SERVICE OF WORSHIP
November 12, 2017 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY’S SERVICE
For several weeks we have been reflecting on hope. Hope is nourished by memory. Hope requires courage. And ultimately hope is defined by what Jesus called the Kingdom of God. Hope like that is more than an attitude; it is a choice. Hope takes us into the world. It must do so, because God was the first to have hope for the world. Today we pay attention to the places hope takes God.
GOD’S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Brother James’ Air (8 a.m.)
arr. Douglas Wagner; Morning Bells

Eternal Father, Strong to Save (9:30 a.m.)
arr. Valerie W. Stephenson; Village Ringers

Adagio on THAXTED (11 a.m.)
Jeffrey Blersch

Call to Worship

Dr. Rodger Nishioka (8, 11 a.m.); Rev. Len Carrell (9:30 a.m.)

Creation was made good and very good,
so we are a people who stand strong in the storm.

Nevertheless, there is brokenness in the world,
so we lift our voices in sturdy song.

We believe in the promise of a new day,
so we join together in worship.

There is strength in numbers,
so we join our prayers with all the saints who have gone before.

Prayer leads to action,
so we listen for the sound of God’s voice.

God is faithful in every circumstance;
therefore, we are a people of hope.

*Hymn, No. 14

For the Beauty of the Earth
DIX

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,
You have always been found in the details:
  You invite us to rest in green pastures.  Psalm 23
  You dwell among purple, blue, and crimson threads.  Exodus 19
  You remind us of the welcome found in a cup of cold water.  Matthew 10
  You feed us all with five peasant loaves and two small fish.  John 6
  You consider the lilies and how they grow.  Matthew 6
  You call each of us by name, knowing every hair on our heads.  Isaiah 43, Luke 12

In you, every particularity becomes holy.
And yet we too often fail to see anything beyond the broad strokes:
  We miss the beauty of the world and the beauty of your love.
  We miss the beauty you have placed in both strangers and neighbors.
  We miss so much.

Forgive us, we pray. (Silent prayer)
*Assurance of God’s Grace

*Response

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

Words of Welcome

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call to Prayer

Change my heart, O God; make it ever 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.

Anthem

Ode To Joy (8 a.m.)
arr. Edward Hodges; Morning Bells

Great is Thy Faithfulness (9:30 a.m.)
by William Runyan and Cynthia Dobrinski; Village Ringers

Hope of the World (11 a.m.)
Taylor Davis; More Love Chorale
Hope of the world, thou Christ of great compassion,
    speak to our fearful hearts by conflict rent.
Save us, thy people from consuming passion,
    who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.
Hope of the world, God’s gift from highest heaven,
    bringing to hungry souls the bread of life,
still let thy spirit unto us be given, to heal earth’s wounds
    and end all bitter strife.
Hope of the world, afoot on dusty highways,
    showing to wand’ring souls the path of light, walk thou beside us
lest the tempting byways lure us away from thee to endless night.
Hope of the world, O Christ o’er death victorious, who by this sign
    didst conquer grief and pain,
we would be faithful to thy gospel glorious; thou art our Lord!
    Thou dost forever reign.

Prayer for Illumination       Diann Markley (8 a.m.); Kevin Hennessy (9:30 a.m.); Kim Higgins (11 a.m.)
Scripture Reading               Luke 2:1-7 (pg. 933)
Sermon                             The Places Hope Takes God          Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 110
Love Has Come
BRING A TORCH

Offertory                   O How Amiable
R. Vaughan Williams

O How amiable are thy dwellings: thou Lord of hosts!
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord:
    My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house, and the swallow a nest
    where she may lay her young: even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: They will be always praising thee.
The glorious Majesty of the Lord our God be upon us: prosper thou the
    work of our hands upon us.
O prosper thou our handywork, O prosper thou our handywork.
*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

God of abundant grace and unending love, Everything we know of faithfulness comes from you. And so we are here with our gifts, acknowledging all you have been and all you have done throughout history. But even more, O God, we are here with our pledges, which is to say, we are here promising to trust you with our future. Where you go, we will go. Who you call beloved, we will call beloved. When you speak, we will listen. When you ask, we will act. When you dream, we will hope. We are your people; you are the way, the truth, and the life. We give our hearts to you, and it is in your name we pray. Amen.

