt, pastor of pastoral care ❖ 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

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*Streaming video of all the Sunday morning Sanctuary services is available at [villagepres.org](http://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, please hand it to an usher so it may be recycled.*