



VILLAGE CHURCH

Presbyterian (USA)



Service of Worship

June 18, 2023 • 9 and 11 a.m.



GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Voluntary on "Highland Cathedral"
by Thomas Vozzella; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

Words of Welcome

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

Call To Worship

The heavens are telling the glory of God!

**Day to day and night to night, unending is their silent speech of beauty
and wonder.**

How shall we join their joyful witness?

**With words that proclaim God's inclusive love, with works that bring forth God's
powerful justice, with worship that rejoices in God's wondrous presence,
now and always. Amen!**

*Hymn, No. 619 (v. 1,3,4)

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

*Prayer of Confession

**We turn our hearts again to you, God of grace and mercy. Forgive us love
that is self-satisfied, and teach us love that is self- and other-affirming.
Forgive us faith that makes us rush to judgment, and give us faith that
fills us with compassion. Forgive us peace we have made with our divisions,
and unite us in peace that passes understanding. We pray, with thanksgiving,
in the name of Christ. Amen. (Silent Prayer)**

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Sung Response

**This is my story; this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story; this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.**

*Passing the Peace of Christ

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Anthem (9 a.m.)

Music from *Oh, Jonah!*
by Allen Pote; Drama Camp Singers

Time with the Children

Call to Prayer

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in the key of D major (two sharps) and 3/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first system covers the first line of lyrics, and the second system covers the second line. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al-le-lu-ia!

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.**

Prayer for Illumination

Fred Logan (9 a.m.); Beth Winetroub (11 a.m.)

Scripture

Luke 7:36-50 (pg. 941)

Sermon

Why Church? Because women are called.

Rev. Anna Owens

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 324

For All the Faithful Women

Offertory Anthem

Share My Yoke
by Joy Webb; Andrew Bishop, trumpet

*Sung Response

**Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,
you are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.**

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn

**God of the women who answered your call,
trusting your promise, giving their all,
women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth -
give us their courage to live in your truth.**

**God of the women long put to the test,
left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,
quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?"
In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.**

**God of the women who ran from the tomb,
prayed with the others in that upper room,
then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day -
may we so gladly proclaim you today.**

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

**O God of Phoebe and ministers all, may we be joyful in answering your call.
Give us the strength of your Spirit so near that we may share in your ministry here.**

Postlude

Toccata
by Giovanni Battista Martini; Andrew Bishop, trumpet

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.

About Rev. Anna Owens – Anna joined Village Presbyterian Church as site pastor at our Antioch Campus in Overland Park in April 2023. She most recently served as the associate pastor for spiritual growth at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Dayton, Ohio. She has also served churches in Indiana and Alabama. Born and raised in South Carolina, Anna is a classically trained opera singer, receiving a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Converse College in Spartanburg, South Carolina. She is a graduate of Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. Her husband, Josh Sweeney, is director of Christian Education at Knox Presbyterian Church in Overland Park. Anna and Josh have a toddler named Charlie. We invite you to Anna’s installation service at 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 13, in the Antioch Campus Sanctuary. Rev. Owen Gray, who grew up at Village Church, will be preaching.

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

Building Beloved Community – This committee typically meets from 12:30-2:30 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month in Room 132 and is always open to new members. The next meeting will be July 9, followed by Aug. 6. The work of the committee will focus on diversity, equity and inclusion specifically around race and ethnicity but also including gender, sexual orientation and identity, age and ability. Contact rodger.nishioka@villagepres.org.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

No Sunday Funday this week! Worship with your family in “big church.” Babies and toddlers combine in the nursery (Room 114). Ages 2-4 meet in Room 107 for child care.

FOOD PANTRY

Peanut butter (16-18 oz. plastic jars) is the requested item this week. Summer is here, children are eating at home; peanut butter is an ideal choice. The Clothes Closet is asking for new or gently used bed linens: sheets, pillowcases, pillows for all sizes of beds.

MISSION & ENGAGEMENT

Community Garden Volunteers Needed – The Village Church Garden offers opportunities for people of all ages and experience levels to serve. All produce collected supports the Village Food Pantry. Learn more and sign up at villagepres.org/community-garden or contact Jim Porter: 913-634-5880.

Ice Cream Social – You’re invited to our 48th annual Ice Cream Social celebration at the Mission Campus from 5-7 p.m. on Friday, June 30, featuring Kaleidoscoops ice cream, hot dogs and activities for families. Come for the free fun and to learn more about our Mission Partner organizations.

