



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

November 24, 2019 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

The book of Romans in the New Testament is the Apostle Paul's last and longest letter. He is writing to the new Christian community in Rome. Many Bible scholars view Romans as the culmination of Paul's theology. He is sharing all that he has come to know about Jesus Christ and what it means to follow him. In today's scripture reading, he offers us a list of what it means to be a true Christian, a true Christ follower. In 1863, in the midst of the civil war, President Lincoln proclaimed the first national day of Thanksgiving. Now as we prepare for our 156th American Thanksgiving, the Apostle's list offers us a way to gather around the table and truly be thankful.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

- Prelude *Pastoral Dance on "Simple Gifts" (8 a.m.)*
by Andrew Clarke
"Bourrée" from Cello Suite No. 3 (9:30, 11 a.m.)
by J.S. Bach; Destiny Ann Mermagen, violin (9:30 a.m.) & Evelyn Holmes, violin (11 a.m.)
- Words of Welcome Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka
- Introit *"Sveltamente" from Duet No. 4 for Two Flutes (9:30 a.m.)*
by W.F. Bach; Erika Kauffman Wheeler, flute & Destiny Ann Mermagen, violin
Days of Absence (11 a.m.)
Traditional; Nell Breytspraak & Destiny Ann Mermagen, violin duet
- Call to Worship (Psalm 136) Rev. Hallie Hottle

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good,

God's steadfast love endures forever.

God made the heavens and spread out the earth on the waters,

God's steadfast love endures forever.

God brought us out from bondage and slavery in Egypt,

God's steadfast love endures forever.

God led us through the wilderness and brought us home,

God's steadfast love endures forever.

God invites us to the banqueting table and unites us as one,

God's steadfast love endures forever.

God gathers us together to ask the Lord's blessing,

God's steadfast love endures forever.

*Hymn, No. 336

We Gather Together
KREMSER

*Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we are rushing headlong into the holiday season,

forgetting that "holiday" is comprised of "holy and day."

Forgive us when we treat the Thanksgiving holiday as a task and a burden,

when we load ourselves down with chores that do not enhance this day.

Forgive us when we embody the busyness of the day rather than a spirit of gratitude

for all the many wonders and blessings You have poured on us.

Forgive us when we grumble and gripe about cleaning and cooking and traveling and hosting and do not relish the delight in having family and friends together. Forgive us when we forget that there are those for whom these holidays hold little delight and hope.

Forgive us when we are so caught up in ourselves that we neglect to reach out to others with love.

Forgive us when we are anything but truly thankful. (Silent prayer)

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response

**Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!**

Anthem *"Allegro" from Concerto for Four Violins, Cello, and Keyboard (9:30 a.m.)*
by Antonio Vivaldi; Laurel Schaich, Matthew Schaich, Diana Ormsby, Bruce Williams, violins;
Jenny Hull, cello; Elisa Bickers, piano

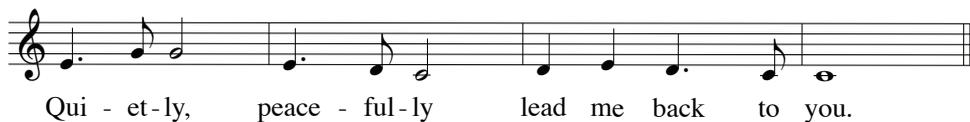
A Minuet for Two (11 a.m.)
by Charles Dancla; Evelyn Holmes and Destiny Ann Mermagen, violin duet

*Passing of the Peace

Time with Children (9:30, 11 a.m.)

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call to Prayer



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

Bruce Williams (8 a.m.)

Quinn Weemhoff (9:30 a.m.)

Tyler Strongman (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Romans 12:9-18 (pg. 1034)

Sermon

A Thanksgiving List

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 372

O for a World
AZMON

Offertory

The King of Love, Shepherd Is
arr. Mark Schweizer; Village Choir

*Response

**For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;
For that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn, No. 643

Now Thank We All Our God
NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

Amen
by Peter Lutkin

*Postlude

Nun Danket Alle Gott
by Egil Hovland

*All who are able may stand

© A-705103 for all hymns

WELCOME CENTER ART FOR ADVENT

Beginning Dec. 1, you can find the four candles of the Advent Wreath, representing hope, peace, joy and love. This year, we invite you to add your own story to these values that we celebrate every year. Where do you see hope in this world? Where do you see the need for hope? Come by anytime during Advent and use the Post-It Notes provided to contribute where you see the presence of and need for these Advent themes in our world. The result will be our collective dreams coming together to inform our prayers for this season.

