



VILLAGE CHURCH

Presbyterian (USA)



Silent night

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

December 24, 2022 • 7 & 9 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Prelude

Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

Welcome

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

Call to Worship

Rev. Sally S. Wright

There is good news of great joy:
to us is born a savior.

**Authority rests upon his shoulders
and he is named—
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God,
Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.**

So much to expect from a child
asleep between the star and the straw.

Procession of the Christ Candle

*Hymn No. 133 (v. 1-3)

O Come, All Ye Faithful

*Responsive Prayer

Rev. Sally S. Wright (7 p.m.); Rev. Zach Walker (9 p.m.)

Living God,
You live beyond time and dwell beyond space.
You sent your only Son
to know the weakness of human flesh,
and to reign as Holy King.

**Who are we that you should come to us?
Yet you have humbled yourself to take on flesh.
You came down to breathe the same air we breathe,
to know what it is to be weary,
to suffer a broken body and a broken heart.
It is this love that breathes us to life.
Amen.**

*Hymn No. 112 (v. 1 & 4)

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

Call to Prayer

**Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all! Christ the babe is Lord of all!**

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

Light of the World
words by Mark Harbison; music by A.J. Harbison; Village Choir

Meditation

This Night is For You

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

*Hymn

Still, Still, Still

**Still, still, still, one can hear the falling snow.
For all is hushed, the world is sleeping, Holy Star its vigil keeping.
Still, still, still, one can hear the falling snow.
Sleep, sleep, sleep, it's the eve of our Saviour's birth.
The night is peaceful all around you, close your eyes, let sleep surround you.
Sleep, sleep, sleep, 'tis the eve of our Saviour's birth.
Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come.
While guardian angels without number watch you as you sweetly slumber.
Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come.**

Call for the Offering

Offertory Anthem

Lullaby on Christmas Eve
by F. M. Christiansen; Rachel Priest, soprano; Village Choir

*Response

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!**

*Prayer of Dedication

*The Light of Christ

Candle Lighting Procedures

When passing the flame, always keep your lit candle upright while the next person tilts their unlit candle to yours. Candles can be extinguished following the Benediction and returned at the exits.

*Hymn No. 122

Silent Night, Holy Night

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child! Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing, alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.**

*Benediction

*Postlude

Christmas Medley

String Quartet

Dima Estanbuli, violin

Allison Ross, violin

Monte Carter, viola

Trilla Ray-Carter, cello

WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH

Whether this is your first time at Village, or you come so often you call it “home,” we are blessed that you have chosen to celebrate Christmas Eve with us. No matter where you are in your faith journey or life stage, no matter what questions or burdens you carry, Village takes seriously the call to be welcoming; we are glad you are here. Every Sunday we gather to read the old story, sing hymns (some of which our grandparents sang), while also engaging the world in which we live this minute through sermons and prayer. By connecting the story of our lives to the story of Christ’s life, we discover hope and even joy.

Discovering joy is pretty easy on Christmas Eve, for this is the night that we are reminded that there is a holy love that calls us by name and will never let us go. No wonder the angels sing.

If you would like to know more about who we are and the ministry we are up to, check out villagepres.org. But for now, just be present in this moment, for we will hear good news of great joy for all people! That includes you.



Rev. Tom Are, Jr.
Senior Pastor

ABOUT VILLAGE CHURCH

Village Church is a Presbyterian (USA) family of faith committed to thoughtful worship, Christian formation of children and adults, and caring for another, our community and the world. All are invited. All are included. All are loved. We are one church worshipping each Sunday at two locations: Village Church Mission Campus in Prairie Village and Village Church Antioch Campus in Overland Park. Village Church also manages the Meneilly Center for Mission at 99th and Mission Road in Overland Park, which includes a Food Pantry and Clothes Closet and a Child & Family Development Center that serve the surrounding community.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S DAY WORSHIP

Christmas Worship, Sunday, Dec. 25: Rev. Tom Are is preaching 10 a.m. at Mission Campus; Rev. Tim Soule is preaching 9:30 a.m. at Antioch Campus. **New Year's Day Worship, Sunday, Jan. 1:** Rev. Melanie Hardison is preaching 10 a.m. at Mission Campus; Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka is preaching 9:30 a.m. at Antioch Campus. Please note that there will be no child care at Mission Campus on Christmas or New Year's.

REGULAR SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join us any Sunday for worship in the Mission Campus Sanctuary. Services times are 9 and 11 a.m., or come to The Gathering, alternative worship, at 5 p.m. Sundays in Friendship Hall. We livestream services at villagepres.org/online. Worship with us at our Antioch Campus at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. Learn more about Village Church at villagepres.org.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Village U Classes for Church and Community – Village Church is a learning community with a long-standing commitment to providing opportunities for adults of all ages to grow in knowledge and faith together. Registration opens Jan. 9 at shop.villagepres.org.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

Village Kids Holiday Schedule – Our regular schedule of Sunday morning classes is from 9-10 a.m. for ages two through 6th grade, and resumes Jan. 8. Child care for infants through two years also resumes Jan. 8.

