



**VILLAGE
CHURCH**

Presbyterian (USA)



and his name
shall be...

Emmanuel

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

December 24, 2023 • 7 & 9 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Prelude

String Quartet

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

Procession of the Christ Candle

*Hymn, No. 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful

*Unison Evening Prayer

**Gracious and Loving God,
as you came at night when all was still,
so enter our lives this night.**

**Illumine our paths with the light of Christ's presence,
that we may clearly see the way, the truth,
and the life of Jesus Christ.**

**Give us such love and wonder that with shepherds and magi, and pilgrims unknown,
we may come to adore the holy child, the promised one;
and with our gifts worship him,
even Emmanuel,**

**our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WE WITNESS THE STORY OF CHRISTMAS

The Promise

Scripture

Luke 1:26-38

Hymn No. 140 (v. 1 soloist; v. 2 & 4 all)

Once in Royal David's City

The Birth

Scripture

Luke 2:1-7

Anthem

Wonderful Peace

by Gustaf Nordquist and Dan Davison; Village Choir

The Shepherds

Scripture

Luke 2:8-20

Hymn No. 113 (v. 1,2)

Angels We Have Heard on High

The Magi

Scripture

Matthew 2:1-12

Hymn No. 147 (v. 1-3)

The First Noel

Homily

And his name shall be... Emmanuel, God with Us Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

WE RESPOND THE STORY

*Hymn (please sing when invited)

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el,
His name is called Em - man - u - el.
God with us, re - vealed in us,
His name is called Em - man - u - el.

Offertory Anthem

Walk in the Light

arr. Andre Thomas; Village Choir

*Response

Praise to God, the One who made us. Praise to Christ, the new - born Son.
Praise the Spir - it, ev - er with us. Praise the God - head, Three in One.
Clear a path! Pre-prepare the way! Ad - vent leads to Christ - mas Day!

*Prayer of Dedication

*Sharing 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

Gloria!

by Wayne Wold; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

**All who are able may stand*

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TONIGHT'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Village Choir

String Quartet: Clara Lee, Dima Estanbuli, Monty Carter and Trilla Ray-Carter

WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH

With joy I am so glad to welcome you to Christmas Eve worship here at Village Presbyterian Church! Whether this is your first time with us, or you are a long-time church member, this is a night for celebration.

We celebrate this night because in a miracle too grand for us to fully grasp, God chose to become human. The creator of the universe becoming a human being is incredible enough, but God chose not to come in a display of power riding on a white stallion appearing in the sky amidst beams of light. No. God chose to come to us in the dark of night in a small town in the form of an innocent, precious infant completely dependent on a young mother and father to care for and nurture him. What a remarkable thing! God in human flesh. That's what "Emmanuel" means. "God with us!"

I am so glad you are celebrating with us. It is my conviction that none of us can walk this journey of faith alone; we need one another. If you are looking for a place that loves greatly and seeks to share God's hope with the whole world, I would be glad to talk more with you about Village Church.

Grace and peace to you!



Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka
rodger@villagepres.org

Get Village Church news & updates – Sign up to receive the weekly eNews, Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka's weekly eNote and Daily Devotionals emails at villagepres.org/subscribe.

Follow us on Facebook @villagepres – **Follow us on Instagram** @villagechurchpv

Subscribe to **Village Pres Sermon Podcasts** on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Spotify & Stitcher.

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 & Clothes Closet and a Child & Family Development Center that serve the surrounding community.

REGULAR SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join us for Sunday worship in the Mission Campus Sanctuary. Worship 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 in Overland Park at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays. Learn more 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. 8 at villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

Village Kids Holiday Schedule – Our regular schedule of Lighthouse Village Kids Sunday morning classes is from 9-10 a.m. for ages two through 6th grade and resumes Jan. 7. Child care for infants through two years also resumes Jan. 7.

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. 17. Purchase online by noon Mondays at villagepres.org/wednesday-family-dinners or call Karen at 913-262-4200.

INTERNATIONAL MISSION

All Ages Service Trip to D.R. – How about this as your 2024 resolution: to improve your life in ways you cannot possibly even imagine? Join us on our fifth annual Givingthanks in the Dominican Republic, Village Church's only all ages & skills service trip. Dates are Nov. 22-27, 2024. Contact Lora Garrison, lora.garrison@villagepres.org; 913-671-2390.

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 neighbors in need.

MUSIC MINISTRY

2nd Thursday Recital featuring Gioia Wind Quintet & KC Wind Symphony Brass Quintet – 12:15 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11, Mission Campus Sanctuary. Free admission.

Morning Stars Children's Music Program – The spring season is kicking off Jan. 28 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 or follow us on social media @VillagePresYA.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Weekly Activities Resume Jan. 7 – Check out villagepresyouth.org for more information.

Giving – You may give to Village Church at villagepres.org/giving or scan the QR code to the right.

Set up an automatic, recurring gift by contacting Bob Sperry at bob.sperry@villagepres.org or 913-671-2325.



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

UPCOMING SERMON SERIES

75 Years of Faithfulness: The Stories We Carry with Us • Jan. 14-Feb. 11

Village Presbyterian Church was officially founded on Feb. 13, 1949. We give thanks to God for the faith and faithfulness of all those who have gone before us, those who are with us now, and those who will come after us. Our anniversary celebration will happen on Tuesday evening, Feb. 13, 2024. In the Sundays leading up to that day, Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka will share stories of how God has led this congregation from a beginning with 282 charter members to over 4,500 today.

Jan. 14	We've Come This Far by Faith
Jan. 21	All Are Welcome
Jan. 28	Sing Praise to God
Feb. 4	Go to the World!
Feb. 11	Great is Thy Faithfulness

MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior pastor

Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist • Rev. Dr. Dionne T. Boyice, director of mission & engagement
Brooke Brundige, director of children & family ministry • Laura Davis, director of marketing & communications
Rev. Melanie Hardison, pastor of pastoral care • Rev. Chad Herring, interim senior associate pastor
Dr. Joshua Maize, associate director of music • Rev. Anna Owens, Antioch Campus site 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 • Rev. Alice Whitson, pastor of media ministry
Rev. Sally S. Wright, pastor of pastoral care • Rev. Dr. Robert H. Meneilly, founding pastor, 1947-1994

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.

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