



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

December 1, 2019 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

The worship year in the Church begins with the season of Advent. Advent is our declaration that the world is not as God intends it to be. There is plenty of good in this world, but we are not home yet. As such, Advent expresses our impatience—a holy impatience with the way the world is today. Advent also confesses our confidence in a hope that is born of God's unfailing love.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Light Dawns on a Weary World
arr. Daphnia Portier

Words of Welcome

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

Lighting the Candle of Hope

Call to Worship

There is a story to tell in this place.

**It is a story of hope,
a story of wonder,
a story of abundant life.**

It is the story of God's love:

**a love that has come to us,
for God cannot bear to stay away.**

This is God's story;

This is our story.

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Edie, Vincent, Liv & Lawden DeSantis (8 a.m.)
Laura, Jon, Grace, Tyler & Benjamin Strongman (9:30 a.m.)
Kenyon, Peter, Ethan, Emmett & Eli Vrooman (11 a.m.)

*Response

from Hymn, No. 79, v. 3

**Hope blooms in a weary world
when creatures, once forlorn, find wilderness reborn.
Hope blooms in a weary world: the promised green of Eden comes.
The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands gush with springs;
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.**

*Hymn, No. 88 (v. 1-4)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
VENI EMMANUEL

*Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God,
Your promises continue to call us in hope.
Strengthen us by Your grace,
that we may stand tall in faith,
greeting each day with confidence in Your love. (Silent Prayer)**

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Response

from Hymn, No. 113

**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

*Passing of the Peace

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Anthem (11 a.m.)

Glow

by Eric Whitacre; More Love Chorale

Prayer for Illumination

Jim Borthwick (8 a.m.)

Larry Sneegas (9:30 a.m.)

Lisa Ball (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Psalm 137:1-6 (pg. 565)

Sermon

The Old Homeplace

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 92

While We Are Waiting, Come
WAITING (Cason)

Offertory

Lions and Oxen Will Feed In the Hay
words: Thomas Troeger; music: Michael Connolly; The Village Choir

*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

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving 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.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Elements

(At the indication of the pastor, we will all be invited to partake of the bread together, giving visible expression to the unity we share as Christ's body.

You are invited to partake of the cup as it is served to you.)

Prayer of Response

*Hymn, No. 88 (v. 5-7)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

from Hymn, No. 147

**Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.**

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*Postlude

Veni, Emmanuel

arr. Robert J. Powell

**All who are able may stand*

© A-705103 for all hymns

A LOOK TOWARD NEXT SUNDAY. . .

"Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" This is the question that John the Baptist asked of Jesus. John is in prison, and as the forerunner to the Messiah, this painful circumstance caught him by surprise. So, what we hear in his question is disappointment. It's an honest reaction to Jesus and his mysterious ways of power and powerlessness. Of course, if life has never disappointed you, you can take next Sunday off. Otherwise, you will want to be here to learn how Jesus responds to disappointment.

WELCOME CENTER ART FOR ADVENT

Visit the Welcome Center where 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.

The Snow Globes with Barnaby Bright

7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20

Join us once again for an evening with The Snow Globes and our very own Barnaby Bright (Becky & Nathan Bliss) at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 20, in Friendship Hall at Village on Mission. The Snow Globes, made up of Barclay Martin, Lindsey Jones and Rick Willoughby, started making music together in 2011 for the purpose of spreading holiday cheer and love around the world. Doors open at 7 p.m. Admission is free! A retiring offering will be taken for The Wash Project and Avenue of Life, our Village Church Signature Mission. The concert is sponsored by The Gathering.

Christmas Eve Worship Service Times

Village on Mission – All services will be in the Sanctuary.

3 & 5 p.m. Children & Family Worship Services with The Gathering Band

7 & 9 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Worship Services

11 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Worship Service with Communion

All Village on Mission Christmas Eve services will be livestreamed at villagepres.org/online

Village on Antioch – Both services will be in the Sanctuary.

