



# Village Church

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FOLLOWING JESUS FOR LIFE

**January 21, 2024**

**10:30 AM**

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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# Approaching God in Praise and Prayer

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+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

*Sheep May Safely Graze*

J.S. Bach, arr. E. Power Biggs  
Suzanne Shick, organ

## WELCOME

The Rev. Dr. Jack W. Baca

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Psalm 3

Leader: O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me; many are saying to me,  
“There is no help for you in God.”

**People: But you, O Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.  
I cry aloud to the Lord, and he answers me from his holy hill.**

Leader: I lie down and sleep; I wake again, for the Lord sustains me.  
I am not afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around.

**People: Deliverance belongs to the Lord; may your blessing be on your people!**

Leader: Let us worship the Living God.

## + HYMN 667

**When Morning Gilds the Skies**

**LAUDES DOMINI**

## + PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Janice Y. Cook

O God, we thank you that you have not left us alone in our sin. Loving us, you have brought us good news and set before us the way of life. Yet we confess that we have not always seen the way or lived the way. In pride, we have spurned your mercy and your grace. In selfishness, we have turned away from those in need around us. We have allowed ourselves to be crushed by troubles, as though Christ had not been raised. Forgive our faithlessness and renew a right spirit within us in the power and hope of the resurrection. In Christ Jesus we pray. Amen.

## + MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION

## + ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

## + RESPONSE: HYMN 581

**Gloria Patri**

**GREATOREX**

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.*

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## Offering Ourselves to God

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**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*The Lord is My Shepherd*

John Rutter  
Chancel Choir  
Josephine Kwan, oboe  
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.

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## Receiving God's Word

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**ANTHEM**

*Inscription of Hope*

Z. Randall Stroope  
Youth Choir and Choral Scholars

**THE WORD READ**

Psalm 23 (RSV)

Suhail Khalil, lay reader

Leader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**THE WORD PROCLAIMED**

"Pillars of Life: Hope"

The Rev. Dr. Jack W. Baca

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## Responding to God's Word

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**+ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Romans 8:35, 37-39

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all of these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**+ HYMN 687**

**Our God, Our Help in Ages Past** (v. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6)

ST. ANNE

+ **BENEDICTION**

+ **CHORAL BENEDICTION**

*A Blessing of Grace*

Joseph Martin  
Elise Cho, piano

**POSTLUDE**

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

arr. Ovid Young

The Deacon of the Day, Carol Dykstra, can be found at the Welcome Table on the patio.



*This service is being livestreamed.*

### **The Village Church Pastoral & Program Staff**

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

The Rev. Janice Y. Cook, Interim Associate Pastor

Mary Thibodeau, Executive Administrator

Juan Carlos Acosta, Director of Worship Ministry

Adrian Narlock, Director of Media Ministry

Twyla Arant, Worship Coordinator

Christine Hecker, Director of Youth Ministry

Barbara Haran, Contemporary Worship Team Leader

Michelle Yuen, Director of Children's Ministry

Phyllis Graham, Bell Choir Director

Nancy Betts, Director of Preschool Ministry

Calianne Grossheim, Children's Choir Director

Gretchen Scruggs, Director of Missions Ministry

Suzanne Shick, Organist

Gustavo Coria, Facilities Manager



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## The Lord is My Shepherd

The Lord is my shepherd:  
therefore can I lack nothing.  
He shall feed me in a green pasture:  
and lead me forth  
beside the waters of comfort.  
He shall convert my soul:  
and bring me forth  
in the paths of righteousness,  
for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley  
of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil:  
for thou art with me;  
thy rod and thy staff comfort me.

Thou shalt prepare a table before me  
against them that trouble me:  
thou hast anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup shall be full.

But thy loving-kindness and mercy  
shall follow me all the days of my life:  
and I will dwell in the house  
of the Lord for ever.

## Inscription of Hope

*These lyrics are based on fragments of text  
found on a cellar wall  
in Cologne, Germany, during World War II,  
believed to have been scrawled by a Jewish child  
hiding from the Nazis.*

I believe in the sun even when it is not shining.  
And I believe in love even when there's no one there.  
And I believe in God even when He is silent.  
I believe through any trial there is always a way.

But sometimes in this suff'ring and hopeless despair  
My heart cries for shelter, to know someone's there.  
But a voice rises within me saying  
hold on my child, I'll give you strength,  
I'll give you hope -  
Just stay a little while.

May there someday be sunshine,  
May there someday be happiness,  
May there someday be love,  
May there someday be peace.

## A Blessing of Grace

Grow in the grace and knowledge of the Savior, learn of the Lord and know His ways.  
Sing the wondrous story, tell of all His glory, for Christ is worthy of all praise.

Grow in His love, and let His peace surround you, let his light astound you ev'ry day.  
Know He walks beside us, like a shepherd guides us, He guides our journey all the way.

Grow in grace, grow in love.  
Let the light of Christ shine through you ev'ry day.  
Grow in grace, grow in love.  
Give your heart and life to Jesus, grow in grace.

Give your heart to Jesus, grow in grace.

