ABOUT TODAY’S SERVICE

Today we read the story of Naaman. Naaman is instructive to us today not because he was a leper, and not because he was a military hero, and not because he received a miracle, but because he realized that when it came to his faith, he would always be a hypocrite.
Prelude

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
Michael Burkhardt

Call to Worship

There is silence,
and there is light.
There is music,
and there is grace.
There is beauty,
and there is hope.
There is community,
and there is creativity.
Let us worship God well,
for God leads us into life,
making every moment holy.

*Hymn, No. 402

Prayer of Confession

God of unending love,
Forgive us our lack of imagination.
We struggle to reconcile the world’s brokenness and your goodness.
In our confusion, we either focus on you,
    and pretend nothing is wrong,
or we focus on everything that is wrong,
    and turn our backs on you.
We cling tightly to our sense of order and understanding,
    afraid there is not enough grace to go around.
Give us the confidence we need to trust in your complexity. (Silent prayer)

*Assurance of God’s Grace
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
Dee Couch (8 a.m.)
Fred Logan (9:30 a.m.)
Janice Gill (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading
2 Kings 5:1-19 (pg. 332)

Anthem (11 a.m.)
Joyful, Joyful
arr. Dan Goeller; Village Voices

Sermon
Carrying Holy Ground Into Unholy Places
Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 731
Give Thanks for Those Whose Faith Is Firm
REPTON

Offertory
Come Sunday
Duke Ellington and Alice Parker; Roslinde Rivera, soloist

Come Sunday, Sunday, that’s the day.
I believe that God put sun and moon up in the sky.
I don’t mind the gray skies
‘Cause they’re just clouds passing by.
Lord, dear Lord above God Almighty, God of Love,
Please look down and see my people through.

I believe God is now, was then,
And always will be.
With God’s blessing we can make it thro’ eternity.
Lord, dear Lord above: God Almighty, God of Love,
Please look down and see my people through.

*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. 475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
NETTLETON

*Benediction

Growing In Love, and Love By Serving
Jaroslav Vajda; Village Choir

Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you; here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

*Postlude

Trumpet Voluntary
William P. Rowan

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

The Places Hope Takes Us: A Visual Interpretation

As this sermon series reminds us, hope is a choice. It is a choice to live our lives trusting that God will keep God’s promises. Which means hope consistently shows up even where it seems least likely. It also means that hope is always a bright burst of color even when the world feels filled with dread and despair. The chain of ribbons moving throughout the Sanctuary points to this. The colors are vibrant and demand our attention; so, too, does God’s faithfulness. The ribbons also move from the back of the chancel clear up to the cross in a bold, decisive direction. That is the nature of hope — it takes us to the cross. At the same time, hope takes us from that cross back out into the world to be messengers of that good news. Let the ribbons lead you into worship, and then back out into our community to share signs of good news. Lastly, this piece was made by many hands, much time, and stubborn creativity. Hope has a habit of showing up where and when all these things are present.

Join us for
THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS
10 a.m. this Saturday, Oct. 28, at the Meneilly Center for Mission at 9900 Mission Road in Overland Park
Rain or shine. All pets and all faiths are welcome!
THE CHURCH’S BOOK  (Week of October 22, 2017)

The following daily Bible readings were written by Rev. Len Carrell 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, Oct. 23  Psalm 40

When I was a teenager, the Irish rock group U2 was the first to make the Bible cool to me. They wrote a song based on this Psalm and would close their concerts inviting their fans to sing along with them. Long after the band had left the stage and the lights were turned on encouraging us to leave, the crowd would continue singing, “How long to sing this song?” The new song that God has placed in our mouths and written upon our hearts is a song of deliverance and praise for the saving work God is doing in our lives this day. How could we ever keep from singing such a song?

Tuesday, Oct. 24  Psalm 34

Being in the saving graces of our creator and redeemer is more than just felt or imagined, it is savored. The goodness of God engages the entire host of human sensations. We listen for the voice of God, we smell the fragrance of God’s divine spirit, we touch the offerings God places before us, we taste and see the radiance of God’s goodness. In what ways do you sense God through sensation?

