



VILLAGE CHURCH

Presbyterian (USA)



Service of Worship

May 14, 2023 • 9 and 11 a.m.

About Today's Service

It didn't take long for the train to jump the rails, as they say. The good creation of God falls on hard times as the creatures created in God's image reject the ways of God. It is the deeds that matter, but deeds always begin with thoughts and motivations. Sometimes, we think our ideas are better than God's ideas.



GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Children of the Heavenly Father
arr. Robert Hobby; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

Words of Welcome

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

Introit (9 a.m.)

I'm Gonna Sing/Over My Head
by Terry D. Taylor; combined Morning Stars Choirs

Call To Worship

Rev. Sally S. Wright

We are called to this time of worship.

We gather with God's people and as God's people.

The promise of our baptism is true:

We are the children of God.

*Hymn, No. 7

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth

*Prayer of Confession

God of Mercy,

**The scripture declares that your ways are not our ways,
and your thoughts are not our thoughts.**

The trouble comes when we assume our way is the better path.

Forgive us, once again. (Silent Prayer)

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Passing the Peace of Christ

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Anthem (9 a.m.)

We the Children Lift Our Voices
by Hal. H. Hopson; Hallelujah Choir

Time with the Children

The Sacrament of Baptism

Hymn, No. 488

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

Prayer for Illumination

Elizabeth McKell (9 a.m.)
Sharolyn Molle (11 a.m.)

Scripture

Genesis 2:15-17 (pg. 2)
Genesis 3:1-21 (pg. 2)

Sermon

I Have a Better Idea

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 175

Seek Ye First

Call for the Offering

Offertory Anthem

Ubi Caritas
by Maurice Duruflé; Village Choir

*Where charity and love are, God is there.
Love of Christ has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice in Him and be glad.
Let us fear, and let us love the living God.
And from a sincere heart let us love one.
Where charity and love are, God is there.*

*Sung Response

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn, No. 327

From All That Dwell Below the Skies

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

Amen
by John Rutter; Village Choir

*Postlude

Mit Freuden Zart
arr. Paul Laubengayer; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

**All who are able may stand
© A-705103 for all hymns*

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, stick around after the service. Introduce yourself to one of our pastors. We have tons of programs to expand your spirit and enrich your life. We would love to tell you more. Give us a try; soon you might also be calling this place “home.”



Rev. Tom Are, Jr.
Co-Pastor



Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka
Co-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. Learn more at vpcthegathering.org.

Get Village Church news & updates – Sign up to receive the weekly eNews, Rev. Tom Are, Jr. & 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.

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

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



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Register for Spring Village U Classes at villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes.

The Gospel According to Ted Lasso – Join Rev. Melanie Hardison for informal conversation about the storyline, characters and life lessons learned in this Apple TV series. Although “Ted Lasso” may not be an explicitly Christian show, do you detect Christian themes? Let’s gather over coffee from 10:15-10:45 a.m. in Friendship Hall and discuss: today and June 11. Look for the “BELIEVE” sign!

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

Child Care is available on the first floor during the 9 a.m. service. Infants to 2-year-olds can be dropped off in Room 114. **Preschool 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-6th Grade – All-Sing begins at 9 a.m. in Room 307. Registration and sign-ins are located outside of Room 307. Pick up for kids grades K-6 will be on the third floor.

Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism Today – Welcome these newest members into our faith community as we celebrate the baptisms of the following children at **9 a.m.**: Theodore Robert Clancy (Lindsey and Bob Clancey, parents); Carly Regan Cross (Sara and Chase Cross, parents); Nicholas Robert Madl II and Olivia James Madl (Sydney and Nick Madl, parents); Campbell Marie Silver, Grace Elizabeth Silver, and Lewis John Silver (Molly and Bernie Silver, parents); Amelia Marie Simonich (Elizabeth and Justin Simonich, parents); and Charles Coleman Varon (Jen and Matthew Varon, parents); at **11 a.m.**: Sutton Louise Stehl (Kelby and Alex Stehl, parents).

FOOD PANTRY

The request this week is for all varieties of canned fruit (no glass containers please): pears, mandarin oranges, pineapple, etc., and dried fruit such as Craisins, raisins and prunes. The Clothes Closet is asking for new socks and underwear (all sizes for children and adults). Your generous donations have made our Food Pantry & Clothes Closet the success that it is. Thank you!

MISSION & ENGAGEMENT

Last Wednesday Family Dinner – May 17 is our last self-serve, buffet-style dinner of the season from Chef Andrea in Friendship Hall-Mission Campus from 5-6 p.m. Dine in before your Village U class or take it home. Activities for kids. \$9 for adults and \$4 for children. Purchase online by noon on Monday at villagepres.org/wednesday-family-dinners or call Karen at 913-262-4200.

PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

If You Go to the Hospital, Let Us Know – If you or a loved one is hospitalized, we’re here for you. Please have a family member or the hospital chaplain call the Pastoral Care Department at 913-671-2327 and tell us the name of the hospital, room number and other pertinent information. (Hospitals don’t automatically call anymore.) After hours, call the church’s main number 913-262-4200. A pastor will visit, listen and offer comfort and prayers.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Programs on Break – We are prepping for the summer months, so programs are on pause to allow time for graduations, finals and year-end celebrations. Join us for Youth Week (see below), and summer weekly programming begins on June 11. See villagepresyouth.org for more details.

Youth Week is June 4-8 – Registration is open for all Youth Week Events! Join us on any or all the days as we visit Worlds of Fun, meet up to hammock, compete at Main Event, play pickleball and more! To sign up, visit shop.villagepres.org/youth-ministries.

Congregational Meeting – Session has called a Congregational Meeting to celebrate and give thanks for the ministry of Rev. Hallie Hottle and dissolve the pastoral relationship that she might be free to accept the call from First Presbyterian Church of Hayward, California. The meeting will be convened following the 9 a.m. service at the Mission Campus and repeated following the 5 p.m. Gathering Service on Sunday, May 21. A celebration of Hallie's ministry will follow the Congregational Meeting at The Gathering.

Village Church is Hiring – The Mission Campus is searching for a full-time executive assistant to the co-pastor, custodians, preschool teachers and child care providers. Visit villagepres.org/employment-opportunities for the job descriptions and how to apply.

AARP Safe Driver Course – Learn research-based safety strategies to help keep you safe while on the road. After taking this newly updated course, you may be eligible for a multi-year discount on your car insurance! (Consult your auto insurance agent for details.) The course will take place at the Village Church Mission Campus on Saturday, June 3. Space is limited. Call Alan Shirling to register at 913-608-4299.

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

CURRENT SERMON SERIES

Do I Have a Story for You!

The first stories in the Bible are both familiar as well as complicated. You know the names—Adam, Eve, Cain, Abel, as well as that story of the Tower of Babel. These old stories are not about people who lived at the beginning of humankind. They are stories about the whole human family. The ancient wisdom found in these first stories points to our place as well as our responsibilities in God's world. In this series, we will walk with God "at the time of the evening breeze." We will see what we can learn from a talking snake. We will discover how familiar the first brothers can be to us. And we will discover the risk to us all when "the whole earth had one language and the same words." These are stories our ancestors in the faith loved to tell. After all these generations, they still reveal truth about ourselves that we need to know. Rev. Tom Are, Jr. preaches this series.

May 7 It's Not Good in the Garden.

May 14 I Have a Better Idea.

May 21 Even God Can Be a Troublemaker.

May 28 They All Had One Language. (Sure they did.)

MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Tom Are, Jr., co-pastor • Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, co-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. 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.