



# VILLAGE CHURCH

Presbyterian (USA)



## Service of Worship

August 20, 2023 • 9 and 11 a.m.



## GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

*The Ellie Badge*  
by Michael Giacchino; Dr. Elisa Bickers, piano

Words of Welcome

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

Call To Worship (Psalm 117)

Rev. Sally S. Wright

Praise God, everybody!

**Yay, God!**

Praise God, y'all!

**Yay, God!**

Praise God, you guys!

**Yay, God!**

Praise God, you children of faith!

**Yay, God!**

God's love has taken over our lives.

**God's faithful ways last forever!**

Hallelujah!

**Hallelujah!**

\*Hymn, No. 267

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

\*Prayer of Confession

**Dear Lord Jesus,**

**We are glad to sing alleluias to you.**

**We are glad to let our praises fill the sky.**

**We are glad to name you as our guide and friend.**

**Yet we confess to you that our alleluias too quickly come to an end.**

**We confess to you that our praises fall short.**

**We confess to you that we rely more on own guidance than yours.**

**Forgive us, Lord Jesus.** (Silent Prayer)

\*Assurance of God's Grace

\*Sung Response

**God is so good; God is so good;  
God is so good; God's so good to me.  
God loves me so; God loves me so;  
God loves me so; God's so good to me.**

\*Passing the Peace of Christ

## **PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

Time with the Children

Brooke Brundige

Call to Prayer

**Quietly, peacefully let me rest in you.  
Quietly, peacefully lead me back to you.**

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

Annalise McCune (9 a.m.); Liv Muelbach (11 a.m.)

Scripture

Luke 24:44-53 (pg. 964)

Sermon

*On Holding On and Letting Go*

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

## **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

\*Hymn

*Lighthouse Bright*  
by Dino O'Dell

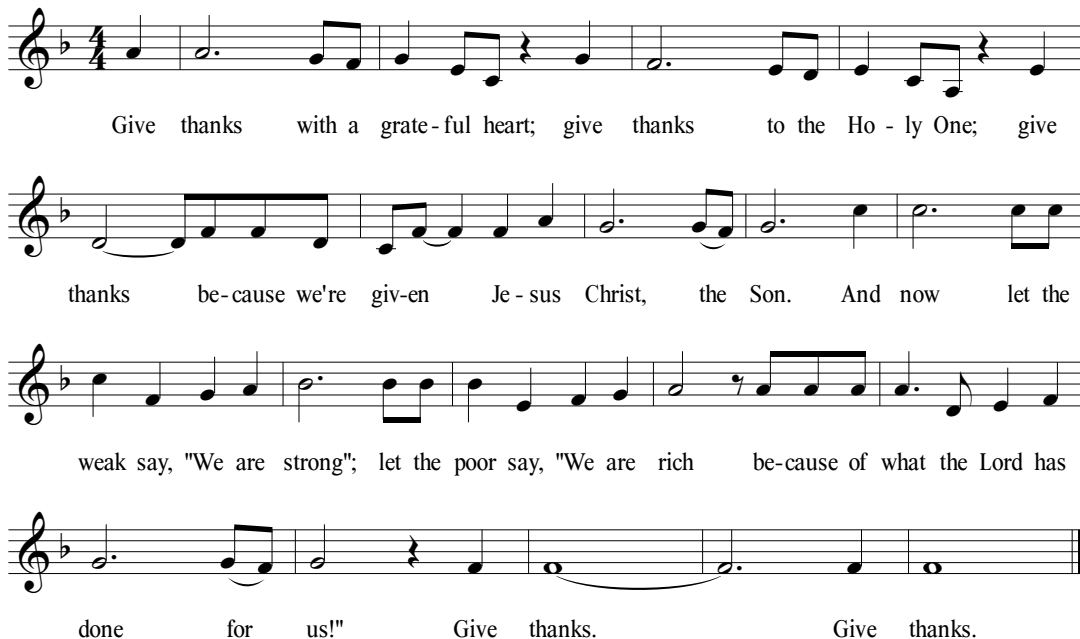
Refrain:

**Lighthouse bright, I am a ship out at sea.  
Lighthouse bright, you are my Lord leading me.  
Lighthouse bright, when I can't see anymore  
You bring me home, safe to the shore.**

Offertory Anthem

*Married Life*  
by Michael Giacchino; Brady Hull, trumpet

\*Sung Response



Give thanks with a grate-ful heart; give thanks to the Ho - ly One; give  
thanks be-cause we're giv-en Je - sus Christ, the Son. And now let the  
weak say, "We are strong"; let the poor say, "We are rich be-cause of what the Lord has  
done for us!" Give thanks. Give thanks.