Wednesday, Oct. 25  Psalm 46

“Be still, and know that I am God.” This is not a call for private meditation or relaxation; it is an appeal of the people of God to depend on God and not ourselves. At the beginning, the world is in tumult; the mountains tremble and shake, the waters roar and foam, the nations are in an uproar. But did you notice the “desolation” God causes? God makes wars cease and destroys the elements of violence. “Be still” is not a call to close our eyes and be quiet; it is to say, “Enough already!” or “Cast aside your weapons.” Or, “Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God.”

Thursday, Oct. 26  Psalm 121

John Bunyan, the English writer and Puritan preacher, wrote in his novel The Pilgrim’s Progress, “Then did Christian begin to go back to the right road; and Evangelist, after he had kissed him, gave him one smile, and bid him God-speed.” God-speed is a popular phrase used to bid someone a successful journey. This psalm is known as a farewell discourse of a sojourner, because the way of a faithful sojourner is to always be “on our way.” But the one who keeps us on the path is the one who keeps our whole life.

Friday, Oct. 27  Psalm 19

C. S. Lewis calls this Psalm “the greatest poem in the Psalter and one of the greatest lyrics in the world.” This Psalm has three movements: reflecting on the goodness of God’s creation, reflecting on God’s instruction, or torah, reflecting on us as God’s servants. God, whose voice commands the cosmos, is the God whose voice addresses humankind with a personal word. This Psalm proclaims that love is the reality of God’s relationship to all things, seen and unseen.

Saturday, Oct. 28  Psalm 100

This is an appropriate Psalm as we turn to Sunday, the Lord’s day. The focus of our praise is God. In the same way, the focus of our life is giving thanks to God. This is a song of reverence because it asks, “What does it mean to belong to God?” The first question of the Westminster Shorter Catechism asks, “What is the chief end of humankind?” Answer: to glorify God and enjoy God forever.
Please join us for a celebratory concert in the Village on Mission Sanctuary performed by the Village Chamber Choir, William Jewell College Concert Choir and the Village Orchestra. Splendor and Light will feature Elisa Bickers, organ; Michael Kirkendoll, piano; and conductors Matthew Christopher Shepard, Will Breyspraak and Anthony J. Maglione. The program will include works by Beethoven, Haydn, Duruflé, Britten, and two new works written for this concert. A retiring offering will be taken to benefit Family Conservancy’s Talk, Read, Play program.
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 and gratitude for Caryl Herman by her friends.

BE THE CHURCH SERVICE DAY – Today, Village Church is sponsoring the annual "Be the Church Service Day" along with other Presbyterian churches in the area. This year at Village from 6:30-7:30 p.m., participants have the opportunity participate in a number of service projects. All ages are welcome. During the evening, join us for worship in The Gathering, stay for pizza and engage in a service project or two.

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-3rd Grades begin in Room 309. See signage at the top of second and third center stairs for additional class location information. See the Deacon near second floor children's library, for further assistance. Connect with 6th Grade – Fun and relevant discussions for today’s ‘tweens. Room 302.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

SOCIAL WITNESS & ADVOCACY TASK FORCE FORUM – "Just Wages/Just Faith" from 9-11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 4, in Friendship Hall. Panel members Michael Enriquez (Stand Up KC); Phil Glynn (Travois KC); and fast food workers will discuss issues facing workers today. Dr. Rodger Nishioka will moderate. Free continental breakfast at 9 a.m. RSVP for the breakfast to Marianne at marianne@villagepres.org or 913-671-2333.

UPCOMING CLASSES INCLUDE:

GOOGLE SHEETS – This class is for users who are new to Google products. In addition to formatting spreadsheets, this class will explore using charts and templates, accessing spreadsheets from any device (computer, tablet, phone), using Google sheets to collaborate with others and more. 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 24, OR 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 26, in Room 316.

APOCALYPSE WHEN? STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION – In this “hybrid” course we will study this most fascinating of Bible’s books. Oct. 24 we will meet together in person from 6:30-8 p.m. to be introduced to the book. Then we will view four sessions and interact with one another online. Dec. 6 we will gather from 6:30-8 p.m. for a concluding conversation. Taught by Dr. Rodger Nishioka. Must have access to the internet to participate in this course. Room 127.

FAMILIES MAKING WAY FOR ADVENT – In this course designed especially for parents and caregivers of young children, we will discover how we can look for signs of Christmas in our daily lives, give voice to faith questions your little ones may have and find ways to create holy spaces in your home. Each session will have faith activities you can take home to your children from preschool through elementary ages. Led by Rev. Karen Wagner. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Nov. 1-15, Room 133.