4 p.m. Family Worship Service

7:30 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Worship Service with Communion

THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of December 1, 2019)

The following daily Bible readings were written by Rev. Sally Wright 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, Dec. 2

Psalm 18:1-6

When I get scared, scared-like-adults-don't-talk-about, I have a phrase I pray over and over and over again. I simply recall the name of the trinity: "O, God, Lord Jesus, Holy Spirit." This is how I "call on the Lord in my distress." I find that it calms me. And I know God is hearing my cry of distress. How do you cry out to God for help?

Tuesday, Dec. 3

Psalm 18: 7-16

All of us have had times where we felt like we were drowning. The Psalmist describes this well. For you, perhaps it was during a move, a job change or maybe after someone died. Take 2 minutes and describe one of those times. What did it feel like? In what ways do you see God grasping for you in the figurative waters?

Wednesday, Dec. 4

Psalm 18:17-30

Verse 19 tells us why God rescued the Psalmist, "... because You delighted in me." It seems powerful to think that God enjoys us so much that God helps us through our tough times. Have you experienced anything like this? What does it mean to you that God delights in you?

Thursday, Dec. 5

Psalm 18:31-36

Sometimes I feel uncomfortable using the language of battle. Yet these verses use language of battle, common imagery of the time, to describe how God makes the Psalmist great. Today, I could describe God sustaining us using very contemporary examples like, keeping our cell phone charged or our computer virus-protected or even our coffee mug always full of hot coffee. How might you describe how God sustains us today?

Friday, Dec. 6

Psalm 18:37-45

This additional language of battle causes me to pause and consider that the Psalmist holds an image of God, where God is a type of commander-in-chief of the army. The image of God that I rely on most often comes from my very traditional Christian upbringing. I see God as an incredibly gracious and loving parental figure, with infinite patience. There are so many images for God. God as a mother hen. God as a creator. God as a shepherd. What images do you think of most often when you think about God?

Saturday, Dec. 7

Psalm 18:46-50

Pray this prayer: O God, our deliverer, our help, our rock. Show us how you strengthen us for our world today. Help us recall the times you have offered us tangible help. Show us more ways to see your hand at work in our lives. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

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.**



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

TIDINGS OF JOY

3 & 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15

Village Church on Mission

Free Admission!

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.

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 worshiping 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

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL 2 to 4-year-olds/Pre-K—Preschool Sunday School meets on the first floor. Registration and age specific room assignments are posted outside Room 107. **THIRD FLOOR K-6th grade**—The Lighthouse meets on the third floor. Registration and grade specific room assignments are posted outside Room 307. Room information is also posted outside Room 207.

NEW THIS YEAR, WE ARE DOING ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL – Visit our link to register your child—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. Admission is free.

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

DIAPERS IN DECEMBER – Children & Family Ministry is once again collecting disposable diapers throughout the month of December to benefit the Food Pantry. The greatest need is of Newborn and Size 1 infant diapers and Size Large/XL Adult diapers. Drop off your diapers under the Hat and Mitten trees at the south entrance or in the Welcome Center. There is also a crib outside the Second Floor Children's Library for diaper donations.

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 – The menu for Dec. 4 is chili dogs, SW quinoa black bean bake, corn chips and dessert. Salad bar opens at 5:15 p.m. The hot food buffet opens at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$7 for adults or salad bar & dessert (\$6). Children ages 10 and under eat free! Now with a children's play area. Credit cards accepted. Reservations needed by noon tomorrow. Contact Liz at 913-671-2359 or email liz.middleton@villagepres.org or go online at villagepres.org/wednesday-family-dinners.

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 – It's December, Advent is here, Christmas is coming. The Food Pantry knows the cooking and baking that occurs this month and so is asking for donations of sugar, flour, cake mixes, spices, salt/pepper, vegetable oil, etc. The Pantry must discard any items that have been opened and partially used. The Clothes Closet is now accepting Christmas Decorations (small items - no trees please), bibles, devotional books and, of course, warm winter coats and other warm clothing.

