



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

August 15, 2021 • 9 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can also hurt me.
Stones and sticks break only skin, while words are ghosts that haunt me.
Slant and curved the word-swords fall, they pierce and wound inside me.
Bats and bricks may ache through bones, but words can mortify me.
Pain from words has left its scar on mind and heart that's tender.
Cuts and bruises have now healed, it's words that I remember.

—Ruby Redfort

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire
settings by Barbara Harbach and Emma Lou Diemer

Words of Welcome

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

Call to Worship (Psalm 95)

Rev. Sally S. Wright

O come, let us worship and bow down,

Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

For God is our God,

And we are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.

O that today we would listen to God's voice!

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving;

Let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

*Hymn, No. 722 (v. 1-3)

Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak

*Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, with our tongues we bless you.

Lectern side: You are a loving God.

Pulpit side: You are a mighty God.

Lectern side: You are a forgiving God.

Pulpit side: You are a creating God.

Lectern side: You are a faithful God.

Pulpit side: You are a generous God.

Lectern side: You are a merciful God.

Pulpit side: You are an awesome God.

Yet with these same tongues, we confess that we curse those around us, even those whom you have entrusted to our care. We say to each other:

Lectern side: You are so stupid.

Pulpit side: You are such a loser.

Lectern side: You are so selfish.

Pulpit side: You are a terrible person.

Lectern side: You are worthless.

Pulpit side: You are the worst kid ever.

Lectern side: You are the worst parent ever.

Pulpit side: You are beyond redemption.

Forgive us, O God, for using our tongues to hurt others.

Forgive us for hurting you. (Silent prayer)

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Sung Response

**O fill me with your fullness, Lord,
until my very heart o'erflow
in kindling thought and glowing word,
your love to tell, your praise to show.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Time with the Children

Brooke Brundige

Call to Prayer

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

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

Mothering God

text by Jean Janzen, music by Tom Trenney; Dr. Joshua Maize, soloist

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

James 3:5b-12

The Message Paraphrase by Eugene Peterson

It only takes a spark, remember, to set off a forest fire. A careless or wrongly placed word out of your mouth can do that. By our speech we can ruin the world, turn harmony to chaos, throw mud on a reputation, send the whole world up in smoke and go up in smoke with it, smoke right from the pit of hell. This is scary: You can tame a tiger, but you can't tame a tongue—it's never been done. The tongue runs wild, a wanton killer. With our tongues we bless God our Father; with the same tongues we curse the very men and women he made in his image. Curses and blessings out of the same mouth! My friends, this can't go on. A spring doesn't gush fresh water one day and brackish the next, does it? Apple trees don't bear strawberries, do they? Raspberry bushes don't bear apples, do they? You're not going to dip into a polluted mud hole and get a cup of clear, cool water, are you?

Sermon

Words Matter

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene Creed (325 C.E.)

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,**

**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Time for Discipleship

*Hymn, No. 737 (v. 1: soloist; v. 2, 3, 4: congregation)

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

**O use me, Lord, use even me,
just as you will, and when, and where
until your blessed face I see,
your rest, your joy, your glory share.**

*Postlude

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
setting by Paul Manz

**All who are able may stand*

© A-705103 for all hymns

Today's Music Leaders:
Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist; Dr. Joshua Maize, soloist

WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH

We're so happy to have you worshiping with us today! Visit villagepres.org to learn more about Village Church, including upcoming events, ways to connect and serve, how to give and more.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL TODAY are given to the Glory of God in memory of Joe Morris by Susan Morris and family.

NEW TO US? Village Presbyterian Church is a Presbyterian Church (USA) family of faith that is inclusive, caring and welcoming of all people. We are one church worshiping at two campuses. Our Overland Park Campus is located at 14895 Antioch Road. If you would like a tour of Village Church on Mission, contact Cindy Wilcox at cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org or 913-671-2331.

THE GATHERING – Join us for The Gathering for an alternative style of worship at Village Church, 5 p.m. Sundays in Friendship Hall at Village on Mission. We are now livestreaming the service, too. Learn more at vpcthegathering.org.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

FALL VILLAGE U CATALOG NOW AVAILABLE – Enrollment for fall Village U classes opens on Monday, Aug. 23. See the course listings online at villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes. A limited number of printed catalogs are located at the north and south entrances of Village on Mission.

DISCOVERING GOD'S VISION FOR YOUR LIFE: YOU AND YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS – Rev. Sally S. Wright, associate pastor for pastoral care, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 15, 22, 29, Room 126. Learn how to discover, develop and use your unique Spirit-given gifts effectively with a renewed understanding of who God created you to be.

SACRED WORDS AND SACRED SACRAMENTS: EXPLORING BAPTISM, THE LORD'S SUPPER, THE LORD'S PRAYER AND THE APOSTLES' CREED – Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate pastor and director of adult faith formation, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 15, 22, 29, Rooms 132 & 133. Over the centuries, the church has identified certain rituals and words to be sacred and holy. Together, we will explore what these words and sacraments mean and why we do them the way we do.

9/11 AND 1/6: WHAT THESE TERRORIST ATTACKS HAVE TAUGHT US ABOUT RESPONDING TO EXTREMISM – Bill Tammeus, retired Kansas City Star columnist and ruling elder at Second Presbyterian Church in Kansas City, MO. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 8, 15, 22, 29, Room 127. Bill Tammeus recently published, "Love, Loss and Endurance: A 9/11 Story of Resilience and Hope in an Age of Anxiety." His book, and this course, share ways everyone can counter religious (and other kinds of) extremism.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

CHILD CARE RESUMES TODAY.