A LOOK TOWARD NEXT SUNDAY. . .

For many of us, remembering “home” calls up fond memories. As we begin the season of Advent, we hear the song from Psalm 137. When the Babylonians conquered the Hebrew people, they took many of them into exile. In Babylon, the Hebrew people yearned to return to their home, to Jerusalem. There was a keen awareness that they were not home, and they spent time looking back to their past remembering home. But home is not only in our past. Presbyterian poet and author Frederick Buechner writes that “home is something for which we spend our entire lives searching.” Next Sunday, we will explore the old homeplace past, present and future.

THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of November 25, 2019)

The following daily Bible readings were written by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka and are offered for your own personal devotion. You are invited to read the text, think about the reflection and questions and allow these to lead you in a time of prayer. Pray for your own journey of faith, pray for Village Church, pray for the community around you, and pray for all of creation.

Monday, Nov. 25

Psalm 30

I never hesitate to pray for healing. When I pray with someone who is sick, whose heart is broken, who is pained with grief, whose body is tired, who is nearing death, I always pray for healing trusting that the God who loves us will heal us and make us whole even in ways we do not expect or understand. This song gives thanks for God's healing, for turning our mourning into dancing. Trust that God is healing us all in God's time and for God's purposes and give thanks.

Tuesday, Nov. 26

Psalm 97

This song tells of the glory and power of the God of creation. God's power is revealed to us from the coastlands to the mountains and the sky and through fire and lightning. All of creation displays God's majesty. So, we are to rejoice and give thanks that the God of the universe is our God. Recall a time when you witnessed God's power through creation and give thanks.

Wednesday, Nov. 27

Psalm 105

This song starts with an invitation to give thanks to God and then moves quickly to praise. We are called to sing to God and to tell God of all God's wonderful works. At first, it may seem silly to tell God about all the wonderful things God has done for us. Can you recall a time when someone told you about something you did that was wonderful for them? How did that make you feel? It is the same with God. When we tell God of God's wonderful works, we let God know that we acknowledge God's amazing grace. As you pray today, tell God of the wonderful things God has done in your life.

Thursday, Nov. 28, Thanksgiving Day

Psalm 118

This song begins and ends with the same chorus calling on us to give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever. In Hebrew, the word for God's steadfast love is "hesed." Hesed is truly God's steadfast love but it is so much more. One writer describes hesed as "God's consistent, ever faithful, relentless, constantly pursuing, lavish, extravagant, unrestrained love." That is why we give thanks on this Thanksgiving Day!

Friday, Nov. 29

Psalm 122

This song is titled an "ascent" psalm partly because the city of Jerusalem sits atop a high plateau and the temple sits on a mount on that plateau. From all directions, as the people are going up the mountain, they would be singing and giving thanks. Recall a time when you were hiking and ascended a hill or a mountain. Remember reaching the top and give thanks to God for this memory and for those through all generations who continue to come to worship God.

Saturday, Nov. 30

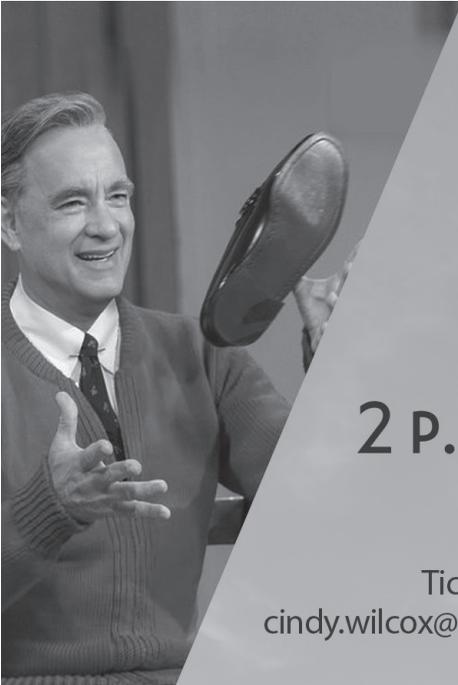
Psalm 136

"Hesed," the Hebrew word translated as "God's steadfast love" appears here 26 times. Hebrew scholars believe this song was the center of a worship service of thanksgiving. The Hebrew people would gather and recite all the ways that God has been faithful to them. After each event, they would sing "hesed." As you prepare for the worship of God tomorrow, remember God's many acts of faithfulness and sing of God's steadfast love, God's "hesed," that endures forever!