MUSIC

Kansas City Baroque Consortium presents "The Italians in Vienna" – 7:30 p.m. this Friday, June 23, in the Mission Campus Sanctuary. Join KC Baroque as we lead audiences through one of Europe's most beautiful and musically significant cities. Get tickets at kcbaroque.org.

Violin Favorites – 7:30 p.m. this Saturday, June 24, Mission Campus Sanctuary. Join Village Players leader and violinist Destiny Ann Mermagen for a Duo Recital with world-renowned pianist Hyunsoon Whang. Music of Brahms, Kreisler & Vieuxtemps. Featuring the Village Players Youth String Quartet debut. Free admission.

Summer Choir starts July 9, 16, 23 and 30! Arrive to the Mission Campus Chapel at 10:10 a.m. to get your music and enjoy a short rehearsal of the day's anthem. Sit with the congregation in the pews and come to the front steps when invited to share a choral anthem for the 11 a.m. service. All are welcome!

PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

Growing Through Grief Class Starts Soon – If you’re grieving the loss of a loved one, come to Growing Through Grief. This five-week class starts at 6 p.m. every Wednesday from July 12-Aug. 9 in Room 124-Mission Campus. Both members and the community are welcome. There is no cost to attend but registration is required; contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

Flower Ministry Needs Vases – Each Sunday, small arrangements are made from the Chancel flowers and taken to Village Church members who are in area hospitals, recovering or simply under the weather. We are requesting vase donations of any size, preferably 6-8 inches tall with 3- to 4-inch openings. Drop them at the south entrance reception desk. Thank you for your support of this outreach ministry. Email Hillary.Mackowski@villagepres.org with questions.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Weekly Summer Programs Start Today – Each week we have **Post-Gathering Gathering** (Sundays, 6-7:30 p.m., finished 6th-12th grade, discussion and dinner at the Village shops), **MS Evenings** (Mondays, 7-9 p.m., youth group for finished 6th-8th grade), **HS Late Nite** (Tuesdays, 8-10 p.m., youth group for finished 9th-12th grade), **Service Days** (Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., finished 6th-12th grade). Sundays meet by the south entrance; all others meet in the Youth Loft.

Middle School Float Trip – Our first trip of the summer is coming up on June 27-29. We invite all completed 6th-8th graders to join us as we take a fun float adventure down in Noel, Missouri. It's a great way to have fun on the water with friends and enjoy the summer sun! More information and registration can be found at villagepresyouth.org/float-trip.

Village Golf – Plays on Monday in July. Register now for the July 10 outing at Tomahawk Hills in Shawnee, Kansas. Tee time is 8 a.m. The green fee with cart is \$33 for seniors. Email Brad Steil at bradsteil@everestkc.net by July 1 to reserve your spot on a four-player team. Men and women from the Mission and Antioch campuses and their friends are welcome in this fellowship group.

Village Church is Hiring – We are searching for a full-time assistant director of human resources at the Mission Campus. Read the full job description and learn how to apply at villagepres.org/employment-opportunities.

Church Entry Will be Impacted by Mission Road Construction – Prairie Village is raising the height of Mission Road between Tomahawk Road and 67th Terrace to protect the houses on the west side of Mission Road from occasional flooding. The church will be impacted by this construction. Starting in July and running until Sept. 1, Mission Road will be closed from Tomahawk to the entrance into our south parking lot just north of the 67th Terrace intersection. That means no access to the church from the south on Mission Road. Access will only be from the north.

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

SERMON SERIES

Why Church?

The Pew Forum on Religion in Public Life reports that nearly a quarter of American adults say that they have no religious affiliation, an all-time high. The majority of these persons say they are “spiritual, but not religious.” American young adults, persons in their 20s and 30s, share common critiques of “organized religion.” A majority of them say the church is full of people who are judgmental and hypocritical. Further, they say the church is anti-gay, anti-women, and anti-science. In this preaching series, we will explore these criticisms as we seek to answer the question: Why Church?

June 4 Because we’re trying to be real. - Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka preaching

June 11 Because love is God’s gift. - Rev. Dr. Dionne Boyice preaching

June 18 Because women are called. - Rev. Anna Owens preaching

June 25 Because we see God in science. - Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka preaching

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

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.