DON'T FORGET TO DROP OFF YOUR GIFTS – If you adopted an Operation Breakthrough Star family for Christmas or purchased a gift for the holiday store, don't forget to drop off your gifts to the Operation Breakthrough truck parked in the Village south parking lot during the morning of Dec. 8. Or deliver your gifts down to Operation Breakthrough at 31st and Troost. Contact Ann Colston, 913-461-1791 or Marilyn Borel, 913-708-1917.

DECORATE THE VILLAGE TREES WITH DIAPERS AND HATS AND MITTENS – From Dec. 6 to 24, 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. You will find the trees located at the south entrance to the church and in the Welcome Center. Contact Deborah White at 913-671-2369 or deborah.white@villagepres.org.

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 – 12:15-12:45 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12, in the Village on Mission Sanctuary. Mark Lowrey has made a name for himself in the Kansas City Jazz scene with his versatility, command of the piano and sound that transcends genres. Admission is free.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

JOIN US FOR FAITH AND GRIEF THIS TUESDAY – All are welcome to come to the Faith and Grief lunch at noon Tuesday, Dec. 3, in Room 232 at Village on Mission. Doug Hundley will share how he discovered a “grammar of gratitude” when he spoke at his father-in-law’s funeral. Conversation around tables follows and lunch is included. Walk in that day or register at www.faithandgrief.org.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE IS NEXT SUNDAY – Join us at 4 p.m. next Sunday, Dec. 8, in the Village on Mission Sanctuary to remember and give thanks for those we deeply miss. A reception follows. The Remembrance Service includes time for quiet reflection, candlelighting, prayers, song and the proclamation of God’s holy Christmas promise that there’s a light in this world the darkness will never overcome.

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, confidential Christian care from one of our Stephen Ministers may be just what you need. Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who listen, encourage and provide emotional support. If interested, contact Rev. Becky Chamberlain, parish associate for 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 December we’re flipping Theology Thursdays earlier, into happy hours! Join us for Christmas tune trivia, and people to breathe, in the midst of this crazy season. Dec. 5 at Brookside Barrio, Dec. 12, at Gram & Dun. 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 TODAY – See villagepresyouth.org for more information.

JOIN US FOR ANY OF OUR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES – All are welcome regardless of previous Village attendance and no sign-up is required. Check villagepresyouth.org for more details.

SUNDAY MORNINGS – 9:30 a.m. Youth Loft (Room 333) for middle school, Upper Room (319) for high school.

SNL (high school youth group) – 6:30-8:30 p.m. Sundays, in the Youth Loft (Room 333).

LOFTERNOONS (middle school after school program) – 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Youth Loft (Room 333).

GPS (middle school youth group) – 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, in the Youth Loft (Room 333).

EARLY TABLE (morning devotional for high schoolers with food) – 7:30-8:15 a.m. Thursdays, in the Youth Loft (Room 333), with rides to school available.

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.

Give a special gift...

Looking for a perfect Christmas Gift? Consider giving a Tribute Gift in honor or in memory of a friend or family member.

A Tribute Gift through our Endowment Trust will have a significant impact as you honor or memorialize the individual in addition to investing in the legacy of Village Presbyterian Church.



It is easy to give a **Tribute Gift**. Go to Village Church's website, villagepres.org, click on Endowment Trust and then **Tribute Gifts**. Complete the form and click submit. You will then be given the opportunity to pay online or you may send your check to the church. After we receive your donation, we will send a card directly to the person you are honoring.

Contact Molly Sirridge, director of stewardship and endowments, at 913-671-2325 or molly.sirridge@villagepres.org for more information.

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 this Friday, Dec. 6. Call 913-671-2362 for more information.

The mission and ministry at Village Church is a rich inheritance and continuing this tradition rests with us - each one of us. If you haven't made your commitment for 2020, please do so today!



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 Breyspraak, director of music
Emily Berns, director of food services ❖ 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.