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE DAILY BIBLE READINGS EMAILS

**Subscribe now at www.villagepres.org/subscribe. Emails arrive first thing in the morning
Monday through Saturday.**

happy
Thanksgiving



VILLAGE CHURCH
GOES TO THE MOVIES!

A
BEAUTIFUL DAY^{IN THE}
NEIGHBORHOOD

2 P.M. SATURDAY, DEC. 14
AMC TOWN CENTER 20

Tickets are \$5. Get tickets by emailing
cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org or laura.patton@villagepres.org

TODAY AT VILLAGE

WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH! Please join us every week. Refreshments are available in Friendship Hall following the worship service.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL TODAY are given to the Glory of God in memory of Jay Higdon by Ken Higdon.

TODAY IS FAMILY WORSHIP SUNDAY – We invite children to join their families in worship. There will be no Sunday School but child care will still be provided.

TODAY IS THE RESERVATION DEADLINE FOR "ADVENT: A HOLY INVITATION" – Reservations are \$18 and can be purchased online at www.villagepres.org/pw through today. For child care reservations, email pam.southerland@villagepres.org by this Tuesday, Nov. 26. The event is from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3, at Village on Mission. All women are invited to an inspiring, inter-generational evening as we begin the Advent season. Our guest speaker is Rev. Sarah Are.

FRENCH COUNTERTENOR PHILIPPE JAROUSKY WITH THE BOSTON EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL CHAMBER ENSEMBLE – 2:30 p.m. today in the Village on Mission Sanctuary. Don't miss your chance to be swept away by "The Story of Orpheus," a love story for the ages. Presented by Friends of Chamber Music. Tickets are \$35 for adults, \$25 for seniors age 60+ and may be purchased at chambermusic.org.

DISCOVER VILLAGE KIOSKS – Located at the North Welcome Center entrance and in Friendship Hall, Discover Village is a place where people can share conversation, ask questions of our hosts and enjoy a cookie. Whether you are newer to Village or a long-time member and have an interest in serving, connecting, or growing, come to the Discover Village kiosk.

NEW TO US? Village Presbyterian Church is a Presbyterian (USA) family of faith that is inclusive, caring and welcoming of all people. We are one church worshipping at two campuses. Our Overland Park Campus is located at 14895 Antioch Road. If you would like a tour of Village Church on Mission, contact Cindy Wilcox at cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org or 913-671-2331.

JOINING VILLAGE CHURCH – Village welcomes new members every other month at a special Sunday luncheon. Join us Dec. 8. Contact cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org for information.

WORSHIP BAGS are available for children to enjoy during worship. Please return the bags to the baskets located in the Narthex at the end of the worship service.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES – Four ongoing adult classes learn and grow together 9:30-10:30 a.m. Sunday mornings. Classroom discussions range from studying the New Testament to exploring the ancient biblical world to deciding how Christians live faithfully given today's complex challenges. For more information, talk with a Discover Village guide at our north and south entrances.

UPCOMING VILLAGE U CLASSES:

FROM DUST TO DUST – DEALING WITH THE END OF LIFE – 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Dec. 4, 11, in the Village on Mission Chapel. The poet writes in Ecclesiastes 3:20, "All go to one place; all are from dust, and all turn to dust again." The words are true for all creatures but especially for those who are facing the end of one's life here on earth. What decisions confront us both as individuals and as caregivers? How do we make faithful decisions for the end of one's life? Taught by Rev. Sally Wright, interim pastor for pastoral care.

JESUS CHRIST IS BORN! THE MIRACLE OF INCARNATION – 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Dec. 4, 11, 18, in Rooms 232 & 233. In these three classes in the weeks of Advent leading up to Christmas, we will explore the doctrine of the incarnation and how the early church struggled to form this key tenet of Christian faith. We will examine the controversies around the immaculate conception and ultimately realize how the birth of Jesus transforms our lives today. Taught by Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

CHILD CARE-ALL SERVICES – Infants to 4-year-olds are welcome in Rooms 114, 111 and/or 107.

NEW THIS YEAR, WE ARE DOING ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL – Visit our link to register your child–bit.ly/vpcchildren

MORNING STARS – 3-year-olds through 6th graders are welcome to join and sing. We meet from 10:30-11 a.m. Angel Choir (3 to 4-year-olds) meet in Room 204; Prelude Choir (K-2nd grade) meet in Room 201; Hallelujah Choir (3rd-6th grade) meet in Room 304. Pick up for all children is outside of their Morning Stars room. To register your child for Morning Stars, visit bit.ly/vpcchildren

MESNER PUPPET THEATER – Join us at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, in the Sanctuary for a family-friendly puppet show, "The Cat Came Back." Based on the folk song made popular by Fred Penner, this performance tells the tale of Mister Johnson and a mysterious cat who keeps returning to his doorstep. Free and open to the public.

