



VILLAGE CHURCH

Presbyterian (USA)



Service of Worship

December 12, 2021 | 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

About Today's Service

Joy and happiness are alike, but not exactly the same. Happiness is often based on circumstances; but joy can be a courageous act of defiance in spite of the circumstances. That's why the season is not one of happiness, but of joy.



GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Noel (8 a.m.)
arr. Michael Keller; Morning Bells
In Dulci Jubilo (9:30, 11 a.m.)
arr. John A. Behnke; Village Ringers

Words of Welcome

Rev. Tom Are

Lighting the Candle of Joy

Brett, Emily, Harper & Lyla Rundle (8 a.m.)
Mike, Erica, Porter, Reagan & Piper Brune (9:30 a.m.)
Todd & Sarah Keyser (11 a.m.)

Call To Worship

Come now to this place of rest and renewal;
let your spirits rejoice in the presence of God.

**God strengthens those who are weak,
comforts those who are broken-hearted,
and God's light is life for all.**

Sung Response

**Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

*Hymn, No. 143 (v. 1-3)

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

*Prayer of Confession

Rev. Melanie Hardison

**Gracious and Eternal God,
Our prayer this week is simple:
train our eyes to see what you see,
our hearts to love what you love,
our desire to want what you want.**

**With your help, we will draw closer to the dreams you have always held for us:
dreams you have never forgotten,
dreams you will never abandon. (Silent Prayer)**

*Assurance of God's Grace

**All creation, join in praising God Creator, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King!**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Time with the Children

Brooke Brundige

Call to Prayer

**How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still, the dear Christ enters in.**

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

Lions and Oxen Will Feed in the Hay
arr. Michael Connolly; The Village Choir

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Luke 3:1-18 (pg. 934)

Sermon

Tidings of Happiness Joy

Rev. Tom Are

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 115

Away in a Manger

Call for the Offering

Offertory Anthem

Carol of the Bells (8 a.m.)

arr. Jason W. Krug; Morning Bells

I Wonder as I Wander (9:30, 11 a.m.)

arr. Karen Lakey Buckwalter; Village Ringers

*Sung Response

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.

The king of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.

Raise, raise the song on high; the virgin sings her lullaby.

Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn, No. 119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;

bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*Postlude

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!

arr. Norman Dello Joio

**All who are able may stand*

© A-705103 for all hymns

Advent Daily Devotional Videos – As we wait together for Jesus Christ to be born, join us Mondays through Saturdays for a 2-3 minute video devotional offered by our pastors and other ministry leaders. Each devotional features a scripture passage and brief reflection offering a word of inspiration and hope for us all. Sign up for emails at villagepres.org/subscribe.

Christmas Eve Services

Mission Campus – 3 & 5 p.m. Family Worship with the Gathering Band; 7 & 9 p.m. Candlelight Services; 11 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service

Antioch Campus – 5 p.m. Family Service; 7 p.m. Candlelight Service

Child care is available during the 5 & 7 p.m. Christmas Eve services at both campuses. All Mission Campus services will be livestreamed at villagepres.org/online.

Journey to the Star

2-6 p.m. Christmas Eve – Come journey to the star at the Mission Campus or make a point to stop before or after worship. Help us make the star SHINE with your hopes and prayers for another new year. Take a little light with you to share with friends and family who need to remember the light still shines. The Antioch Campus star will be on display starting Christmas Eve.

WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH

We're so happy to have you worshipping 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.

New to Us? Village Presbyterian Church is a Presbyterian Church (USA) family of faith that is inclusive and welcoming of all people. We are one church worshipping at two campuses. Our Mission Campus is located at 6641 Mission Road in Prairie Village, and our Antioch Campus is located at 14895 Antioch Road in Overland Park.

The Gathering – Join us for The Gathering, an alternative style of worship at Village Church, 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's weekly eNote and Daily Devotional emails at villagepres.org/subscribe.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

First-Floor Child Care Available – Child care is available for infants to 4-year-olds during the 9:30 a.m. & 5 p.m. services in Rooms 114, 111 and/or 106. Preschool Lighthouse–Ages 2-4 –Preschool and Pre-K ages meet on the first floor. Registration and sign-ins are located outside Room 106. Elementary Lighthouse–K-6th Grade–Elementary ages meet on the third floor. Registration and sign-ins are located outside Room 307.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

Curbside Pickup Wednesday Family Meals – Order \$5 meals by noon Mondays at villagepres.org/wednesday-family-dinners. Curbside pickup is at the Mission Campus north entrance between 4:30 & 5:30 p.m. Dec. 15 is our Christmas Dinner. Curbside meals will take a Christmas Break and resume on Jan. 12. Contact Cindy Wilcox at cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org or call 913-671-2331 with questions.

MISSION

Food Pantry – We are requesting soups & broths of all kinds, along with crackers. The Clothes Closet hopes that you will have some Christmas decorations to donate - ornaments, wreaths, but NO trees. Inspirational books and bibles are also appreciated. We also need winter coats/hats/gloves.

