ABOUT TODAY’S SERVICE

There is a popular slogan that says: “God accepts you just the way you are — and loves you too much to leave you that way.” For all believers, the call of Christ is to grow. We are to grow in faith, grow in hope, and grow in love. In today’s scripture reading, the writer tells the new believers in Ephesus that they are to grow up in every way into Jesus Christ. One of our expectations at Village Church is to be formational – to be formed more and more into the likeness of Jesus Christ. Through worship, mission, education, pastoral care, fellowship, music, and administration we are being formed by the Holy Spirit as we grow into a more faithful church as the body of Jesus Christ.
Prelude

God is Calling
by John David Peterson
Rev. Len Carrell

Call to Worship

We are brought together by the call of God,
the One who has loved us from the beginning.
We are bound together by the presence of the Spirit,
the One who has challenged us to love more deeply.
We worship together in the name of Christ,
the One who was love made flesh and lived among us.
God is calling. Can you hear?

We hear and join as one to worship God.

*Hymn, No. 410

God is Calling through the Whisper
W ZLOBIE LEZY

*Prayer of Confession

O God of mercy, hear our prayers.
Your Spirit invites us to grow and change,
but we are stubborn, hesitant, and fearful.
We choose the familiar over the faithful.
We choose the cautious over the courageous.
We choose the self over serving others.
We choose the old formula over new formation.
O God of mercy, forgive our sinful ways,
and move us to grow and be formed by your hope. (Silent prayer)

*Assurance of God's Grace
*Response

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Passing of the Peace

Words of Welcome

New Members (11 a.m.)

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Time with Children

Call to Prayer

God is here today; as certain as the air I breathe as certain as the morning sun that rises, as certain when I sing you'll hear my song.
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
Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us
arr. Luigi Zaninelli; Connor Locke, soprano

Prayer for Illumination
Jim Borthwick (9:30 a.m.)
Janice Gill (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading
Ephesians 4:11-16 (pg. 1068)

Sermon
Body Building
Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 686
God of Our Life
SANDON

Offertory
Walk Together Children
arr. Moses Hogan

*Response

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn, No. 755
Alleluia! Laud and Blessing
WISSE FLAGGEN

*Benediction
ABOUT TODAY’S MUSIC

Today we welcome mezzo-soprano Connor Locke to worship. Connor first began singing when she performed the National Anthem at the age of four at her brother’s football game. She is now pursuing an undergraduate degree in Vocal Performance, studying under Dr. Kerry Jennings and double majoring in German at DePauw University. She is a Kansas City native and former voice student of Village Church’s own Matthew Shepard. She recently performed as Inga in “Young Frankenstein,” Cherubino in “The Marriage of Figaro,” and won first place in the college sophomore women’s category at NATS (National Association of Teachers of Singing). Her upcoming plans include studying abroad in Vienna this fall.
The following daily Bible readings were written by Claire Brettell 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, Aug. 13**

Ephesians 6:14

Writing to the church at Ephesus, Paul explains God's protection as the Armor of God. Our hearts are a key target for an enemy to attack. It is this armor or Breastplate of Righteousness which protects the Spirit within our hearts. This Breastplate is Righteousness. Not our righteousness mind you, but the righteousness of Christ Jesus, who reigns as righteousness for us. As we prayerfully acknowledge this protection, God's resolute power in the form of a peaceful presence is manifest in our daily lives.

**Tuesday, Aug. 14**

Matthew 1:23

Meister Eckhart, a 13th century Dominican friar, was emphatic in his belief that our spiritual work begins where we are. We often look to improve ourselves first, we hesitate and believe we are not good enough for God to begin good works in our lives. Be courageous and know that God is present with you, now. “God is a God of the Present… As God finds you, so God takes and receives you… as you are now,” Eckhart wrote. God meets us where we are and moves with us, for our God Immanuel, is ever with us.

**Wednesday, Aug. 15**

1 Samuel 16:7

In the 1946 murder mystery novel by Edwin Rolfe & Lester Fuller, “Murder in the Glass Room,” the famous quote, “You can never judge a book by its cover,” is used. This idiom highlights our propensity toward quick judgement and reminds us how outward appearances can be misleading. Scripture reminds us that the Lord does not consider the outward signs of an individual, but rather looks to the inward signs. God reaches the inner workings of one's heart, making judgement God's alone.

**Thursday, Aug. 16**

Matthew 5:45 & 7:24

In Matthew, we read passages which speak of the sun and the rain falling upon both the righteous and the unrighteous, and of security when our houses are built upon the rock. Our lives, or houses, are subject to the ups and downs of this world, so it is essential that we build our lives upon a solid foundation - on the rock of Christ, so that as the rain falls and the streams rise, as the winds blow, and forces beat down upon our lives we are upheld by the loving authority and foundation of God, which is Christ Jesus.

