

January 14, 2024

10:30 AM

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# **Approaching God in Praise and Prayer**

+All who are able may stand

As you enter this holy space and sacred time, please quiet your mind, meditate on the Scriptures. and pray for the Holy Spirit to prepare you to worship the Living God.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

In Cloud and Sea (Meditation on "Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me" and "Rock of Ages")

Richard Elliott Amber Dahlberg. guest organist

The Rev. Janice Y. Cook

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; People: for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

+ HYMN 757 **Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples** (vs. 1, 3, 4) KINGSFOLD

#### + PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of heaven and earth we are grateful to be entrusted with your purpose. We know there could be no more important service. Forgive us when we are stingy with our time, as though serving you is optional in our schedule. Forgive us when we set your purpose in and among our many tasks as though it was a common "to do" on our list. Our arrogance, our self-absorption and our lack of vision create the illusion that we are the most important story to be lived. Remind us, gracious One, that we belong to a larger story in which we all play a part, and give us the courage to experience the freedom and joy of our surrender to you. Amen.

## + MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION

#### + ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

+ RESPONSE: HYMN 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

#### + PASSING THE PEACE

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

### People: And also with you.

At this time, children 5th grade and younger may meet their Sunday School leaders at the back of Sanctuary. Youth 6th grade and older will gather in the Youth Room.

The Rev. Dr. Jack W. Baca

GREATOREX

Joshua 24:14-18

Gloria Patri

### **ORDINATION / INSTALLATION OF ELDERS & DEACONS**

# **Offering Ourselves to God**

<b>OFFERTORY ANTHEM</b>	Precious Lord, Take My Hand	Roy Ringwald
		Chancel Choir
		Juan Carlos Acosta, director

#### + RESPONSE: HYMN 606 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow OLD HUNDRETH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

Receiving God's Word		
ANTHEM	God Has Work for Us to Do	Mark Miller
THE WORD READ	Matthew 25:34-46 (NT pg. 40)	Dee Silver, lay reader
Leader: The word of the Lord. <b>People: Thanks be to God.</b>		
THE WORD PROCLAIMED	"Pillars of Life: Service"	The Rev. Janice Y. Cook

## **Responding to God's Word**

#### + AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 4:8-11

+ CHORAL BENEDICTION

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Leland Sateren

POSTLUDE

Ellacombe

Albert L. Travis

The Deacon of the Day, Ron Dutt, can be found at the Welcome Table on the patio.



#### These new Elders and Deacons are being ordained and/or installed today:

Elders Tony Cason Jason Karches Gerry Tayler Christy Wilson Deacons Jeni Berg-Wallish Perry Colapinto Don Colapinto Joan Colvin Nancy Driscoll Jane Heintz Vicki Perry Roger Van Duzer Judy Walters

This service is being livestreamed.

## The Village Church Pastoral & Program Staff

The Rev. Dr. Jack W. Baca, Senior Pastor

Mary Thibodeau, Executive Administrator Adrian Narlock, Director of Media Ministry Christine Hecker, Director of Youth Ministry Michelle Yuen, Director of Children's Ministry Nancy Betts, Director of Preschool Ministry Gretchen Scruggs, Director of Missions Ministry The Rev. Janice Y. Cook, Interim Associate Pastor

Juan Carlos Acosta, Director of Worship Ministry Twyla Arant, Worship Coordinator Barbara Haran, Contemporary Worship Team Leader Phyllis Graham, Bell Choir Director Calianne Grossheim, Children's Choir Director Suzanne Shick, Organist

Gustavo Coria, Facilities Manager



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#### Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Precious Lord, take my hand, bring me home through the night, Through the dark, through the storm, to Thy light. I have been to the mount, I have seen the Promised Land: Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand.

Precious Lord, take my hand, bring Thy child home at last, where the strife and the pain all are past. I have dreamed a great dream that Thy love shall rule our land: Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand.

Precious Lord, take my hand, take Thy child unto Thee, with my dream of a world that is free for that day when all flesh joins the glory Thou hast planned, Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand. Take my hand.

#### Sent Forth By God's Blessing

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, The people of God from this dwelling take leave. The service is ended, O now be extended the fruits of our worship in all who believe.

The seed of the teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all. God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us to work for God's kingdom and answer the call.

#### God Has Work For Us To Do

'Til all the jails are empty and all the bellies filled;
'til no one hurts or steals or lies, and no more blood is spilled: God has work for us to do,
'til God's will is done and all things are made new, God has work for us, work for us to do!

'Til age and race and gender no longer separate;
'til pulpit, press, and politic are free of greed and hate: God has work for us to do,
'til God's will is done and all things are made new, God has work for us, in tenement and mansion, in factory, farm, and mill,
in board room and in billiard hall, in wards where time stands still. In classroom, church, and office, in shops, or on the street,
in every place where people thrive, or starve, or hide, or meet -God has work for us.

By sitting at a bedside to hold pale, trembling hands, by speaking for the powerless against unjust demands, by praying through our doing (and singing) and singing though we fear (and trusting) by trusting that the seed we sow will bring God's harvest near: God has work for us to do, 'til God's will is done and all things are made new, God has work for us, work for us to do!

## **SERMON NOTES**

January 14, 2024

"Pillars of Life: Service"

The Rev. Janice Y. Cook

Matthew 25:34-46