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## SERVICE OF WORSHIP

August 1, 2021 • 9 and 11 a.m.

### ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

Greek stoic philosopher Epictetus is famed to have written: "We have two ears and one mouth so that we can listen twice as much as we speak." American playwright Eugene O'Neill wrote: "God gave us a mouth that closes and ears that don't...that should tell us something." This is the first Sunday in our series reading through the Book of James. and in today's scripture, James gives us a practical formula for how we are to live as followers of Jesus: listen first, speak slowly and be even slower to get angry.

# GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

*Listen! God is Calling!*  
arr. Anne Krentz

Words of Welcome

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

Call to Worship

Rev. Zach Walker

We will lift high our praise to you, our God and King,

**We will bless your name forever and ever.**

Every day will we bless you,

**And praise your name forever and ever.**

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;

**There are no boundaries to God's greatness.**

The Lord is gracious and merciful,

**Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

The Lord is good to all,

**And God's compassion is over all that God has made.**

Let us worship God!

\*Hymn, No. 450 (v.1-3)

*Be Thou My Vision*

\*Prayer of Confession

Psalm 145

**Gracious God,**

**You promise to always be with us.**

**You promise that nothing can separate us from you.**

**You promise to love us into faithfulness.**

**You promise to always speak your word to us.**

**You promise that you are gentle and humble in heart.**

**Yet we confess that we do not always feel certain of your presence.**

**We confess that we worry that our sin separates us from you.**

**We confess that we do not always love you or our neighbors or your creation.**

**We confess that we are slow to listen to you.**

**We confess that we are quick to get angry and resentful.**

**Forgive us, Loving God. Heal us and make us to be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger.** (Silent prayer)

\*Assurance of God's Grace

\*Response

**High King of Heaven, my victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Time with the Children

Brooke Brundige

Call to Prayer (First time: soloist; Second time: congregation)

Lis - ten to the word that God has spo - ken; lis - ten to the  
One who is close at hand; lis - ten to the voice that be -  
gan cre - a - tion; lis - ten e - ven if you don't un - der - stand.

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

*All Good Gifts*

by Stephen Schwartz and Matthias Claudius; Roslinde Rivera, alto

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

James 1:17-21

The Message Paraphrase by Eugene Peterson

Every desirable and beneficial gift comes out of heaven. The gifts are rivers of light cascading down from the Father of Light. There is nothing deceitful in God, nothing two-faced, nothing fickle. He brought us to life using the true Word, showing us off as the crown of all creatures. Post this at all the intersections, dear friends: Lead with your ears, follow up with your tongue, and let anger straggle along in the rear. God's righteousness doesn't grow from human anger. So throw all spoiled virtue and cancerous evil in the garbage. In simple humility, let our gardener, God, landscape you with the Word, making a salvation-garden of your life.

Sermon

*Listening Matters*

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

\*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed (180 C.E.)

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Time for Discipleship

\*Hymn, No. 182

*I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

\*Benediction

\*Benediction Response

**Listen to the word that God has spoken;  
listen to the One who is close at hand;  
listen to the voice that began creation;  
listen even if you don't understand.**

\*Postlude

*Fantasy on "KINGSFOLD"*  
by Aaron David Miller

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

Today's Music Leaders:

Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ; Dr. Joshua Maize, associate director of music; Roslinde Rivera, alto

Today we are excited to welcome our new associate director of music, Dr. Josh Maize, to worship! Josh will lead our Morning Bells, Village Voices, More Love Chorale and collaborate with the music team on much more.

You are invited to join our Summer Choir and sing under Josh's direction Sunday morning Aug. 8 and 22 (the KC Men's Ensemble sings Aug. 15). Just come straight to the Chapel at 8 a.m. to rehearse for the 9 a.m. service (only). No robes.

## WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH

We're so happy to have you worshipping with us today! Visit [villagepres.org](http://villagepres.org) to learn more about Village Church, including upcoming events, ways to connect and serve, how to give and more.

**THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL TODAY** are given to the Glory of God in memory of Sidney A. Landon and Matthew B. Landon by Richard Landon.

**NEW TO US?** Village Presbyterian Church is a Presbyterian Church (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](mailto:cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org) or 913-671-2331.

**THE GATHERING** – Join us for The Gathering for an alternative style of worship at Village Church, 5 p.m. Sundays in Friendship Hall at Village on Mission. We are now livestreaming the service, too. Learn more at [vpcthegathering.org](http://vpcthegathering.org).

## CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

**CHILD CARE RESUMES AUG. 15.**

**BROADLY-GRADED SUMMER LIGHTHOUSE RETURNS ON AUG. 15 & 22** – During the 9 a.m. service, preschool ages meet on the 1st floor and kindergarten through sixth grade meets on the 3rd floor. No Lighthouse on Aug. 29 (Youth Sunday) and Sept. 5 (Labor Day Weekend). Regular fall Lighthouse starts on Sept. 12. More information to follow.

