

75
YEARS

VILLAGE
CHURCH

Presbyterian (USA)

For I am the
LORD, your
God, who
takes hold
of your
right hand
and says to
you, Do not
fear; I will
help you.

- Isaiah 41:13



Service of Worship

March 17, 2024 | 9 and 11 a.m.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Introit

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

arr. Karl Osterland; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

Rev. Chad Herring

*Call to Worship (Psalm 50)

The mighty one, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth
from the rising of the sun to the setting.

Out of Zion, God shines forth.

Our God comes and does not keep silence; before God is a devouring fire,
and a mighty tempest all around God.

**God calls to the heavens above and to the earth,
that God may judge God's people.**

The heavens declare God's righteousness, for God is judge.

We will not be afraid for God is with us!

*Hymn No. 215

What Wondrous Love is This

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,

You show us how wondrous your love is in Jesus Christ.

Yet we confess that we are reluctant to hold on to your love.

Forgive us when we let go of you out of our selfishness.

Forgive us when we let go of you out of our fear.

Forgive us when we let go of you out of our skepticism.

Forgive us when we let go of you out of our despair.

Forgive us when we let go of you out of our anger.

Help us to hold on to you at all times and in all situations. (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of God's Grace

*Response

In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful; in the Lord I will re -
joice! Look to God; do not be a - fraid. Lift up your voic - es; the Lord is
near. Lift up your voic - es; the Lord is near.

*Passing the Peace of Christ

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Time with the Children

Call to Prayer (9 a.m.)

Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind. Jesus whispers, "Peace, be still."

Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In stillness, hear his voice.

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer (9 a.m.)

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.

The Sacrament of Baptism (11 a.m.)

*Sung Response (11 a.m.)

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ our King;

Born of the Spirit, we are God's children; Joyfully now God's praises we sing.

Prayer for Illumination

Ruling Elder Dane Manis (9 a.m.)

Ruling Elder Carrie Craig (11 a.m.)

Scripture

Romans 12:9-21

Sermon

The Practice of Holding On

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn No. 543 (v. 1,2,4)

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

Call for the Offering

Offertory

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy
arr. Raymond Haan; Village Choir

*Response



*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn No. 750

Goodness is Stronger than Evil

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

Victory is ours; victory is ours through God who loves us!

Victory is ours; victory is ours through God who loves us!

*Postlude

Deo Gratias (O Love, How Deep!)

by Healey Willan; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

**All who are able may stand*

© A-705103 for all hymns

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

"God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me" is a 21st century adaptation of the traditional Celtic prayer attributed to St. Patrick, in the style known as a lorica (Latin for "armor" or "breastplate"). St. Patrick's Breastplate, as the prayer is often called, includes the language of binding the Trinity to oneself, as well as petitioning Christ to be beside, before and within us, a fitting accompaniment to today's sermon.

Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism Today

Welcome these newest members into our faith community as we celebrate the baptism of the following children at **11 a.m.**: Judy Mae Elrod (Alice and Tim Elrod, parents) and Maxwell August Mahler (Sydney and Kevin Mahler, parents).

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 are with us today. 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.

If you are new to us, I invite you to meet one of our pastors at the top of the ramp in the corner of the Welcome Center. As you leave the back of the sanctuary, turn right. We have cookies and coffee for you! We would love to know more about you and to share more about Village Church. Soon, you might also be calling this place, "home."



Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka
Senior Pastor

The Gathering – Join us for an alternative style of worship at Village Church offered 5 p.m. Sundays in Friendship Hall at our Mission Campus.

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.

New baby births – We want to meet your little one and give them a gift. Come by the Children & Family Ministry office or email kidsinfo@villagepres.org.

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

Farewell Reception for Rosemary Marshall

Long-time director of the Village Church Child & Family Development Center, Rosemary Marshall, is retiring at the end of this school year. Join us for a farewell reception in her honor from 5-6:30 p.m. Friday, April 5, at the Child & Family Development Center (9900 Mission Road). This is a "come and go" open house with a short program at 6 p.m. in the children's gym.

The flowers in the Chancel today are given to the Glory of God in memory of Van Cooper by Bonny Cooper & family.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Adult Sunday Morning Classes – Village Forum 9:30-10:30 a.m., Rooms 126/127; The Faith Journey 10:10-10:50 a.m., Room 124; Foundations of Faith 11 a.m.-noon, online. Get more details at villagepres.org/sunday-morning-classes.

Men's Breakfast and Bible – 8-9 a.m. Tuesdays through March 26, Friendship Hall, led by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka. Enjoy a continental breakfast then engage in a study on significant men in the Bible. To make a reservation for breakfast, register online. Cost: \$7. Pay in person.

A Complex Faith* – 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, now-March 20, in Room 132 at the Mission Campus. Join Rev. Anna Owens for a class discussing topics kicked off by visiting scholar Rev. Dr. William Yoo and his book "What Kind of Christianity." Child care is provided. *note time change

Climate Change: What Will Happen? 7-8:30 p.m. Monday, March 25, in Room 132. The class will highlight current and potential future impacts to thwart climate change, discuss alternative actions we might take and what might happen. Register at villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

Child Care – Available on the first floor during the 9 a.m. service. Bring infants through 23 months to Room 114 and kids ages 2 and 3 to Room 109. Child care is also available during the 5 p.m. Gathering service. Kids ages 6 weeks and up are welcome in Room 109.

Lighthouse – Three-year-olds meet on the first floor in Room 107. Pre-K and 4-year-olds meet in Room 106. Registration and sign-ins are located outside Room 106. **Elementary Lighthouse** – K-6 Grade – All-Sing begins at 9 a.m. in Room 307. Registration and sign-ins are outside of Room 307. Pick up for kids grades K-6 will be on the third floor.

