



# VILLAGE CHURCH

Presbyterian (USA)



## Service of Worship

November 20, 2022 • 9 and 11 a.m.

### About Today's Service

This week we'll likely gather around tables with people we care about, and if we're successful in remembering why we've gathered, we'll recount our lists of gratitude. Our story for today takes us to another table. Perhaps like ours, not everyone around this table agreed with one another. But here, instead of talking about gratitude, Mary startles everyone at the party by giving us a radical example of what gratitude looks like. Two thousand years later, this story continues to invite us to consider what gratitude "does."



## GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

*Now Thank We All Our God*  
arr. David N. Johnson; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

Words of Welcome

Rev. Hallie Hottle

Call to Worship (from Psalm 95)

Rev. Melanie Hardison

O come, let us sing to the Lord,

**let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving,

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

For the Lord is a great God,

**and a great ruler above all gods,**

**so let us worship our God with praise and thanks!**

\*Hymn, No. 14

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

\*Prayer of Confession

**God of abundance,**

**there is much to be grateful for.**

**On the best of days, we remember.**

**But this world is warring,**

**and our lives are complicated,**

**and our souls are weary.**

**More often than we want,**

**we lose track of all we're grateful for.**

**More often than we admit,**

**the thanks we do offer is shallow.**

**Forgive us, God, when we forget.**

**Forgive us, God, for what we fail to see.**

**Forgive us, God,**

**when our gratitude is anything less**

**than an offering of our whole lives,**

**poured out for you. (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

Time with the Children

The Sacrament of Baptism (11 a.m.)

Hymn, No. 482

*Baptized in Water*

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ, our King;  
Born of the Spirit, we are God's children, joyfully now God's praises we sing.**

Anthem (9 a.m.)

*Alleluia! Sing Praise*

by J.S. Bach/arr. Charles Hirt; Dima Estanbuli, violin;  
Trilla Ray-Carter, cello; Dr. Elisa Bickers, harpsichord; More Love Chorale

Prayer for Illumination

Emmett Vrooman (9 a.m.); Caitlin Bowen (11 a.m.)

Scripture

John 12: 1-8 (pg. 980)

Sermon

*Gratitude Does*

Rev. Hallie Hottle

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

\*Hymn, No. 649 (v. 1-4)

*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

Call for the Offering

Offertory Anthem

*O Love* (9 a.m.)  
by Elaine Hagenberg; More Love Chorale

*Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring* (11 a.m.)  
by J. S. Bach; Village Choir

\*Sung Response

**All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,  
To God and to the Son and Spirit now be given:  
The one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,  
The God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.**

\*Prayer of Gratitude and Dedication

\*Hymn, No. 37

*Let All Things Now Living*

\*Benediction

\*Benediction Response

**When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we'd first begun.**

\*Postlude

*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*  
arr. Piet Post; Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

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

**"Words of Love" with the Kansas City Wind Symphony** – 3 p.m. today, in the Mission Campus Sanctuary. Join us for this beautiful fall concert with Dr. Langston Hemenway and the resident ensemble of the Village Arts Alliance. Free admission.

**EncoreKC! Holiday Concert** – 7 p.m. today, Antioch Campus Sanctuary. This community choir of more than 50 voices will sing in the season with holiday classics. Free admission.

## 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.  
Senior 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.'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.

**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).

**Giving** – Please consider setting up a recurring gift online at [villagepres.org/giving](http://villagepres.org/giving).

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Register for Village U classes at [villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes](http://villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes).

**Who Was Jesus Really?: Keeping the Christ in Christmas** – Taught by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Dec. 7, 14, Rooms 132 & 133. As we come upon the celebration of Christ's birth, we will explore who Jesus was, really and exactly what can we know about Jesus as the historical figure and how that fits with our claims of the miracle of the incarnation.

## CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

**Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism Today** – Welcome these newest members into our faith community as we celebrate the baptisms of the following children at **11 a.m.**: Marie Chlorene Baker (Alice Haseltine and Matt Baker, parents); Ella Ann and Hazel Jean Dikeman (Katie and David Dikeman, parents); and Wyatt Brooks Sahli (Anna and Tommy Sahli, parents).

**Today Is Family Worship Sunday – No Lighthouse or child care today.** Children are always invited to worship here at Village, but we give an extra welcome to kids on "Family Worship Sundays" when we don't have our usual Lighthouse programming. We love kids in worship. We think Jesus does, too. Our only expectation is that they behave like... kids. Wiggling and giggling is normal and welcome. Kids and families, we're glad you're here!

**Advent Family Workshop** – Don't miss our traditional family activity from 2-3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3, in Friendship Hall. There will be craft stations for all ages, cookies, popcorn and more. We are asking families to pre-register for our Mission Campus Advent Workshop so we know how many crafts to prepare. Pre-register by Nov. 25 at [villagepres.org/Christmas](http://villagepres.org/Christmas).

## FOOD PANTRY

**The Food Pantry** distributed Thanksgiving baskets to more than 500 clients last week. This week we would like pasta (all shapes and sizes) and rice (wild rice, jasmine, brown, etc.). The Clothes Closet has a BIG need for winter coats—men's and women's—all sizes.

## MISSION & ENGAGEMENT

**Wednesday Family Dinners** – There is no dinner this week in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. Join us on Nov. 30 for the next Wednesday Family Dinner.