ADVENT FAMILY WORKSHOP – Mark your calendars for this fun family tradition from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7. Join us in Friendship Hall for cookie decorating, popcorn and fun crafts for all ages.

VILLAGE CHURCH ON MISSION PRESCHOOL INFORMATION COFFEE – Are you looking for a preschool for the 2020-2021 school year? Join us from 10-11:15 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 10, in Room 133 to learn more about Village on Mission Preschool. Child care will be available during the program. Contact Pam Southerland by Dec. 3 at pam@villagepres.org to make child care reservations. Contact Preschool Director Sarah McKee with questions at 913-671-2338 or sarah.mckee@villagepres.org.

BAPTISMS and NEW BABIES – The first baptisms of 2020 are scheduled for Jan. 19 and March 15. An education class is offered for all members who are planning to baptize their children at Village. Share news of your new baby so we can welcome your new arrival with a gift. Call 913-671-2350 or email kate.ruecker@villagepres.org.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

WEDNESDAY FAMILY DINNERS – No dinner Nov. 27. Dinners resume on Dec. 4.

CHRISTMAS DINNER – 5:30-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11, in Friendship Hall at Village on Mission. The menu is ham, potatoes, green beans, rolls, chicken drumsticks, cheese ravioli and dessert. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$5 for youth ages 11-18. Kids 10 and under eat free. RSVP early or by noon Monday, Dec. 9, to liz.middleton@villagepres.org or 913-671-2359.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY – The Thanksgiving baskets have been distributed to the 500 client families of the Food Pantry. On Thursday, those families will be giving thanks for all of you who so generously donated the food for those baskets. The volunteers and staff of the Food Pantry and Clothes Closet thank all of you for your donations, which allowed us to experience a lot of joy in those who received those baskets.

OPERATION BREAKTHROUGH HOLIDAY STORE – If you missed the opportunity to adopt a family for Christmas, you can still participate by purchasing an individual toy(s) for the Operation Breakthrough Holiday Store which serves 750 children who don't attend Operation Breakthrough (OB) but live in the same urban community. Pick up a wish list of toys from the Discover Village information kiosk at the north and south entrances. Toys must be delivered to OB truck by the morning of Dec. 8. Contact Deborah White at 913-671-2369 or deborah.white@villagepres.org for more information.

CHRISTMAS INTERNATIONAL HOUSE NEEDS DRIVERS – Do you want to partake in our exchange with international students over the holidays? Christmas International House needs drivers on Dec. 21, 23, 24 and 26, to take the students in the church van to a variety of holiday activities around the city. As the driver you could also partake in a tour of the World War I Museum, pickle ball, ice skating or bowling. If you would like to help out, contact Judy Miller at judy.miller@evergy.com or 816-651-5387 or Jan Liu at email-janliu_ks@yahoo.com or 913-269-6333.

MUSIC MINISTRY

TE DEUM PRESENTS “PEACE AND JOY” – 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 9, in the Village on Mission Sanctuary. Te Deum’s annual Christmas concert will give special attention to local Kansas City composers and feature world premieres by composers Ed Frazier Davis and Geoff Wilcken. Tickets are \$15 online at te-deum.org or \$20 at the door. Te Deum is a proud member of the Village Church Arts Alliance.

SECOND THURSDAY RECITAL WITH JAZZ PIANIST MARK LOWREY – A staple in the Kansas City jazz music scene, Mark Lowrey has made a name for himself with his versatility, command of the piano and sound that transcends genres. Mark will play from 12:15-12:45 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 12, in the Village on Mission Sanctuary. Admission is free.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

THE POINSETTIAS ARE HERE! Today is Poinsettia Sunday. 250 beautiful poinsettias are in the Welcome Center and every single one needs a home. If you can deliver one or more, come to the Welcome Center anytime between services. Find a zip code area that is convenient for you to deliver within, go to that information table and get everything you need. Thank you for your time and help to bring some joy to a homebound member’s Christmas season.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE DEC. 8 – The candlelit Remembrance Service will be at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, in the Sanctuary. All are welcome to come to this special service.