PRACTICING CENTERING PRAYER AND CONTEMPLATION – Through the teachings and examples of Jesus and the wisdom of contemporary persons such as Thomas Merton, Henri Nouwen and Thomas Keating, we will explore the transformative power of prayer in our spiritual lives. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Nov. 1, 8, 15 and 29 in Rooms 307/309/311.

THE SPIRITUALITY OF THE MYERS-BRIGGS TYPE INDICATOR AND THE ENNEAGRAM – These two instruments will be explored to help participants better understand their spirituality and as a guide for their faith development. Taught by Dr. Gus Breytspraak, Rev. Jenny McDevitt and Dr. Rodger Nishioka. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Nov. 1, 8, 15 and 29, Rooms 126 and 127. Cost: $20 for self-scoring testing packet. Class will not meet on Nov. 22.
DAY TRIP-UNION STATION MUMMY EXHIBIT – Mummies of the World, an exhibition of more than 40 mummies and 150 artifacts that date back 4,500 years, is most striking because of what experts have been able to glean about diseases, nutrition and climate, as well as rituals and customs associated with specific cultures. 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 2. Cost for the bus is $30 per person; participants pay for their own lunches.

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, Nov. 7, Room 127.

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

VILLAGE FORUM-THE SEARCH FOR GOD-EVOLVING FROM SEARCH INTO THEOLOGY – Today-Nov. 5
Professor Kris Kvam leads classes related to Luther and Lutherans - Today: Luther and Repentance: Reconfiguring Christian Life; Oct.29: Luther and Translation: The Bible and the Qur’an and Nov. 5: Luther and Women: Was there a Reformation for Women? Room 127.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER – Our menu for Oct. 25 is Halloween! Hot dogs and brats (GF), mixed vegetables, mac and cheese (V). 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 for reservations by noon tomorrow.

SINGLE ADULT MINISTRY EVENT AT OVERLAND PARK ARBORETUM & BOTANICAL GARDENS – You’re invited to Overland Park Arboretum & Botanical Gardens at 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 4, at 8909 W. 179 St., in Overland Park. Cost is $3-adults; $1-children. Come join us and be captivated by the great outdoors. Then we’ll meet at noon in the Garden Cafe for those who want to share lunch together (on your own). Contact liz.middleton@villagepres.org to RSVP, or cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org for questions.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY – Cold weather is coming and the Food Pantry is now accepting winter coats. And brisk weather means Thanksgiving is around the corner. You may leave your donations for the annual Food Pantry Thanksgiving Baskets at church or bring them to the Food Pantry by Sunday, Nov. 12. Donation lists available at the north and south doors today. Please donate early! Thank you for helping the Food Pantry families enjoy Thanksgiving.

BLOOD DRIVE – Village will host a blood drive from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 24, in Rooms 132 and 133. To make an appointment online visit esavealifenow.org and use sponsor code of “villagepres” or stop by our registration table in Friendship Hall from 9 a.m.-noon today. For additional details, contact Ann Colston at 913-722-0165 or acolston1113@gmail.com.

FRONT PORCH ALLIANCE is hosting a fundraiser, “Rise and Shine!” breakfast, 7:30-9 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 1. Please be our guest for this event at Kansas City’s Historic Linwood Ministry Place Campus, 3210 Michigan Ave., Kansas City, Mo. Our speaker is Dr. Mark T. Bedell, superintendent of Kansas City Public Schools. Contact Julie Foster at 913-221-7778 or foster.julie@icloud.com for more information or to volunteer. For reservations, call FPA at 816-921-8812 or visit frontporchalliance.org.

VILLAGE CHURCH WILL COOK A MEAL AT CROSS-LINES in Kansas City, Kan. on Friday, Nov. 10. We need four to five volunteers to cook from 9:30-11:30 a.m., and three to four to serve from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Cookie donations can be dropped off at the church south reception desk from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 9. If you can help, contact Marianne Weber at 913-671-2333 or marianne.weber@villagepres.org.
PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

LEARNING NEW WAYS TO PRAY – Stephen Ministry will welcome Dr. Rodger Nishioka at their Continuing Education meeting at 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 26, when he shares his insights concerning new ways to pray. Rooms 132 and 133; all are welcome.