*Hymn, No. 716

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending
BEACH SPRING

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

For the Beauty of the Earth
William Monk

For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given; for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

*Postlude

Fantasia on THAXTED
Jeffrey Blersch

*All who are able may stand
© A-705103 for all hymns
Monday, Nov. 13  
Matthew 16:13-20

Who is he? Jesus is not asking a fill-in-the-blank theological quiz. Jesus knows that our beliefs show up in our behavior. Who we believe him to be influences how we live.

Tuesday, Nov. 14  
Matthew 11:28-30

The yoke Jesus speaks of is his life. His life is not easy because he is always moving toward the cross. And yet, because it is his life, when we choose to live it, he shares it with us. The load of living the life God calls us to live is a lifted burden, because God shares that burden with us.

Wednesday, Nov. 15  
Psalm 91

It sounds like the Scripture promises that nothing bad will happen to those who believe. That would be nice, but it doesn't fit with our experience. We know that even the most faithful suffer. And yet, trusting in God changes the perspective and power of suffering in our lives. No matter how fragile life becomes, there is a “refuge and fortress” that is trustworthy.

Thursday, Nov. 16  
Matthew 12:1-14

The people are questioning Jesus’ practice of the faith. He doesn't follow the rules. Jesus responds by showing that the word of God is always good news. If we follow our faith and it is not good news for us and others, we are most likely missing something.

Friday, Nov. 17  
Micah 6:1-8

This text begins with God reminding his people how God has already blessed them. The prophet reminds them of the Exodus. Then the prophet says that God wants his people to respond. And with what shall we come before the Lord? Justice, kindness, humility in the presence of God.

Saturday, Nov. 18  

“Teach us to pray,” the disciples asked. Jesus says, “Pray for the kingdom of God.” Kingdom of God or reign of God or promised day of God is the language Jesus used to describe the life God intends for the whole world. Don't be afraid to pray big prayers, he seems to suggest. What is your biggest hope? Pray about that. And be persistent in your prayers.
ADVENT FAMILY WORKSHOP

3-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 26
Crafts for all ages, cookie decorating & more!

CHRISTMAS NIGHT OUT

at VILLAGE ON MISSION

5:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1
Mesner Puppet show, activities, games and cookie decorating
for children ages 2-8
$15 per child/$30 max per family
Registration now open.
Email pam@villagepres.org to sign up by Nov. 17.
TODAY AT VILLAGE

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

TAIZÉ IS TONIGHT – Join us at 6:30 p.m. to the Taizé service this evening at the VCCFDC at 9900 Mission Road. The service’s time for quiet reflection, communion and more is the perfect atmosphere to ready your mind for the upcoming week.

TE DEUM CHAMBER CHOIR PRESENTS: “TO LIGHT THE WORLD” – 3 p.m. today Village on Mission Sanctuary. Explore light’s revealing nature and our opportunity to be light in darkness. Tickets are $15 and available at te-deum.org/concerts. Te Deum is a member of the Village Church Arts Alliance.

KANSAS CITY WIND SYMPHONY CONCERT presents a concert entitled “The Majesty of the Organ” at 7 p.m. tonight in the Village on Mission Sanctuary. The free concert features Dr. Elisa Bickers performing selections for organ and wind ensemble. Dr. Phil Posey returns to conduct along with Dr. Langston Hemenway, the ensemble’s new principal conductor.

PW ADVENT CANDLELIGHT DINNER RESERVATIONS OPEN TODAY - Come “Home for Christmas” with Rev. Jenny McDevitt and the Presbyterian Women at our Dec. 5 Advent Candlelight Dinner at Village on Mission. Reservations will be sold for $16 beginning 9 a.m. today and Nov. 19 at Village on Mission, Village on Antioch and online at villagepres.org. Questions? Contact Kay Patterson at klutjenpatterson@gmail.com. For child care, contact Pam Southerland by Nov. 27 at pam.southerland@villagepres.org.

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

Jesus said, “Let the children come to me…” All children are invited to our Christ-centered, child-centered Sunday mornings.

