Village Church

FOLLOWING JESUS FOR LIFE

November 15, 2026

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 *Adoration* Florence Price
Suzanne Shick, organ

WELCOME The Rev. Janice Y. Cook

CALL TO WORSHIP Mark 8:34 -38

Leader: Jesus called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

People: For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

Leader: For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?

People: Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?

Leader: Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

All: Let us never be ashamed. We will worship the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, three in One.

+ HYMN 720 **Jesus Calls Us** GALILEE

+ PRAYER OF CONFESSION The Rev. Dr. Jack W. Baca

God, who knows our suffering, you did not shy away from sorrow and struggle; you laid down your life for us. Forgive us when we complain and begrudge bearing the weight of our neighbor's pain. Forgive us when we are stingy with our time and compassion. Your beautiful voice calls us out of ourselves and into the lives of those who are hurting and in need. Transform us, sweet Spirit. Let our hearts be joyful when we can extend your care to the world. Strengthen us to support the weak; nourish us to provide holy and satisfying food for the hungry soul. We repent of our thoughts and obsessions that lead us away from your will and your provisions; we seek only to serve you and glorify your name. 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.

As the congregation shares personal greetings, 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.

VILLAGE LIFE

NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Duncan Newman Elder Michael Dyer, assisting

Offering Ourselves to God

OFFERTORY *Here I Am, Lord* Daniel L. Schutte, arr. Sandra Eithun
Village Ringers
Phyllis Graham, director

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

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 *Take Up Your Cross* Thomas Keesecker
Chancel Choir
Juan Carlos Acosta, director

THE WORD READ Matthew 16:21-26 (NT 26) Joan Osborne, lay reader

Leader: The word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED "Take Your Cross" The Rev. Janice Y. Cook

Responding to God's Word

+ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH From the Belhar Confession of June 2016

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family. We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another; that we together come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ; together are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity; together know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ that we need one another and upbuild one another, admonishing and comforting one another; that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness; pray together; together serve God in this world; and together fight against all which may threaten or hinder this unity.

+ HYMN (see insert) **Leave Your Boat and Follow Jesus** VILLAGE CHURCH

+ BENEDICTION

+ CHORAL BENEDICTION *Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled* Pat Rasmussen

POSTLUDE *"Gigue" Fugue in G Major* J.S. Bach
Larry Gerling, guest organist

The Deacon of the Day can be found at the Welcome Table on the patio
across from the main entrance to the sanctuary.
We invite first-time visitors to stop by to receive information about The Village Church and a special welcome gift.

We're glad you are here!

If you desire personal prayer, prayer ministers are available for you after each worship service.
Please inquire at the Welcome Table.

This service is being livestreamed.

The Village Church Pastoral & Program Staff

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

The Rev. Janice Y. Cook, Executive Associate Pastor
Mary Thibodeau, Executive Operations Officer
Adrian Narlock, Director of Media Ministry
Christine Hecker, Director of Youth Ministry
Michelle Yuen, Director of Children's Ministry
Matt LaFond, Children's Ministry Coordinator
Nancy Betts, Director of Preschool Ministry
Gretchen Scruggs, Director of Missions Ministry
Gustavo Coria, Facilities Manager
Juan Carlos Acosta, Director of Worship Ministry
Twyla Arant, Music Ministries Coordinator
Barbara Haran, Contemporary Worship Team Leader
Phyllis Graham, Bell Choir Director
Susan Gerling / MJ Skinner, Interim Children's Choir Directors
Suzanne Shick, Organist
David Herman, Director of Adult Ministry

HONOR LOVED ONES WITH A BIBLE OR HYMNAL DEDICATION

SCAN QR CODE TO GIVE ONLINE

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PHONE: (858) 756-2441 | FAX: (858) 756-3746 | villagechurch.org

Take Up Your Cross

"Take up your cross," the Savior said,
"if you would my disciple be;
take up your cross, with willing heart,
and humbly follow after me."

Take up your cross; let not its weight
fill your weak spirit with alarm:
Christ's strength shall bear your spirit up,
and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.

Take up your cross, heed not the shame,
and let your foolish pride be still:
the Lord for you accepted death
upon a cross on Calvary's hill.

Take up your cross and follow Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down;
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

Take up your cross and follow Christ

Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled

Let not your heart be troubled,

neither let it be afraid.