PC&C LOVES OUR VOLUNTEERS! – Over 300 volunteers help Pastoral Care and Counseling provide care and compassion throughout the year. We are grateful for all that you do and want to thank you at our annual Pastoral Care and Counseling Volunteer Appreciation Event at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 10. RSVP to Linda Alley at linda.alley@villagepres.org or at 913-671-2327 by Friday, Nov. 3. We couldn’t do our ministry without you.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

WOMEN WITH SPIRIT ANNUAL OKTOBERFEST – 6:30 p.m. this Friday, Oct. 27, at Berent and Shelby Krumm's house (3208 W. 92nd St., Leawood). For additional details and to RSVP, email shelbykrumm@yahoo.com. Child care is provided.

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.

YOUNG ADULT US/MEXICO BORDER TRIP – Spend three 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.

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).

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

TWOSDAYS (middle school after school program) – Tuesdays, 4-5:30 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.

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.

Boy Scout Troop 91 Annual Holiday Greenery Sale

The Boy Scouts of Troop 91 will be selling beautiful Holiday greenery here from 8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. today. This event is the main fundraiser for the Troop. Please stop by one of the tables outside the north and south entrances and choose from fresh, long-lasting evergreen wreaths, centerpieces and holiday decor for your home or send as a gift to relatives and friends. Greenery will be delivered at the church on Nov. 19 and 26. Your support is greatly appreciated.
Please sign up for one or more of several opportunities for you to journey to a place of hope during The Places Hope Takes You Sermon Series. Here are our Places of Hope activities Oct. 22-Nov. 4.

1. Finding Hope through “Be the Church Service Day” at Village on Mission 6:30-7:30 p.m. tonight. See details in under TODAY AT VILLAGE in this bulletin.

2. Finding Hope through Exploring the Village Church Food Pantry and Clothes Closet – 9:30-10:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 27. Discover what happens to your donations of food and clothing and how those gifts are shared with others in an environment of kindness and hope. Susan Webb, Food Pantry director, will be your host and guide, starting with a description of what, why, and how hope is offered.

3. Finding Hope through Walking the Labyrinth – 1-3 p.m. this Saturday, Oct. 28. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate, will be present to orient you to the labyrinth at the Meneilly Center for Mission and will be glad to pray with any persons. Come and go at any time in this two-hour period.

4. Finding Hope through Worshiping at Lakeview Village – 1-2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 1. Join Village Church Pastors Rev. Tom Are, Rev. Len Carrell, and Rev. Jenny McDevitt and Village Church choir members in a worship service at the Lakeview Village Retirement Community in Lenexa. This brief service offers an opportunity to meet with Village Church members who reside in the Lakeview Village community.

5. Finding Hope through Singing and Cider Around a Campfire at Village on Antioch – 7-9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 3. Join with others at the Village on Antioch site for singing and community together around a fire pit. Led by Rev. Hallie Hottle and Ryan Main.

6. Finding Hope through Experiencing God’s Creation – 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Nov. 4, at the Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Gardens. See details under CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES in this bulletin.

We encourage you to post your pictures and selfies from our places of hope activities on our Village Church Facebook page facebook.com/villagepres.

Visit villagepres.org/hope to register for activities and to see the complete list of places we will experience “the places hope takes you” now through Nov. 18.

Join us for Dave Ramsey’s Smart Money Livestream 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 7

The Village Commitment Committee is happy to bring you an opportunity to attend the live stream of Dave Ramsey’s “Smart Money” at Village Church on Mission. Dave Ramsey will walk you through the basics of budgeting, dumping debt, planning for retirement, and much more!

The event is free and will be held at 7 p.m. Nov. 7 in Room 132. Contact Molly Sirridge, 913-671-2325 or molly.sirridge@villagepres.org to make your reservation. Child care will be available until 8:30 p.m.
SERMON SERIES

The Places Hope Takes You

Hope is a funny thing. It can be illusive, slipping through our fingers with the slightest disappointment. Hope can be surprisingly strong, showing up in the most challenging circumstances. From those who have gone before us in faith, we have seen that hope is not simply an attitude, it is a choice. Hope is not a wish for this or that, but hope is a power. When we lean into our hope, it can take us to places that we would not know otherwise.

Oct. 22  Carrying Holy Ground Into Unholy Places
Oct. 29  Walking with Jesus
Nov. 5   Hope in the Rear View Mirror
Nov. 12  The Places Hope Takes God

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

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, please hand it to an usher so it may be recycled.