MISSION & ENGAGEMENT

Wednesday Family Dinners – Join us for self-serve, buffet-style dinners in Friendship Hall-Mission Campus from 5-6 p.m. Wednesdays. Activities for kids. \$9 for adults and \$4 for children. Dinners resume Jan. 11. Purchase online by noon Mondays at villagepres.org/wednesday-family-dinners or call Karen at 913-262-4200.

FOOD PANTRY

Everyone at the Village Church Food Pantry and Clothes Closet would like to thank all those who have supported our mission throughout the year. Your donations are what make it possible for us to serve families in need.

MUSIC MINISTRY

2nd Thursday Recital with Organist Rick Deasley – 12:15 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12, Mission Campus Sanctuary. Please join us for "Around the Church Year in 30 Minutes" with organist Rick Deasley. Admission is free.

Morning Stars Children's Music Program – The spring season is kicking off for children in Kindergarten through 6th Grade. Choirs meet on Sunday mornings from 10-10:30 a.m. Children's Handbells meet on Sunday afternoons. For rehearsal times and more information, contact jenny.hull@villagepres.org.

PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

Stephen Ministers Are Here to Support You During this Season – Are you or someone you know struggling with challenges like isolation and loneliness, anxiety, grief, tension from juggling work, child care and schooling, financial strain or job loss, uncertainty about the future, other unexpected life challenges? If so, you don't have to face it alone. Village Church's well-trained, compassionate and caring Stephen Ministers are ready to listen, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support. A Stephen Minister is available to meet with you (in person or by phone or video chat) to offer care and support. It is confidential and available at no cost to you. For more information, contact Rev. Melanie Hardison at 913-671-2367 or melanie.hardison@villagepres.org.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Young Adult Ministry is a ministry specifically for people in their 20's and 30's. We want to connect, worship, serve and go places that will bring all of us more life, push us to do new and good things, and change our city for good. Learn more at villagepresya.org.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Weekly Activities Resume Jan. 8 – Check out villagepresyouth.org for more information.

Confirmation Registration – You can now register for this year's Confirmation class. Confirmation is open to students who are in 9th grade or older, who have not yet taken the class. Join us for this year's class! Registration can be found at villagepresyouth.org/confirmation.

Join us for Spring Break! Registration is open for our Spring Break trip to the Dominican Republic, March 11-18. Join us for an amazing week of service, meaning, and time at the beach. For more info visit villagepresyouth.org/dominican-republic.

Prepare for baptism – For infants and children, contact kate.ruecker@villagepres.org. For adults, contact dionne.boyice@villagepres.org.

Plan your wedding – Contact weddings@villagepres.org.

Add someone to the prayer list – Contact pastoral-care@villagepres.org.

Join the church – Contact dionne.boyice@villagepres.org.

UPCOMING SERMON SERIES

I Am...

Bread. Light. Way. Life.

Jan. 8-Feb. 12

We make the bold claim that we are the “Church of Jesus Christ” and that “Jesus is the cornerstone upon which the Church is built.” But who is Jesus really? In the Gospel of John, there are seven times when Jesus tells us who he is; seven times Jesus says, “I am...” In this sermon series, Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka will explore each of these seven “I am” statements and together, we will discover what it says about Jesus Christ and what it says about us.

- Jan. 8 I am the Bread of Life.
- Jan. 15 I am the Light of the World.
- Jan. 22 I am the Gate. I am the Good Shepherd.
- Jan. 29 I am the Resurrection and the Life.
- Feb. 5 I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.
- Feb. 12 I am the True Vine.

MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Tom Are, Jr., senior pastor • Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist

Rev. Dr. Dionne T. Boyice, director of mission & engagement • Will Breytspraak, director of music
Brooke Brundige, director of children & family ministry • Laura Davis, director of marketing & communications

Rev. Melanie Hardison, pastor of pastoral care • Rev. Hallie Hottle, pastor of young adult ministry

Dr. Joshua Maize, associate director of music • Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate pastor
Robert Rumold, director of information technology • Bob Sperry, director of giving & endowment

Sandra Stephens, director of child care • Jim Tilden, senior director of business operations

Rev. Zach Walker, pastor of youth ministries • Alice Whitson, director of media ministry

Rev. Sally S. Wright, pastor of pastoral care • Rev. Dr. Robert H. Meneilly, founding pastor, 1947-1994

Large print bulletins are available in the Narthex. Ask an usher to bring you one.

Streaming video of Sunday services is available at villagepres.org/online.

You may call in to listen to a week-delayed broadcast of our Sanctuary service on our worship service phone line: 913-203-1301. You can opt-in to be called automatically at 9:30 a.m. Sundays.

We kindly request that cell phones be turned off during worship.

Printed on paper from sustainably managed forests.