



# VILLAGE CHURCH

Presbyterian (USA)



## Service of Worship

Sept. 10, 2023 • 9 and 11 a.m.

### About Today's Service

Every year new officers of the church answer some important questions. These questions point to theological convictions we, as people of the church, hold dear. In this series, Rev. Tom Are, Jr. and Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka will explore the theological promise of these questions. Today we begin with considering what it means to trust in Jesus Christ.



## GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

*Hornpipe from "Water Music"*  
by George Frederick Handel; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

Words of Welcome

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

Why Village Matters

Stephanie Morrison

Call To Worship

Rev. Sally S. Wright

I will trust in you,

**my Lord and my God.**

You are faithful.

**You brought water from the rock,**

**and light from the darkness,**

**and life from the darkened tomb.**

You are our God,

**and we will trust in you.**

\*Hymn

**Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.**

(Choir Alone)

Breathe, o breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;

let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.

Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;

end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

**Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;**

**let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee:**

**changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,**

**till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

\*Prayer of Confession

**God of unending mercy,  
We might assume, because of who we are,  
that there would be a limit to your mercy.  
But because of who you are,  
your mercy is never ending.  
Your love leaves us humbled and grateful. (Silent Prayer)**

\*Assurance of God's Grace

\*Sung Response

We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to  
God. \_ Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

\*Passing the Peace of Christ

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Time with the Children

Call to Prayer

**Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me.  
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!**

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.); Rachel Priest (11 a.m.)

Scripture

John 20:19-31 (pg. 989)

Sermon

*Do you trust in Jesus Christ?*

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

\*Hymn No. 848

*Trust in God*

Call for Offering

Offertory Anthem

*O Clap Your Hands*

by Ralph Vaughan Williams; Village Choir

\*Sung Response

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn No. 307

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

\*Benediction

\*Benediction Response

**Grant us wisdom, grace us courage,  
serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore!**

\*Postlude

*Hyfrydol*

by Ralph Vaughan Williams; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

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

## ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

A special 'thank you' to our percussionists Theo Musick and Dr. Langston Hemenway.

Vaughan Williams' "O Clap Your Hands" is perhaps the best-known choral setting of Psalm 47, a hymn-psalm addressed to the 'Chief Musician.' The language feels a bit stoic and old-fashioned since Vaughn Williams was using the King James version of the psalm. Our more modern interpretation might refer to God as 'awe-inspiring' rather than 'terrible,' for instance. Whatever the language, the point of the psalm is clear: our God is energetic, wise and protective. Let us praise God with all that we are!

## 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](http://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](http://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](http://villagepres.org/giving) or scan the QR code to the right.

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



### Congregational Meeting Sunday, Sept. 17

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, Sept. 17. This meeting will take place in the Sanctuaries at both campuses immediately following the 9 a.m. worship service at the Mission Campus and the 9:30 a.m. worship service at the Antioch Campus. The meeting's purpose is to elect new church officers for the positions of elder, elder/trustee and deacon. At-large members of the Nominating Committee will also be elected. Ordination of new church officers will take place in early January 2024.

**The flowers in the chancel today** are given to the Glory of God in memory of Ralph Bock by Carla Bock.

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION

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

**Village Forum Adult Sunday Morning Class** – 9:30-10:30 a.m. Room 126/127 starting Sept. 17. We begin the 2023-2024 year with a lively four-week discussion on Popular Culture/Religion with Dr. Leslie Smith, associate professor of religious studies at Avila University.

**Electric Car Show** – Facilitated by Al Pugsley, 4-7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 20, south parking lot, Mission Campus. Local electric car enthusiasts will display their all-electric and plug-in hybrid/electric vehicles. Email [aljrev@icloud.com](mailto:aljrev@icloud.com) for more information.

**What Do We Believe? Creeds and Confessions of the Presbyterian Church (USA)** – Join Rev. Tom Are, Jr. & Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 20-Oct. 25, Rooms 132/133, Mission Campus. In these six sessions, we will explore the 12 creeds and confessions of the PC(USA).

## CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

**Child Care** is available on the first floor during the 9 a.m. service. 6-weeks to 2-year-olds can be dropped off in Room 114. Two through 3-year-olds meet in Room 109. For the 5 p.m. service, child care is available for children 6-weeks to 4-year-olds in Room 109. Fall Lighthouse will kick off on Sept. 17. Today is Family Worship Sunday. Children ages 5 and above are encouraged to worship with their families.

## FOOD PANTRY

**September is Peanut Butter Month!** Each family receives a jar (16-18 oz.) of peanut butter with each visit, which means that there is no such thing as too much peanut butter. The Clothes Closet has a need for baby clothes and blankets and children's books.