## MUSIC

**Christmas Favorites Duo Recital** – 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, Mission Campus Sanctuary. Join Village Players leader and violinist Destiny Ann Mermagen for a Christmas Kick-Off Concert with prize-winning pianist Tatiana Tessman. Free admission. Come to the Welcome Center at 6:30 p.m. for a pre-concert meet/talk with Destiny and enjoy a Christmas-themed reception with appetizers and a special Christmas drink. RSVP for the reception by emailing [destiny.mermagen@villagepres.org](mailto:destiny.mermagen@villagepres.org).

## PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

**Remember Your Loved One This Season** – If your loved one passed away during 2022 and Village Church was informed, his or her name will be included in the Remembrance Service bulletin. If you want to include any other name(s), contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or [linda.alley@villagepres.org](mailto:linda.alley@villagepres.org) NO LATER than noon this Friday, Nov. 25. The Remembrance Service will be at 3 p.m. Dec. 11 in the Mission Campus Sanctuary.

**Volunteers Needed to Deliver Poinsettias!** More than 275 poinsettias need to be delivered to homebound members throughout Kansas & Missouri, and we really need your help. Just choose a zip code you want, and we will assign you specific recipients. Then come by the north entrance for curbside pick-up between 9 and 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3, and spread some cheer! To sign up, contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or [linda.alley@villagepres.org](mailto:linda.alley@villagepres.org).

**35 Zip Codes–Poinsettias Go Everywhere** – We have homebound members who live in Blue Springs, up by the airport, west in Shawnee and down south. Will you please consider taking a poinsettia out beyond 66208? If you can, it will be a huge help. Contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or [linda.alley@villagepres.org](mailto:linda.alley@villagepres.org).

## **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

**Advent Celebration** – All in our community who identify as women are invited to the annual PW (Presbyterian Women) Advent Celebration, "Women. Together. In Light," from 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6, in the Mission Campus Sanctuary. Experience God's message through scripture, women's stories, music and prayer. Light snacks and beverages will be served in the Welcome Center until 8 p.m. Register by Nov. 29 at [villagepres.org/pw](http://villagepres.org/pw).

## **YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

Young Adult Ministry is for all people in their 20's and 30's.

**Christmas Community & Crafts** – 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30. We'll begin this Advent season by decorating our space together and making some creations for your own homes. Craftiness not required. Christmas cookies and vibes provided! [VillagePresYA.org/advent](http://VillagePresYA.org/advent)

**Family Dinner & Parent Connect Night** – 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14, Family dinner in Friendship Hall. 6(ish)-7:30 p.m. kiddos go to child care, and parents gather in the Young Adult Room for conversation and connection. Parents, life with littles is a lot. Let us make dinner and give you some space to breathe together. Sign up required: [VillagePresYA.org/parents](http://VillagePresYA.org/parents).

## **YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**No Youth Programs Nov. 19-26** – Youth programs are on break this week during Thanksgiving Break. Programs will return starting 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 27, with SNL high school youth group. Regular program details can be found at [villagepresyouth.org](http://villagepresyouth.org).

**Confirmation Registration** – You can now register for this year's Confirmation class. Confirmation is open to students who are in 9th grade, or older, who have not yet taken the class. Join us for this year's class. Registration can be found at [villagepresyouth.org/confirmation](http://villagepresyouth.org/confirmation).

**Prayers for GivingThanks Mission Trip Participants** – A team of 28 departed this past Friday for the third Givingthanks in the DR, Village Church's all-ages mission trip to the Dominican Republic, from Nov. 18-23. This trip provides a life-changing opportunity to step outside of our comfort zones and experience the amazing beauty of God's work in places where he/she is needed the most. Service activities include helping our Dominican partners at Fundación Enciende Una Luz (Light A Candle Foundation) with health care activities in batey sugarcane communities.

**Christmas at Village** – We invite you to join us for any of our worship services, mission opportunities, concerts, classes and events at Village Church this Christmas season. Find a full list of offerings at [villagepres.org/Christmas](http://villagepres.org/Christmas).

**Advent Video Devotionals** – As we wait together for Jesus Christ to be born, join us each day (Monday through Saturday from Nov. 28 through Dec. 24) for a short video devotional offered by our pastors and church leaders. Sign up to receive these devotions in your email inbox each morning at [villagepres.org/subscribe](http://villagepres.org/subscribe) or subscribe to our YouTube channel where they will be added daily.

## UPCOMING ADVENT SERMON SERIES

### Hopes and Fears of All the Years

Christmas angels always tell us, "Do not be afraid!" We wish it were that easy. There is war in Ukraine. Gun violence is at a record pace. Truth is under assault, and COVID lingers. Most of all, in so many ways we are living against each other, rather than for each other. The angel says "do not be afraid" but there is so much to fear.

Fear is always in the atmosphere. The angel is not ignorant of that reality, but the angel knows redemption has come, which means no hurt is so deep it cannot be healed. The angel is brimming with hope because the love of God took on skin and was born for you. No matter what has happened, the love of this season is for you. It will meet you wherever you are. It is a holy love that calls you by name. So, in a frightening world, do not be afraid.

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| Nov. 27 | Between Hopes and Fears - Rev. Zach Walker preaching           |
| Dec. 4  | Can We Go Over That First Part Again? – Rev. Tom Are preaching |
| Dec. 11 | So Good I Could Just Sing? – Rev. Tom Are preaching            |
| Dec. 18 | The Importance of Blessing – Rev. Tom Are preaching            |
| Dec. 24 | This Night is For You – Rev. Tom Are preaching                 |

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## MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

## MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Tom Are, Jr., senior 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. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate 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 • Alice Whitson, director 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.*