



VILLAGE
CHURCH

Presbyterian (USA)

Service of Worship

Dec. 17, 2023 · 9 and 11 a.m.

and his name shall be...

*Everlasting
Father*

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Prelude | <i>American Christmas Folk Suite</i>
by Bill Holcombe; Village Brass |
| Words of Welcome | Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka |
| Lighting the Advent Candle of Joy | Natalie LaMar & Ellen Gatewood (9 a.m.)
Brian Higgs (11 a.m.) |
| *Hymn No. 82 | <i>Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus</i> |
| *Prayer of Confession | Rev. Melanie Hardison |

Come, Lord Jesus.

We are waiting for you to set us free.

We are waiting for you to release us from our fears.

We are waiting for you to end our sinful ways.

Yet we confess that we do not wait well.

We want you to come to us when we are ready.

We want you to come to us when it is convenient.

We want you to come to us on our terms.

Forgive us, Lord Jesus.

Come to us in your perfect time.

Come to us and let us find our rest in you. (Silent Prayer)

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Sung Response

O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you aright?

Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight!

O kindle, Lord most holy, a lamp within my breast,

To do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.

*Passing the Peace of Christ

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Time with the Children

Call to Prayer

**And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
Look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing:
O, rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing.**

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

Dance and Sing, for the Lord Will Be With Us
arr. Hal H. Hopson; Morning Stars Choir (9 a.m.)

God Rest You Merry
arr. Alice Parker; More Love Chorale (11 a.m.)

Prayer for Illumination

Dee Couch (9 a.m.); Janice Gill (11 a.m.)

Scripture

Revelation 21:1-8

Sermon

And his name shall be called... Everlasting Father

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn No. 109

Blest Be the God of Israel

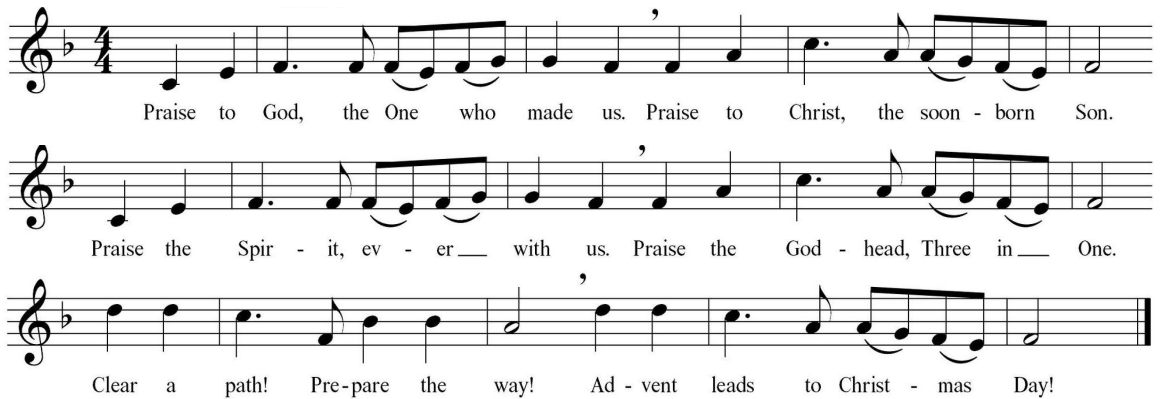
Call for Offering

Sarah Dunne Pickrell
Mission & Engagement Coordinator

Offertory

Noel for Brass Choir
by Hawley Ades; Village Brass

*Sung Response



Praise to God, the One who made us. Praise to Christ, the soon - born Son.
Praise the Spir - it, ev - er ___ with us. Praise the God - head, Three in ___ One.
Clear a path! Pre- pare the way! Ad - vent leads to Christ - mas Day!

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn No. 119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Congregational Meeting (9 a.m.)

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

**You come, O Lord, with gladness, in mercy and good-will,
To bring an end to sadness and bid our fears be still.
In patient expectation we live for that great day
When your renewed creation your glory shall display.**

*Postlude

On this Day the Earth Shall Ring
arr. Michael Brumley; Village Brass

**All who are able may stand*

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Congregational Meeting today

The Village Church Session has called a congregational meeting before the end of the 9 a.m. worship service at the Mission Campus and following the 9:30 a.m. service at the Antioch Campus today. The purpose of the meeting is to approve a title change for Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka from co-pastor to senior pastor.

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. Dr. Rodger Nishioka
Co-Pastor

The Gathering – (alternative worship) will be on hiatus Dec. 17-31. Worship with us in the new year starting Jan. 7!

Get Village Church news & updates – Sign up to receive the weekly eNews, Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka’s weekly eNote and Daily Devotionals emails at 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 or scan the QR code to the right.

Set up an automatic, recurring gift by contacting Bob Sperry at bob.sperry@villagepres.org or 913-671-2325.



Leaning Into Loving Conversations: Sustaining relationships while talking about things that matter – 10-11 a.m. today in Rooms 232-233. Join Rev. Chad Herring and a panel of advisors to gather pocket phrases to use when conversations become uncomfortable. We can agree to disagree, and still love one another. Hosted by the Adult Faith Formation Committee.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

Child Care is available on the first floor during the 9 a.m. service. Bring infants through 23 months to Room 114 and kids ages 2 and 3 to Room 109. Bring infants through 4-year-olds to Room 109.