## MISSION & ENGAGEMENT

**Food Truck Festival** – Join us today for our 9th annual Food Truck Festival from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Mission Campus north parking lot. Food, ice cream and live music. Bring a jar of peanut butter to donate to the Village Food Pantry. Email [dionne.boyice@villagepres.org](mailto:dionne.boyice@villagepres.org) for more information.

**Fall Festival at the Antioch Campus** – 11 a.m.-1 p.m. today, in the Antioch Campus parking lot. Join us for food trucks, pickleball, inflatables, horseback rides and live music!

**Wednesday Family Dinners** – Weekly dinners from Chef Andrea Bradley resume from 5-6 p.m. on Sept. 20 in Friendship Hall-Mission Campus. The cost is \$9 for adults and \$4 for children. Purchase online by noon Mondays at [villagepres.org/wednesday-family-dinners](http://villagepres.org/wednesday-family-dinners) or call Karen at 913-262-4200.

**DRMP Carnaval Dominicano** – Join the Dominican Republic Medical Partnership of Village Church (DRMP) for a festive evening of music, dancing & Dominican cuisine at our annual fundraiser at 6 p.m. this Saturday, Sept. 16, at Lodge at Ironwoods. Funds raised allows the DRMP & our Dominican health care partners to provide free surgical, health care & health education services to approximately 3,500 low-resource Haitians sugarcane cutters & their families annually. Visit [villagepres.org/cd](http://villagepres.org/cd) for tickets.

**Village Connect Groups** – Connect Groups begin for the 2023-2024 season in October. If you are interested in joining a small group to build community and study scripture, contact Sarah Dunne Pickrell: [sarah.pickrell@villagepres.org](mailto:sarah.pickrell@villagepres.org).

## MUSIC MINISTRY

**2nd Thursday Recital featuring violinist Elizabeth Suh Lane** – 12:15 p.m. Sept. 14, Mission Campus Sanctuary. Accompanied by Dr. Elisa Bickers, this violin virtuoso will perform works by Bach, Kreisler and Mozart. Free admission.

**Te Deum Chamber Choir** – 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 17, Mission Campus Sanctuary. Te Deum presents Truer Words—a concert that explores the works of great poets, thinkers and faith leaders whose words offer comfort, grace, inspiration, understanding and joy. Tickets are available at [te-deum.org](http://te-deum.org).

**Organist Doug O'Neill presents a benefit recital** – 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 24, Mission Campus Sanctuary. Free admission with donations accepted to support the ministry of the choir school at Christ the King Catholic Church in Wyandotte County.

## PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

**Celebrate the '50s at This Year's Classic Citizens Event**– Come and rock out to everything 1950s from 1:30-3 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 21. Everyone 75 and better is welcome! Come for fellowship, fun, food, entertainment and more. Can't be here? Join the program livestream at 2 p.m. at [villagepres.org/online](http://villagepres.org/online). RSVP at 913-671-2327 or [linda.alley@villagepres.org](mailto:linda.alley@villagepres.org).

**Join us for Growing Through Grief in October** - Growing through Grief, a five-week series, begins at 9:30 a.m. every Wednesday, Oct. 4-Nov. 1, in Room 124. Each participant receives his/her own book. Free and open to all; registration is required. Contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or [linda.alley@villagepres.org](mailto:linda.alley@villagepres.org) to register.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

**PW Fall Kickoff** – 9-10:30 a.m. this Saturday, Sept. 16, in Friendship Hall-Mission Campus. A panel of community leaders will discuss faith when we face difficult and uncertain circumstances in our lives and the world. Register at [villagepres.org/pw](http://villagepres.org/pw) by tomorrow, Sept. 11.

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

**Parks & Picnics** – Young adults and their children, come join us for food and fellowship at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, at Porter Park, 7301 Roe Ave. in Prairie Village. You bring the family; we'll bring the food! RSVP required at [VillagePresYA.org/parents](http://VillagePresYA.org/parents).

**Y.A.M. (Young Adult Ministry) Night** – Join us at 6 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 20-Oct. 11, in the Young Adult Room. In this series, we'll look together at stories from across the Bible and invite ourselves to see them with a new perspective. Come and join the conversation led by Revs. Alice and Julianna Whitson.

## YOUTH MINISTRIES

**Weekly Programs Are Back!** Join us in the Youth Loft for our weekly events. **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.).

**Trip Signups Are Open** – Registration is now open for the High School Ski Trip (Jan. 12-16), Middle School Ski Trip (Feb. 17-21) and High School Spring Break in the Dominican Republic (March 8-16). Signups are online and can be found at [shop.villagepres.org/youth-ministries](http://shop.villagepres.org/youth-ministries).

## 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 worshipping 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.

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|-----------------|--|
| <b>Sept. 10</b> | <b>Do you trust in Jesus Christ? - Rev. Tom Are, Jr. preaching</b>               |
| 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.*