Decorate The Village Trees With Diapers And Hats & Mittens – Now thru Dec. 26, come put hats and mittens on our trees and diapers (all sizes welcome including adult large and XL) under our trees to give to families served by the Village Clothes Closet/Food Pantry. Trees are located at the south entrance and in the Welcome Center. Contact Deborah White at 913-671-2369 or deborah.white@villagepres.org for more information.

Joy Offering & Christmas Project Offering (Dec. 19) supports current and retired church workers in need (50%) and to students attending Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color as well as leadership development efforts of the Racial Equity Office of the Presbyterian Mission Agency (50%). Place donations in the green envelopes provided in the hymnal slots.

MUSIC

Tidings Of Joy: Lessons and Carols – 3 & 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 19, Village on Mission Sanctuary. Don't miss this joyful Kansas City tradition featuring the Tidings of Joy Chorus, Orchestra and soloists. No reservation necessary. A free-will offering will benefit our Signature Mission, Artists Helping the Homeless–Johnson County Respite House. Email amy.turpin@villagepres.org by Dec. 12 to make child care reservations.

Celebrate Christmas Joy With Te Deum Chamber Choir – 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 20, in the Sanctuary. Led by Matthew Christopher Shepard, the ensemble will share music for choir and harp, including pieces by Betinis, Paulus and Heitzig. For tickets, visit te-deum.org. Village Church members are invited to enter the discount code VPC2021 for 20% off the ticket price.

The Snow Globes + Barnaby Bright – Local KC bands Barnaby Bright & The Snow Globes will join forces for a magical Christmas concert at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 21, in the Mission Campus Sanctuary. For the past decade, The Snow Globes have been entertaining audiences around the Kansas City Metro area with holiday classics. Barnaby Bright released their first Christmas album last year. The New York Times named it one of the top 20 Christmas Albums of 2020.

PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

Remembering & Honoring Your Loved Ones at Christmas by making a donation towards a poinsettia. Your \$15 donation remembers him/her while supporting our poinsettia ministry. Donations can be made through Christmas. Your loved one(s)' name(s) will be printed in a future publication. Go online at shop.villagepres.org/poinsettia OR send the printed name(s) with a check for \$15 per person/name to the Janice Gill, Village Presbyterian Church, 6641 Mission Rd., Prairie Village, KS 66208.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY For all 20's & 30s

Parent & Family Christmas Dinner – 5:30-7 p.m. Dec. 15, for young adult parents and kiddos. Let's join together in Friendship Hall (distanced) and enjoy a Christmas dinner together. Child care provided after dinner. RSVP required at VillagePresYA.org/winter.

Christmas Party! 7-9 p.m. Dec. 18, at Amigoni Winery. It's been a long couple of years, and what we know to be true is that when joy isn't readily apparent, we sometimes have to create it. Wear something sparkly and let's celebrate our ability to be together. Vaccinated persons welcome. RSVP required at VillagePresYA.org/christmas.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Join Us for Any of Our Weekly Activities – No sign-up is required; masks required while in the building. All weekly activities below meet in the Youth Loft (Room 333).

Sunday Series – 9:30-10:30 a.m. for middle & high school. **SNL** (HS youth group) – Sundays 6:30-8:30 p.m. **Lofternoons** (MS after school program) – Tuesdays 4-5:30 p.m. **GPS** (MS youth group) – Wednesdays 6:30-8 p.m. **Early Table** (HS morning devotional) – 7:30-8:15 a.m.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS – We are seeking volunteers to help answer the phones at the Mission Campus south reception desk occasionally for 2-4 hours during the 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. workday Monday through Friday. The phone system is very easy to learn and it's a great place to meet lots of people. If you are interested in a job that doesn't require a regular commitment, call Karen at the south reception desk at 913-262-4200.

CURRENT SERMON SERIES

Joy When You Need it Most

This is the season when we light the candles of Hope, Peace, Love and Joy. This year, perhaps more than most, we need a little joy. When spirits are battered and the heart is bruised, when life is wearying and hope is fragile, joy can seem hard to come by. But joy is a strong disposition. Joy is both a gift and a spirit that is pursued. It is an experience of grace and also the fruit of discipline. This Advent we will rehearse once again the story that is the source of joy to the world, as well as joy to us when we need it most.

Nov. 28 Rejoice in the Lord... Always? – Rev. Melanie Hardison preaching

Dec. 5 "I'm coming to your house" – Rev. Tom Are preaching

Dec. 12 Tidings of Happiness Joy – Rev. Tom Are preaching

Dec. 19 Joy to the World – Rev. Tom Are preaching

Dec. 24 Joy to Carry You Through – Rev. Tom Are preaching

Dec. 26 Love Has Come, So Let's Rest - Rev. Sally S. Wright preaching

MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM

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

Will Breytspraak, director of music • Brooke Brundige, director of children and family ministry

Laura Davis, director of marketing and communications • Rev. Melanie Hardison, pastor of pastoral care

Rev. Hallie Hottle, pastor of young adult 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.

Printed on paper from sustainably managed forests.