Peace I leave, I leave with you,

my peace I give, I give to you;

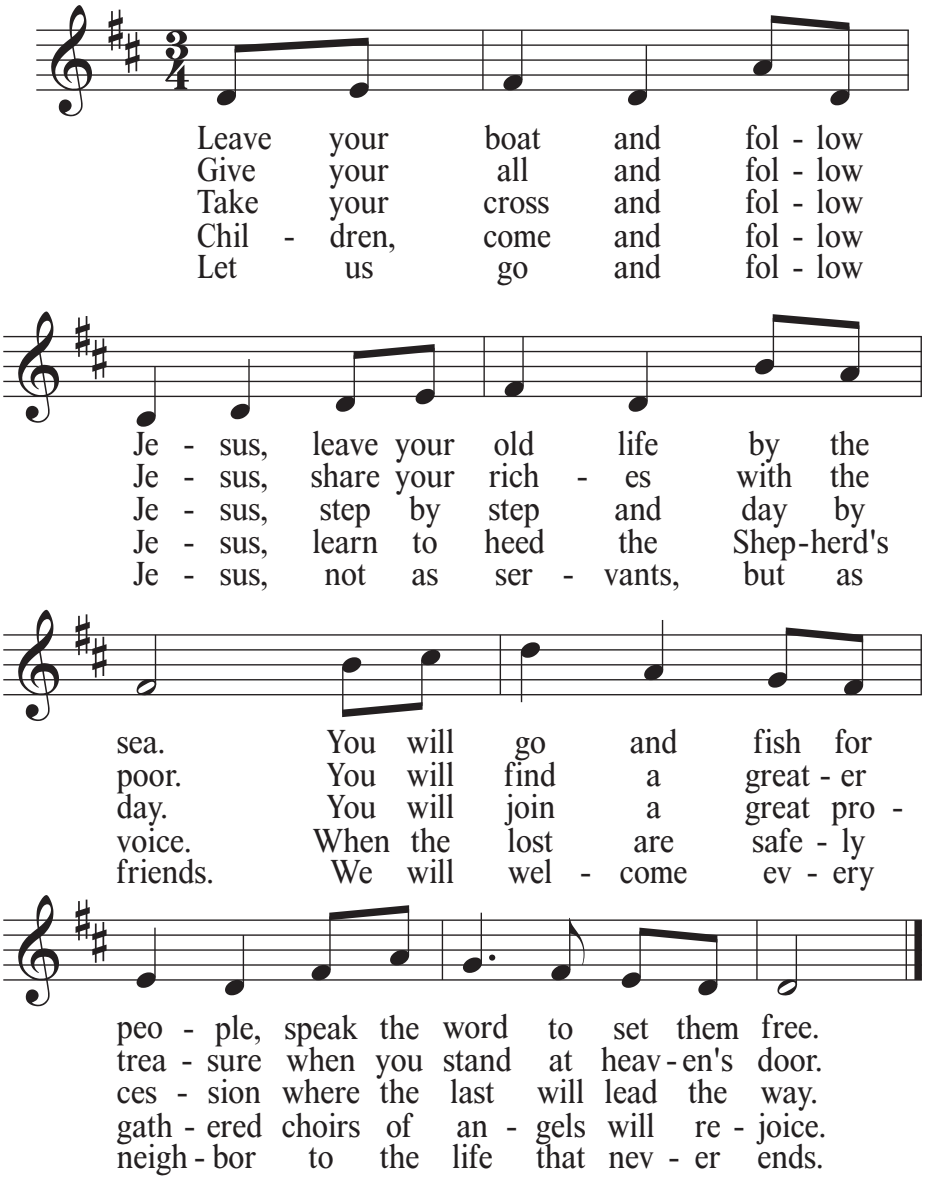
My peace I give unto you,

my peace I give unto you.

The hymn "Leave Your Boat and Follow Jesus"
was commissioned by
the Village Community Presbyterian Church
to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the church.
The text was written by The Rev. David Gambrell,
associate for worship in the Office of Theology and Worship of the PCUSA,
and a candidate for a Ph.D. in liturgical studies at Evangelical Theological Seminary.
David is the author of fourteen hymns in our current hymnal,
Glory to God.

The tune
"VILLAGE CHURCH"
was composed by Director of Worship, Juan Carlos Acosta,
for the 70th anniversary celebrations.

Leave Your Boat and Follow Jesus



Text: David Gambrell, 2026
Tune: VILLAGE CHURCH, Juan Carlos Acosta, 2026

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SERMON NOTES

November 15, 2026

"Take Your Cross"

The Rev.Janice Y. Cook

Matthew 16:21-26 (NT 26)