**BAPTISMS** – We are again offering in-person baptisms at Village. Upcoming baptism dates are Sept. 19 and Nov. 21. An educational class is offered for members who are planning to baptize their children at Village. Call or email Kate for more information.

**NEW BABIES** – Share news of your baby so we can welcome his/her arrival with a gift. Call 913-671-2350 or email [kate.ruecker@villagepres.org](mailto:kate.ruecker@villagepres.org).

## CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

**CURBSIDE PICKUP WEDNESDAY FAMILY MEALS** – Take a night off from cooking. Find menus and order meals at [villagepres.org/wednesday-family-dinners](http://villagepres.org/wednesday-family-dinners) for \$5. Deadline each week is noon on Mondays. Drive up to the north entrance at Village on Mission between 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. to receive your meals through your car window. Contact Cindy Wilcox at [cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org](mailto:cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org) or 913-671-2331 for more info.

## MISSION

**FOOD PANTRY** – One month ago, the Food Pantry opened its doors to clients, who after 17 months were able to once again pick and choose food items for themselves. This week, the Pantry asks for miscellaneous items: jelly, salad dressings, ketchup, cooking oil, barbecue sauce, etc. NO glass containers please. The Clothes Closet is asking for sunglasses and hats. Donation drop-off boxes are at the south and north doors of both Village on Mission and Village on Antioch.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR FRONT PORCH ALLIANCE RISE AND SHINE BREAKFAST** – 8 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 27. Front Porch Alliance, a ministry of Village Presbyterian Church, will virtually host its annual fundraising breakfast. Christopher Goode, founder of Ruby Jean's Juicery, will be the keynote speaker. Call 816-921-8812 for more information.

## PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

Wherever you are now and wherever you may be in the months to come, it's true that we all find ourselves in a season of transition. It's also true that no matter the transition, God's presence remains. Wherever you are, your Village Church family is with you in support and prayer. To place a prayer request or to request a Stephen Minister or other support, contact the Pastoral Care team at 913-671-2327 or [linda.alley@villagepres.org](mailto:linda.alley@villagepres.org).

**FAITH AND GRIEF MEETS THIS TUESDAY** – The next virtual meeting of Faith and Grief will be at noon Tuesday, Aug. 3. Register at [faithandgrief.org/gatherings](http://faithandgrief.org/gatherings). If you have any questions, contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or [linda.alley@villagepres.org](mailto:linda.alley@villagepres.org).

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**SUMMER PROGRAMS END AUG. 2** – We take a brief break from programs beginning Aug. 2 (we will still have program tonight!). We'll see you starting Sept. 8 for fall programs. View our up-to-date calendar at [villagepresyouth.org/calendar](http://villagepresyouth.org/calendar).

## Sunday Worship Services

### In-Person

9 & 11 a.m. Village on Mission in the Sanctuary; 5 p.m. The Gathering in Friendship Hall at Village on Mission; 10 a.m. at Village on Antioch.

### Livestream

9 & 11 a.m. Sanctuary services, 5 p.m. The Gathering at [villagepres.org/online](http://villagepres.org/online)

### On-Demand

[villagepres.org/online](http://villagepres.org/online)

### Sign up for Village Church News and Updates

Sign up to receive the weekly eNews and Rev. Tom Are's weekly eNote at [villagepres.org/subscribe](http://villagepres.org/subscribe).

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# SERMON SERIES

## Practical Wisdom from James

“Timely wisdom for our world today.” That’s how Dr. Martha Moore-Keish describes the Book of James in her recent commentary. (James. A Theological Commentary. Westminster/John Knox Press, 2019.) She goes on to cite how the Book of James is unique in the New Testament for its focus on actions. In chapter 2 verse 17, James writes that “faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.” In this sermon series, we will explore four ways that faith is lived according to James. Together, we will see how James, the brother of Jesus and leader of the early Christian church in Jerusalem, provides practical wisdom for how we follow Jesus today.

- Aug. 1      Listening Matters (James 1:17-21) – Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka preaching**  
Aug. 8      Actions Matter (James 2:14-26) – Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka preaching  
Aug. 15     Words Matter (James 3:1-12) – Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka preaching  
Aug. 22     Praying Matters (James 5:13-20) – Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka preaching
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## MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

## MINISTRY TEAM

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

Will Breytspraak, director of music ❖ Laura Davis, director of marketing and communications

Rev. Melanie Hardison, pastor of pastoral care ❖ Rev. Hallie Hottle, pastor of young adult ministry

Brooke Brundige, director of children and family 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

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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).*

*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.*