Palm Sunday – All Lighthouse kids are invited for our annual Palm Sunday Parade! Kindergarten-6th grades will meet in Room 307 at 8:30 a.m.; kids preschool and younger will meet on The Bridge (outside of the senior pastor's office) with their grown-ups at 8:50 a.m. (grown-ups will parade with their child and then drop off in their normal classrooms).

Flowering the Cross – Join us to spread some Easter cheer! Sign up your family to hand out flowers to create our beautiful crosses. Seats will be reserved in the Sanctuary for those families volunteering to help. Contact Kate at kate.ruecker@villagepres.org or 913-671-2350 for more info.

All Ages Easter Egg Hunt – On Palm Sunday, join us between services (10:15-10:45 a.m.) on the south playground. We will stagger the start to make it fair and fun for everyone! Bring your own basket.

Village Kids Summer Programs – Information is online at villagepres.org/summer. Registration for Kids Day Out and Summer Camps begins tomorrow, March 18; VBS registration opens April 15. Contact Sandra.Stephens@villagepres.org for more information.

FOOD PANTRY

The requests from the Food Pantry are for baking needs: small bags of flour, all kinds of sugar, cake mixes, brownie mixes, vegetable oil, etc. The Clothes Closet is asking for items needed for baking: pans, cookie sheets, mixing bowls, large spoons, spatulas, etc., and kitchen dishcloths/towels for clean-up.

MISSION & ENGAGEMENT

Linen Drive for Hillcrest – Support our Mission Partner, Hillcrest Transitional Housing, in the month of March by donating new full-size bed linens, pillows & bath towels. All donations go to formerly houseless families and youth. Find donation tables at the north and south entrances. Contact Sarah Dunne Pickrell at sarah.pickrell@villagepres.org for more information.

Cherith Brook Volunteer Day – Spend the morning volunteering at one of our Signature Mission organizations, Cherith Brook, on Saturday, March 23, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Space is limited and lunch is included. Sign up at bit.ly/cherithbrook or contact sarah.pickrell@villagepres.org.

One Great Hour – On Palm Sunday, we will collect for One Great Hour of Sharing. Offering gifts are distributed to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (32%), Self-Development of People (32%) and Presbyterian Hunger Program (36%). Make checks to Village Church and note “One Great Hour” in the memo.

Village Community Garden – By supporting the garden, you are supporting the Village Food Pantry. Serve for one to two hours from the end of March through October. Sign up for a shift at bit.ly/villagecommunitygarden or contact Jim Porter at portersonkessler@gmail.com.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Kansas City Wind Symphony presents Audissey – A Musical Journey – 3 p.m. Sunday, March 24, Mission Campus Sanctuary. A tour of music from around the world, featuring music by legendary wind composers Frank Ticheli and Percy Grainger. Free admission.

PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

If You are Grieving... Growing through Grief provides comfort, support and more. This free 5-week class starts April 10, and continues every Wednesday through May 6, from 6-7 p.m. in Room 132. Contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org to register.

Loss After a Lifetime of Love – When you have been blessed to have someone in your life for decades, their passing is bittersweet. Join is for Faith & Grief Support Gathering at noon on Tuesday, April 2 when Linda Alley will share stories about her grandmother, a remarkable woman who lived to be almost 107. Registering makes sure you have a boxed lunch; go to faithandgrief.org.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Calling all sewists & aspiring sewists! Mission Sewing meets on Tuesdays (9 a.m.-3 p.m.) and Thursdays (10 a.m.-noon) in Room 115. We accept all skill levels—even beginners. We provide machines, materials & fun conversations. Contact Sallie Veenstra at reesveenstra@aol.com with questions.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Y.A.M. (Young Adult Ministry) Night – 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 20. Meet in the Young Adult Room for dinner and a chance to get to know Sarah Dunne Pickrell, coordinator of mission & engagement.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Weekly programs resume March 18 – **Sunday Brunch** (all youth, 9-10 a.m.), **SNL** (high school youth group, Sundays, 6:30-8:30 p.m.), **Lofternoons** (middle school afterschool program, Tuesdays, 4-5:30 p.m.), and **GPS** (middle school youth group, Wednesdays, 6:30-8 p.m.).

Summer Trip Registration – All of our summer trips are open for registration. Information for HS Boundary Waters, HS Montreat and MS Mission Trip can be found under the “Trips” tab at villagepresyouth.org. Join us for a great summer experience!

Holy Week Worship Services

Celebrate the Easter season with Village Church. We are offering traditional and alternative worship services during Holy Week, March 24-31, at our Mission and Antioch campuses. Find worship times and other details at villagepres.org/easter

SERMON SERIES

Practicing Lent

The season of Lent in the Christian year begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday. The word "Lent" comes from the Old English word "lencten" which refers to the lengthening daylight of the spring season. Lent is a time of contemplation and preparation for the days of Holy Week leading up to the arrest, torture, death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. During this time, we are invited to engage in practices that will help shape our lives as we journey with Jesus to the cross and the empty tomb.

Feb. 18	The Practice of Prayer
Feb. 25	The Practice of Fasting
March 3	The Practice of Letting Go
March 10	The Practice of Empathy Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston preaching
March 17	The Practice of Holding On
March 24	The Practice of Welcoming (Palm Sunday)
March 31	The Practice of Rising (Easter)

MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior pastor

Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist • Rev. Dr. Dionne T. Boyce, 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

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.