ARE YOU DREADING THE HOLIDAYS? If you are struggling as the holidays approach because of the death of a loved one, divorce, job loss, illness, or some other life challenge, the confidential Christian care by our Stephen Ministry program may be a great opportunity for you. Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who listen, encourage and provide emotional support. If you’re interested, contact Rev. Becky Chamberlain, Pastoral Care and Counseling, at 913-449-0713 or becky.chamberlain@villagepres.org.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

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

HAPPY ADVENT HOURS – 5:30-7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5 & 12, For the month of December we’re flipping Theology Thursdays earlier, into happy hours! Join us for Christmas tune trivia, and people to breathe with in the midst of this crazy season. Dec. 5 at Brookside Barrio, Dec. 12 at Gram and Dun. See more at VillagePresYA.org/thursdays.

CLASSY CHRISTMAS PARTY – 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19, at Amigoni Urban Winery. All 20s and 30s, get in here! This Christmas we’re celebrating you at one of our favorite KC spots. Wear something classy. Come for dinner, games, the best wine and people in town, and all the Christmas vibes. RSVP required. VillagePresYA.org/calendar/classy.

YOUTH MINISTRY

PROGRAMS RESUME DEC. 1 – Youth programs are on break the week of Thanksgiving (today-Nov. 30). All programs will resume Sunday, Dec. 1. See villagepresyouth.org for more information.

CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION OPEN – You can now register for Confirmation, which begins in January 2020. More information and registration can be found at villagepresyouth.org/confirmation, or you can email madeline.chamberlain@villagepres.org.

Winter Weather Advisory

If the weather forecast is to have 4 inches or more snowfall during Saturday night, the 8 a.m. worship service at Village on Mission will be cancelled.

Seeking Part-Time Baristas in the Village Cup Coffee Shop

Village Church on Mission is seeking a part-time barista in the Village Cup. Shifts are Monday-Friday mornings through early afternoons, occasional Sunday mornings and other special events as requested. 20-25 hours per week.

Village is also looking for a teen barista. Get the job descriptions and learn how to apply at www.villagepres.org/employment-opportunities.



Christmas Poinsettias

Celebrate the Advent and Christmas season by purchasing a poinsettia in memory of a loved one. Make your check (\$10) payable to Village Church, clearly printing the memorial name with your donation. Send to the church, Attn: Janice Gill by Friday, Dec. 6. Call 913-671-2362 for more information.

We need your help in 2020 to:

- Feed over 15,000 individuals through our Food Pantry.
- Welcome new members.
- Teach our children how amazing God is!
- Offer comfort and service to grieving families.

If you have not sent in your commitment pledge, please consider doing so today or go online, villagepres.org/Giving and complete your commitment electronically.

Your Village Commitment committee



ADVENT SERMON SERIES

I Won't Be Home for Christmas

Dec. 1-24

Advent is a season of waiting. The church is always in Advent, because we are always waiting on what God will do next. Although it is only this time of year that we mark that posture of expectation. Why are we always waiting? Because we aren't home yet. We, nor the world itself, are as God intends us to be. So, as a people who are always "on the way," we continue the journey toward home. This series will rehearse some of the expressions of waiting (which can be another word for hope) that is part of this long tradition.

Dec. 1	The Old Homeplace
Dec. 8	No One Escapes Disappointment
Dec. 15	The End of Trouble
Dec. 22	On the Road to Mary's House
Dec. 24	Look Who's Home!

MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM

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

Will Breytspraak, director of music ❖ Emily Berns, director of food services

Rev. Becky Chamberlain, interim pastor of pastoral care ❖ Laura Davis, director of marketing and communications

Rev. Dr. Brandon Frick, site pastor of Village on Antioch ❖ Rev. Hallie Hottle, pastor of young adult ministry

Brooke Latas, director of children and family ministry ❖ Marjean Lindquist, director of child care

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate pastor ❖ Robert Rumold, director of information technology

Matthew C. Shepard, associate director of music ❖ Molly Sirridge, director of stewardship and endowments

Bob Sperry, interim director of finance ❖ Rev. Zach Walker, pastor of youth ministries

Deborah White, director of mission ❖ Cindy A. Wilcox, director of connectional ministries

Rev. Sally Wright, pastor of pastoral care ❖ Rev. Dr. Robert H. Meneilly, pastor emeritus

Large print bulletins are available in the Narthex. Ask an usher to bring you one.

Streaming video of all the Sunday morning Sanctuary services is available at villagepres.org/online.

The Sanctuary worship service is broadcast live at 8 a.m. on 1660 AM KMBZ, The Business Channel.

We kindly request that cell phones be turned off during worship.

Please note that additional parking is available across Mission Road in the Prairie School parking lots.

If you are not taking your bulletin with you, please hand it to an usher so it may be recycled.