BROADLY-GRADED SUMMER LIGHTHOUSE RETURNS TODAY AND AUG. 22 – Before the 9 a.m. service, meet us at the south playground for check-in (preschool kids through sixth graders). We will be outdoors (weather permitting). Bring a mask. No Lighthouse on Aug. 29 (Youth Sunday) and Sept. 5 (Labor Day Weekend). Regular fall Lighthouse starts on Sept. 12. More information to follow.

BAPTISMS – We are again offering in-person baptisms at Village. Upcoming baptism dates are Sept. 19 and Nov. 21. An educational class is offered for members who are planning to baptize their children at Village. Call 913-671-2350 or email kate.ruecker@villagepres.org.

NEW BABIES – Share news of your baby so we can welcome his/her arrival with a gift. Call 913-671-2350 or email kate.ruecker@villagepres.org.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

CURBSIDE PICKUP WEDNESDAY FAMILY MEALS – Take a night off from cooking. Find menus and order meals at villagepres.org/wednesday-family-dinners for \$5. Deadline each week is noon on Mondays. Drive up to the north entrance at Village on Mission between 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. to receive your meals through your car window. Contact Cindy Wilcox at cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org or 913-671-2331 for more info.

MISSION

FOOD PANTRY this week is asking for cereal: sweetened cereal, bran cereal, granola, oatmeal. Cereal is a great choice for children making their own breakfast during the summer months. The Clothes Closet always has a need for large and x-large sized clothing for men and women—shirts, pants, dresses, pajamas. Your generosity has been so appreciated by the clients as they shop in the Clothes Closet. Thank you.

DONATE BLOOD AT THE PRAIRIE VILLAGE COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE AUG. 17 – Give the gift of life between noon-6 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 17, in Rooms 132 & 133 at Village Church on Mission. You can sign up to donate at <https://donate.savealifenow.org/donor/schedules/zip> and enter the zip of 66208 and date to sign up. If you have any questions, contact Ann Colston at 913-461-1791.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

Wherever you are now and wherever you may be in the months to come, it's true that we all find ourselves in a season of transition. It's also true that no matter the transition, God's presence remains. Wherever you are, your Village Church family is with you in support and prayer. To place a prayer request or to request a Stephen Minister or other support, contact the Pastoral Care team at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

IF YOU OR A LOVED ONE IS HOSPITALIZED – 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, the room number and other pertinent information. After hours call the church's main number 913-262-4200. A pastor will come and visit, listen and offer comfort and prayers.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW KICK-OFF EVENT: SHINING LIGHT ON WOMEN'S MINISTRIES – Women of Village Church: Come pick up a bag with your PW directory, a delicious treat and information on ways you can connect to women's ministries on both campuses. Drive through the Meneilly Center parking lot from 2-4 p.m. on today, or stay and chat (please bring your own lawn chair). We are also collecting canned goods and feminine hygiene products for the Food Pantry. The Meneilly Center is located at 9900 Mission Road in Overland Park.

YOUTH MINISTRY

YOUTH SUNDAY IS AUG. 29 – Youth will be ministering to us during the 9, 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. services at Village on Mission on Aug. 29. Support our youth by attending a service on that Sunday and inviting family and friends! Contact madeline.chamberlain@villagepres.org for more information.

TRIP SIGNUPS BEGIN SEPT. 7 – Signups open Sept. 7 for the Dominican Republic Mission Trip (March 13-19), the High School Ski Trip (Jan. 14-18), and the Middle School Ski Trip (Feb. 19-23). Visit villagepresyouth.org to sign up.

PROGRAMS RESUME SEPT. 8 – We are taking a brief break from programs during August, but we'll see you starting Sept. 8 for fall programs! View our up-to-date calendar at villagepresyouth.org/calendar.

SERMON SERIES

Practical Wisdom from James

"Timely wisdom for our world today." That's how Dr. Martha Moore-Keish describes the Book of James in her recent commentary. "James. A Theological Commentary. Westminster/John Knox Press, 2019." She goes on to cite how the Book of James is unique in the New Testament for its focus on actions. In chapter 2 verse 17, James writes that "faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." In this sermon series, we will explore four ways that faith is lived according to James. Together, we will see how James, the brother of Jesus and leader of the early Christian church in Jerusalem, provides practical wisdom for how we follow Jesus today.

- Aug. 1 Listening Matters (James 1:17-21) – Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka preaching
Aug. 8 Actions Matter (James 2:14-26) – Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka preaching
Aug. 15 Words Matter (James 3:5b-12) – Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka preaching
Aug. 22 Praying Matters (James 5:13-20) – Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka preaching
-

MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM

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

Will Breytspraak, director of music ❖ Laura Davis, director of marketing and communications

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

Brooke Brundige, director of children and family ministry ❖ Marjean Lindquist, director of child care

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 and endowment

Jim Tilden, senior director of business operations ❖ Rev. Zach Walker, pastor of youth ministries

Deborah White, director of mission ❖ Cindy A. Wilcox, director of connectional ministries

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.

The Sanctuary worship service is broadcast the following week at 8 a.m. on 1660 AM KMBZ, The Business Channel and on our worship service phone line 913-203-1301.

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