



**March 5, 2025**

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

**7:00 PM**

*“But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith.” (Romans 3:21-25a)*

**THE VILLAGE COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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# Order of Worship

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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

*Prelude on "Wondrous Love"*

Gordon Young  
Suzanne Shick, organ

## WELCOME

The Rev. Janice Y. Cook

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O Lord, open our lips.

**People: And our mouths will declare your praise.**

Leader: You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it.

**People: You do not take pleasure in burnt offering.**

Leader: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;

**People: A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise,**

Leader: Let us worship God.

## + HYMN OF PRAISE 215

**What Wondrous Love Is This**

WONDROUS LOVE

## FIRST READING

Joel 2:1-2, 11-13 (pg. OT 1071)

Jan Caldwell, lay reader

## SOLO

*If With All Your Hearts (from Elijah)*

Felix Mendelssohn  
Cole Tornberg, tenor

Ye people rend your hearts, rend your hearts and not your garments.

For your transgressions the prophet Elijah has sealed the heavens,

Through the word of God. I therefore say to ye, forsake your idols;

Return to God, for He is slow to anger and

merciful and kind and gracious, and repenteth Him of the evil.

"If with all your hearts ye truly seek me, ye shall ever surely find me."

Thus said our God, "If with all your hearts ye truly seek me, ye shall ever surely find me."

Oh! That I knew where I might find Him, that I might even come before His presence!

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"If with all your hearts ye truly seek me, ye shall ever surely find me."

Thus said our God, "If with all your hearts ye truly seek me, ye shall ever surely find me."

## SECOND READING

John 13:1-9 (pg. NT 142)

Twyla Arant, lay reader

## + HYMN 629

**Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee**

ST. AGNES

## THIRD READING

II Corinthians 5:16, 6:2 (pg. NT 236)

Katherine Powell, lay reader

How great the chasm that lay between us, how high the mountain I could not climb.  
 In desperation, I turned to heaven, and spoke your name into the night.  
 Then through the darkness, Your loving kindness, tore through the shadows of my soul.  
 The work is finished, the end is written, Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Hallelujah, praise the one who set me free, Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me.  
 You have broken every chain, there's salvation in your name, Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Who could imagine so great a mercy? What heart could fathom such boundless grace?  
 The God of ages stepped down from glory, o wear my sin and bear my shame.  
 The cross has spoken, I am forgiven, the king of kings calls me His own.  
 Beautiful savior, I'm yours forever, Jesus Christ, my living hope.

**MEDITATION**

“GraceLove”

The Rev. Dr. Jack W. Baca

**INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE****+ UNISON READING**

Psalm 38:1-15

O Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger, or discipline me in your wrath.  
 For your arrows have sunk into me, and your hand has come down on me.  
 There is no soundness in my flesh because of your indignation;  
 there is no health in my bones because of my sin.  
 For my iniquities have gone over my head; they weigh like a burden too heavy for me.  
 My wounds grow foul and fester because of my foolishness;  
 I am utterly bowed down and prostrate; all day long I go around mourning.  
 For my loins are filled with burning, and there is no soundness in my flesh.  
 I am utterly spent and crushed; I groan because of the tumult of my heart.  
 O Lord, all my longing is known to you; my sighing is not hidden from you.  
 My heart throbs, my strength fails me; as for the light of my eyes—it also has gone from me.  
 My friends and companions stand aloof from my affliction, and my neighbors stand far off.  
 Those who seek my life lay their snares; those who seek to hurt me speak of ruin,  
 and meditate treachery all day long.  
 But I am like the deaf, I do not hear; like the mute, who cannot speak.  
 Truly, I am like one who does not hear, and in whose mouth is no retort.  
 But it is for you, O Lord, that I wait; it is you, O Lord my God, who will answer.

**ANTHEM OF REFLECTION***Remember not, Lord, our Offences*

Henry Purcell

Chancel Choir

Remember, remember not, Lord, our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers;  
 Neither take thou vengeance of our sins, good Lord, but spare us, good Lord.  
 Spare thy people, whom thou has redeemed with thy precious blood,  
 and be not angry with us forever. Spare us, good Lord.

**A MOMENT OF SILENCE**

## ACT OF CONFESSION & IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*Worshippers are invited to pray, asking God to reveal areas of sin and weakness within themselves, and then write those on the slip of paper provided in this bulletin. You are then invited to come forward, set the paper aflame using the candles on the table, and place the paper in the receptacle. As the list of your sins is consumed by the fire, never to return, so does the Lord forgive you, never to remember your sins again. You are then invited to receive the prayer of blessing and imposition of ashes from one of the pastors as you begin life anew in the power of the Holy Spirit.*

### MEDITATION

*Amazing Grace*

Paul Johnson

### PRAYER

#### + HYMN 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

#### + BLESSING & CHARGE

### POSTLUDE

*Chaconne*

Louis Couperin



*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

Gustavo Coria, Facilities Manager

The Rev. Janice Y. Cook, Interim Associate Pastor

Juan Carlos Acosta, Director of Worship Ministry

Calieanne Grossheim, Asst. Director of Worship Ministry

Twyla Arant, Music Ministries Coordinator

Matt LaFond, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Barbara Haran, Contemporary Worship Team Leader

Phyllis Graham, Bell Choir Director

Suzanne Shick, Organist