BIRTH-6TH GRADE – Registration cards and classroom schedules are available at sign in desks outside of Rooms 107 and 307.

INFANTS-TODDLERS – Child care available for all three morning sanctuary services in Rooms 111 and 114.

PRESCHOOLERS – Preschool Sunday School, 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Rooms 101-107.

K-6TH GRADERS- KID’S KINGDOM SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:30-10:30 a.m. beginning in Rooms 301-309.

Music Department’s MORNING STARS Children’s Choirs – 10:30-11 a.m.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

BEGINNER HULA HOOPING & HOOP DANCING CLASS – Bring a friend and try a fun new way to get a great cardio-vascular workout with KC Hoop Girl, Sirena Beyer that will strengthen the core and burn calories. The hoops, music and fun are provided! Enter at the south side of the church and take the elevator to the third floor. Questions? Call 816-591-5186. 5:45-6:45 p.m. Thursday evenings in the Youth Loft.

UPCOMING CLASSES INCLUDE:

MAIL MERGE – Learn how to utilize an Excel spreadsheet to format and print address labels. A sample spreadsheet will be available for use during the class. 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 14, or 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 16, Room 316.

HALLMARK CARDS EXHIBIT AT CROWN CENTER – For more than 100 years, Hallmark Cards has called Kansas City home. Joyce C. Hall, an 18-year-old entrepreneur, started the company in 1910 with a shoebox full of postcards. Today Hallmark creates greeting cards and many other products in 30 languages that reach 100 countries around the globe. 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7. Cost for the bus is $20 per person; participants pay for their own lunches.
SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASSES INCLUDE:
9:30 a.m.

FAITH JOURNEY – The class will meet today with the Forum class led by Dr. Rodger Nishioka. Beginning Nov. 19 the class will begin a study of Marcus Borg’s book, The Heart of Christianity- Rediscovering a Life of Faith in which he explores what he calls two paradigms for looking at our faith and how those can work together. Led by Kathy Ray. Room 230.

FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH begins a new series today titled "Painting the Stars," a study and conversation focused on the intersection of science, faith and religion. The class is taught by Diann Markley. This study is DVD-based so each session will feature a clip as the basis for discussion.

VILLAGE FORUM–THE SEARCH FOR GOD–EVOLVING FROM SEARCH INTO THEOLOGY – Today, Dr. Rodger Nishioka will lead a discussion about what is going on with Presbyterians internationally. Room 127.

ADVENT CLASS 2017 – “Mary, Mary, What You Gonna’ Call That Baby?” is a carol we sing during the Advent/Christmas season. In other texts it is Joseph who names the baby Jesus. Centuries earlier the prophet Isaiah did the same. Likewise, all of us have names for God just as did the earliest writers of scripture. Nov. 26-Dec. 3-17, participants will be engaged in study of sacred names with Rev. Jay McKell.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

THANKSGIVING DINNER AT VILLAGE ON MISSION, 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 15–Friendship Hall – Our annual Thanksgiving potluck includes herb roasted turkey & turkey breast, mashed potatoes & gravy, bread stuffing, sweet potatoes with chickpea bacon (V & GF) dinner rolls with butter. We are asking that each attendee please bring a salad, side dishes or desserts to share. Please RSVP by noon tomorrow to liz.middleton@villagepres.org or 913-671-2359.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY – Today is the last day collecting donations for the Food Pantry’s Thanksgiving Food Drive. Distribution will be completed by Nov. 18. Thank you for all your generous support to make Thanksgiving special for the Pantry’s client’s families. Christmas decorations (no trees) will start being accepted on Nov. 19. The Clothes Closet is accepting winter clothing for all ages and sizes (cleaned and gently used) and warm blankets.

ADOPT A FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS – If you wish to adopt an Operation Breakthrough family for Christmas, we still have a few families left. Check out the adoption table today from 9 a.m. to noon in Friendship Hall. Questions: Contact Ann Colston, 913-722-0165 or Marilyn Borel, 913-708-1917.

KENYA MISSION TRIP – Interested in learning more about the VPC’s mission trip to Thwake, Kenya in May 2018 with Rev. Are? Please join us for an informational meeting from 6-7 p.m. Nov. 14 in Room 232.