Lighthouse – Three-year-olds meet on the first floor in Room 107. Pre-K and 4-year-olds meet in Room 106. Registration and sign-ins are located outside Room 106. **Elementary Lighthouse** – K-6 Grade – All-Sing begins at 9 a.m. in Room 307. Registration and sign-ins are outside of Room 307. Pick up for kids grades K-6 will be on the third floor.

FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is requesting a staple on a family's grocery list: peanut butter, preferably in smaller (16-18 oz.) plastic jars—all varieties. The Clothes Closet wants new underwear and socks for kids and adults—all ages and all sizes! The Food Pantry and Clothes Closet will be closed for the Christmas Holiday from Dec. 23-Jan. 1.

MISSION & ENGAGEMENT

Wednesday Family Dinners – There will be no dinner this week and through the holidays. Join us for dinners in the new year starting Jan. 17. Purchase online by noon Mondays at villagepres.org/wednesday-family-dinners or call Karen at 913-262-4200.

New Member Luncheon – We are celebrating new Village Church members at the luncheon today following the 11 a.m. service. If you are interested in joining Village Church, contact Rev. Dr. Dionne Boyce to join our next luncheon in February: dionne.boyce@villagepres.org.

JOY Offering – We invite you to give to our special offering for the Village Church Emergency Assistance fund today. 100% of donations directly support rent and utility payments for local families. Look for the green giving envelope in your pew or give online at villagepres.org/emergency-assistance.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Tidings of Joy Concerts – 3 & 6 p.m. today! Mission Campus Sanctuary. A celebration of the season's most beautiful music with the Village Choirs & the Fountain City Brass Band. Free admission. Retiring offering beneficiaries: Cherith Brook Catholic Worker & Care Beyond the Boulevard.

Te Deum Chamber Choir – 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 19, Mission Campus Sanctuary. Te Deum presents "Lessons and Carols for Today," a modern take on the Anglican tradition, featuring new lessons by Kansas City poet Natasha Ria El-Scari. Tickets are available at te-deum.org.

PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

Grief Knows No Season – If you are grieving, join us at Growing through Grief for support and comfort. Our first session starts at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 17, and is every Wednesday through Feb. 14 in Room 132-Mission Campus. Each participant receives a copy of "Understanding Your Grief-Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart." The class is free and open to all. Contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org to register.

Faith & Grief Support – Join us at noon on Tuesday, Jan. 9, in Friendship Hall-Mission Campus. Guest speaker Linda Alley will remember her Gram who lived to almost 107. If you would like a boxed lunch, please make a reservation at faithandgrief.org/gatherings.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Seeking Presbyterian Women Circle Leaders for the retirement communities at Claridge Court, the Forum and Aberdeen Village for next year. For more information, contact Rev. Sally Wright at sally.wright@villagepres.org or Dee Couch at deecouch@kc.rr.com.

New Year, True You: Mindfulness, Intentions, and Gratitude – The energy of a new year is irresistible. What if, instead of making resolutions focused on changing yourself, you embraced who you are? Join Prairie Sky Counseling Center staff from 10-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 6, at the Antioch Campus to explore mindfulness, set intentions and practice gratitude. Reserve your spot for this free workshop at tinyurl.com/yusy48k4. Questions? Contact stephaniemorrison132@gmail.com.

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

Y.A.M. (Young Adult Ministry) Night – Join us for dinner and conversation over Walter Brueggemann's "Names for the Messiah." What does it mean to us to call Jesus our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace? 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20, in the Young Adult Room.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Programs On Break – All our programs are on break beginning Dec. 20 while school is out for the Christmas and winter holidays. All events will resume on the night of Jan. 7. For more details, visit villagepresyouth.org.

Next Sunday Morning Service

We will have one 10 a.m. service in the Chapel, in addition to our evening Christmas Eve services listed below.

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Mission Campus – 3 & 5 p.m. Children & Families Service with The Gathering Band, Sanctuary; 7 & 9 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Services, Sanctuary; 11 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service with Communion, Sanctuary. Child care is available at the 3, 5 & 7 p.m. services. Evening Christmas Eve services will be livestreamed at villagepres.org/online

Antioch Campus – 9:30 a.m. Family Service; 7 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service with Communion. Child care is available at the 9:30 a.m. service.

SERMON SERIES

For Unto Us a Child is Born

The prophet Isaiah tells of the birth of a child born for us; a son given to us. Authority will rest on his shoulder, and he will have four names: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. These names resound in the magnificent chorus of Handel's "Messiah." Through the Sundays of Advent, Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka will explore each of these four names and how Jesus embodied them in his birth and life among us.

Dec. 3 Wonderful Counselor - Isaiah 9:1-7

Dec. 10 Mighty God - Psalm 96

Dec. 17 Everlasting Father - Revelation 21:1-8

Dec. 24 (10 a.m.) Prince of Peace - Isaiah 11:1-9

Dec. 24 (3, 5, 7, 9, 11 p.m.) Emmanuel, God with Us - Matthew 1:18-25

MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, co-pastor

Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist • Rev. Dr. Dionne T. Boyce, director of mission & engagement
Brooke Brundige, director of children & family ministry • Laura Davis, director of marketing & communications
Rev. Melanie Hardison, pastor of pastoral care • Rev. Chad Herring, interim senior associate pastor
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

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.

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.