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn, No. 295

*Go to the World!*

\*Benediction

\*Benediction Response

**You've got a friend in me. You've got a friend in me!  
When the road looks rough ahead,  
and you're miles and miles from your nice warm bed,  
you just remember what your old pal said,  
that you've got a friend in me. Yeah, you've got a friend in me!**

\*Postlude

*St. Denio*  
arr. J. Bert Carlson; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

## 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

**Giving** – You may give to Village Church at [villagepres.org/giving](https://villagepres.org/giving) or scan the QR code.

Set up an automatic, recurring gift by contacting Bob Sperry at [bob.sperry@villagepres.org](mailto:bob.sperry@villagepres.org) or 913-671-2325.



**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](mailto:kidsinfo@villagepres.org).

**Prepare for baptism** – For infants and children, contact [kate.ruecker@villagepres.org](mailto:kate.ruecker@villagepres.org). For adults, contact [dionne.boyice@villagepres.org](mailto:dionne.boyice@villagepres.org).

**Plan your wedding** – Contact [weddings@villagepres.org](mailto:weddings@villagepres.org)

**Add someone to the prayer list** – Contact [pastoral-care@villagepres.org](mailto:pastoral-care@villagepres.org)

**Join the church** – Contact [dionne.boyice@villagepres.org](mailto:dionne.boyice@villagepres.org)

**The flowers in the Chancel today** are given to the Glory of God in memory of Joe Morris by Susan Morris & family.

## **ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

**A Progressive View of the Farm Bill with Jim Turner** – 7-9 p.m. Monday, Aug. 28, Rooms 126/127. This presentation will focus on how the upcoming Farm Bill can be redesigned to encourage contemporary soil science and sustainable farming methods.

**Fall Village U Registration** – The Fall 2023 Village U catalog is a wide umbrella encompassing our adult learning opportunities in one easy-to-find location. Registration opens on Tuesday, Sept. 5, at [villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes](http://villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes).

**Fall Kick-off Ministry Fair** - 10-11 a.m. & noon-12:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 10, Friendship Hall & Welcome Center, Mission Campus. Chat with Village Church staff and volunteers about our ministries, programs and events—and learn where you can best plug in and use your own gifts!

## **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. Three and 4-year-olds meet in Room 107.

**Kids, we can't wait to see you!** The Lighthouse kicks off at 9 a.m. Sept. 17. See you there.

**Awesome Opportunity** to share your faith and the characteristics of Jesus with the next generation. Join our Sunday morning Lighthouse teaching team. All ages and stages welcome! Curious about what that entails? Email Brooke Brundige at [brooke.brundige@villagepres.org](mailto:brooke.brundige@villagepres.org).

## **FOOD PANTRY**

This week we're asking for hot and cold breakfast cereals: Frosted Mini-wheats, Oatmeal Squares, Instant Oatmeal, Raisin Bran, etc. Cereal is a great choice for children making their own breakfast. They appreciate variety. The Clothes Closet is asking for kitchen accessories: baking dishes, mixing bowls, kitchen utensils, etc.

## **MISSION & ENGAGEMENT**

**New Member Luncheon** – We are celebrating new Village Church members at today's luncheon following the 11 a.m. service. If you are interested in joining Village Church, email [dionne.boyce@villagepres.org](mailto:dionne.boyce@villagepres.org). The next luncheon will be held in October.

**Front Porch Alliance Rise + Shine Breakfast** – 7-9 a.m. Friday, Sept. 8, Grand Street Café, 4740 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, Missouri. This event is an annual fundraiser that supports the Front Porch Alliance and their programs in Kansas City's urban core. A light breakfast will be provided. To register, visit [FrontPorchAlliance.org](http://FrontPorchAlliance.org).