MUSIC MINISTRY

MORNING STARS IN WORSHIP NEXT WEEK - Both of our Morning Stars choirs will lead us in worship at 9:30 a.m. this coming Sunday, Nov. 19!

THE TIDINGS OF JOY CHILDREN’S CHORUS - It’s not too late to sign up for the first annual Tidings Of Joy Children's Chorus (Ages 7-14)! Rehearsals begin Sunday, Nov. 26. Please email Will Breytspraak at william.breytspraak@villagepres.org for more information.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

250 POINSETTIAS NEED TO BE DELIVERED! – Share some Christmas cheer with a member who cannot make it to church during the Advent season. If you would like to deliver one or more poinsettias on Sunday, Dec. 10, contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.
REMEMBRANCE SERVICE DEC. 3 – Join us at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, in the Sanctuary to thank God for those loved ones we deeply miss. If your loved one passed away during 2017 and Village Church was informed, his or her name will be included in the program. If you would like to include any other names, contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2367 or linda.alley@villagepres.org by noon Monday, Nov. 20.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

WOMEN WITH SPIRIT invite you to join us for this Tuesday morning tour of the famed Kansas City Roasterie at 1204 W. 27 St. on Nov. 28 from 9:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. $5. Immediately afterwards head over to the Blue Bird Bistro for a bite with friends! Email shelbykrumm@yahoo.com with your RSVP by Nov. 20.

VISITING SCHOLAR – Dr. Serene Jones, president of Union Theological Seminary, is our 2018 Visiting Scholar helping us explore “What is True: Theology and the American Story.” Please join us Friday and Saturday, March 2-3, 2018. Online tickets may now be purchased at villagepres.org/visiting-scholar.

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. All invited. Pizza provided.

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.

PROGRAM BREAK NOV. 19-25 – While schools are on Thanksgiving break our weekly programs will also be on break. Programs resume Sunday, Nov. 26.

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**Holiday Wreaths Distribution**

On Nov. 19 and 26, the Boy Scouts of Troop 91 will be distributing the Holiday wreaths and garland that were ordered. You may pick up your order at the south entrance from 8:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on either day. We will also have limited quantities of wreaths, swags, and garland for sale.

If you have an outstanding balance, you may pay when you pick up your order.

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**2018 Annual Fund Campaign** – “Be generous with what God Gave you.” 1 Peter 4:10

Hope continues…

341 pledges received totaling $1,476,190.

These generous supporters increased their giving by 9.6%.

Please return your completed commitment card by mail or online.

For questions, contact Molly at 913-671-2325 or molly.sirridge@villagepres.org.
Here are our Places of Hope activities on Nov. 16 and 18.

**Finding Hope through Worshiping at Claridge Court – 1-2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 16, Claridge Court, 8101 Mission Rd., Prairie Village 66208.** Join Village Church Pastors Rev. Tom Are, Jr., Rev. Len Carrell and Rev. Jenny McDevitt and Village Church choir members in a worship service at Claridge Court. Throughout the year, Village Church pastors lead worship services in several communities. This brief service offers an opportunity to meet with Village Church members who reside in the Claridge Court community. The building is accessible to all. Rev. Are, Jr., senior pastor, Rev. Len Carrell, associate for pastoral care, and Rev. Jenny McDevitt, associate for pastoral care, are leading worship.

**Finding Hope through Recreation and Re-creation – 3-5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 18, Roe Park, 107th and Roe Ave., Overland Park 66207.** As a people of faith, we are constantly being re-created into God's holy community. Sometimes this re-creation comes through recreation and play. As the culminating activity for “The Places Hope Takes You” sermon series, we will gather together at Roe Park (107th and Roe) for a friendly kickball game and a cookout. We will share stories about the places we found hope in the last month and enjoy a game of kickball between Village on Mission and Village on Antioch members. Then we will share in a cookout together using one of the picnic shelters. Bring your folding chairs. All ages are welcome. If you are not a kickball player, come cheer for the teams. Led by Rev. Hallie Hottle, Village on Antioch bridge site pastor and associate for young adult ministry, and Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate and director of adult educational ministry.

Please register at villagepres.org/hope
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.