**PALS Program Looking for Volunteers for Coming School Year** – Village Church partners with Front Porch Alliance to offer the PALS (Partners in Active Learning) program, a tutoring program with Faxon Elementary School in Kansas City, Missouri. Consider giving an hour or so a week to this meaningful program. If you'd like to learn more about being a caring mentor in a child's life, contact Charlotte Davison at [charlotteSdavison@gmail.com](mailto:charlotteSdavison@gmail.com).

## MUSIC

**Village Choir** begins its new season Thursday, Aug. 24. All interested new and returning singers are invited to a dessert potluck in the Welcome Center at 6:15 p.m., before the 7 p.m. rehearsal. Contact Dr. Joshua Maize at [josh.maize@villagepres.org](mailto:josh.maize@villagepres.org) with questions.

## PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

**Lori Hall Is Our Speaker at Faith & Grief** – Due to the Labor Day holiday, the next Faith & Grief gathering will be from noon-1 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 29, in Friendship Hall. Lori Hall will talk about her book, *Birds Still Dance*. All are welcome. A boxed lunch is served to those who sign up at <https://www.faithandgrief.org/events/support-gathering-kansas-city-ks-5-6/>.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

**Fall Kickoff Event** – All women are invited to join us from 9-10:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, in Friendship Hall-Mission Campus. A panel of community leaders will lead a discussion about faith when we face difficult and uncertain circumstances in our lives and in our world. Register at [villagepres.org/pw](https://villagepres.org/pw) by Sept. 11. Continental breakfast is included. Childcare is available. This event is supported by free will contributions. Contact [stephaniemorrison132@gmail.com](mailto:stephaniemorrison132@gmail.com) with questions.

## YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY for people in their 20s & 30s

**Antiracism Book Study** – Join us for a narrated driving tour on the history of segregation in Kansas City. 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 23. Meet in the north parking lot. RSVP: [VillagePresYA.org/upcoming](https://VillagePresYA.org/upcoming).

**Parks & Picnics** – Young adults and your children: Come join us for a picnic at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 30, at R Park, 5535 Juniper Drive in Roeland Park. You bring the family; we'll bring the food! RSVP required at [VillagePresYA.org/parents](https://VillagePresYA.org/parents).

## YOUTH MINISTRIES

**Programs on Break** – We are prepping for kick-off next month, so programs are on pause to allow time for rest and the start of the school year. Join us for Kickoff Week Sept. 5-10! See [villagepresyouth.org](https://villagepresyouth.org) for more details.

**Youth Sunday is Aug. 27** – Join us as our students lead us in all worship services on the last Sunday of August. They will share the ways they have seen God moving in their lives over these summer weeks and inspire us to recognize God's movement in our own lives as well.

**Trip Signups Begin Sept. 6** – Open registration for HS Ski Trip (Jan. 12-16), MS Ski Trip (Feb. 17-21), and HS Spring Break in the Dominican Republic (March 9-16) begins at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6. Signups are online and can be found at [shop.villagepres.org/youth-ministries](https://shop.villagepres.org/youth-ministries).

**Village Golf** – On Sept. 12, we will play at Eagles' Landing in Belton, Missouri. Tee times begin at 8 a.m., and the cost will be about \$35 for seniors. Email Brad Steil at [bradsteil@everestkc.net](mailto:bradsteil@everestkc.net) by Sept. 7 to join in this fellowship event.

Aug. 27 Youth Sunday  
Sept. 3 Rev. Zach Walker preaching

## UPCOMING SERMON SERIES

### That's Asking a Lot!

When anyone is ordained as a pastor, elder or deacon; they are asked to make a series of promises. They are big promises. It would be hard to utter these promises in the quiet of one's prayers, much less in the presence of the gathered worshiping community; except, these promises say less about us than they do about God. In this sermon series, we will use the promises as springboards into exploring what these statements tell us about God.

- Sept. 10 Do you trust in Jesus Christ? - Rev. Tom Are, Jr. preaching
- Sept. 17 Do you accept the Scriptures? - Rev. Tom Are, Jr. preaching
- Sept. 24 Will you seek to serve? - Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka preaching
- Oct. 1 Will you promise? - Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka preaching
- Oct. 8 Will you be instructed and led by the confessions? - Rev. Tom Are, Jr. preaching
- Oct. 15 Will you be a friend? - Rev. Tom Are, Jr. preaching

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## 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  
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

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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](http://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.*