**Friday, Aug. 17**

Romans 10:11-13

God’s tremendous love richly blesses all who call on Him, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved,” are Paul's words as he addresses the church of Rome. In this passage we are reminded of God's relentless love, an unconditional love offered to all who trust in God. Faith is required for one to trust, and this thing called faith is a miraculous gift, given as we call upon Him in response to God’s message.

**Saturday, Aug. 18**

Psalm 46:10

Sabbath allows for a time of reflective rest, which quiets our hearts and minds so that God's whisper in and over our lives might be heard. Meditation brings stillness, and it is stillness with a willing heart which allows God's presence to become tangible. Just as the Psalmist heard God's words, “Be Still and Know that I am God,” we too must hear these words and find stillness in our daily lives so that we might recognize and know God's love as present with us.
About Claire Brettell  
Author of This Week’s Church’s Book

Village Church member Claire Brettell is a candidate for ordained ministry under care of Heartland Presbytery. She has recently completed her Master of Divinity Degree from Saint Paul School of Theology and will soon be receiving her Spiritual Director Certificate from the Souljourner’s program in Atchison, Kan. Claire, a retired general dentist, is originally from California and has lived in the Kansas City area for over 20 years. Her discernment has highlighted chaplaincy, pastoral care and spiritual direction as her ministerial call.

Register for Fall Village U Classes

Starting

Aug. 20 for church members
Aug. 27 for the community

See the catalog at villagepres.org/village-u-community-classes
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 loving memory of Greg Colston by Ann, Jessica and Kevin.

NEW TO US? Village Presbyterian Church is a family of faith actively shaped by the life of Christ to love one another, provide leadership for the transformation of our communities and serve the world. We are a Presbyterian (USA) family of faith that is inclusive, generous and welcoming of all people. Village is one church worshiping at two campuses: Village on Mission (6641 Mission Road in Prairie Village) and Village on Antioch (14895 Antioch Road in Overland Park). If you would like a tour of Village on Mission, contact Cindy Wilcox at cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org or 913-671-2331.

TONIGHT, THE GATHERING AT GRANDVIEW PARK PRESBYTERIAN - Tonight The Gathering will not meet in Friendship Hall, to instead gather at Grandview Park Presbyterian Church, 1613 Wilson Blvd., Kansas City, Kan. 66102. Please join us at 5 p.m. for bilingual worship, followed by a community meal. We’ll collect a special offering to begin the renovation of Grandview Park’s kitchen, which feeds 100+ children every day. If you’d like to donate to this project, write “Grandview Kitchen” in the memo line of your check. More information at VPCTheGathering.org/juntos.

JOINING VILLAGE CHURCH – Village receives new members every other month at a special Sunday luncheon. Village will receive 15 new members today. The remaining 2018 joining dates are Oct. 14 and Dec. 9. Contact cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org or 913-671-2331 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

SUMMER SUNDAY ADULT FAITH FORMATION – The class meets 10:45-11:45 a.m. in Rooms 126-127. Each Sunday, we will explore the scripture that was preached in worship, and a variety of teachers will guide us. These classes welcome both conversation and participation and are designed for the novice Bible reader as well as the seasoned Bible scholar. Upcoming classes include:

Today Ms. Claire Brettell, middler student at St. Paul School of Theology in Overland Park
Aug. 19 Rev. Ky Weekley, honorably retired minister and friend of Village of Church

FALL 2018 VILLAGE U CATALOG NOW ONLINE – Registration begins at 9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 20, for church members and at 9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 27, for community members. We hope you will spend some time discovering all that is available and join us!

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

REMINDER: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST. Child care will be available for children ages 0-3 years. Sunday School will resume after Labor Day (Sept. 9).

TODAY – Welcome to Worship with your Family Sunday! We hope you enjoy the time together, Time with Children and the Children’s worship bags.

INFANTS-3 YR. OLDS – Child care is available during all services in Rooms 107, 111 & 114.

BAPTISMS and NEW BABIES – Future baptism dates are Sept. 16 and Nov. 18. An education class is offered for members who are new to Village baptism. Share news of your new baby as so we can welcome and commemorate the new family member’s arrival. Call 913-671-2350 or email kate.ruecker@villagepres.org.
IMPORTANT DATES – Sunday School teacher training is 3-5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 26. All teachers, please plan to attend, and anyone who may be interested in joining our ministry, please come! Sept. 9 has two important events we hope you will attend. Come to the first day of our NEW Sunday School program from 9:30-10:30 a.m.; and the Parent Information and Family Welcome Party to be held on the south lawn preschool playground area, between services. Come learn and enjoy lemonade, s’mores and fellowship!

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

CASUAL GOLF OUTING - The monthly outings are a four-person scramble and run now thru October. All are invited. You do not need to be a member of Village Church. The next outing is at Ironhorse on Tuesday, Sept. 11, with 8 a.m. tee time. RSVP by Sept. 3. To sign up, contact: Brad Steil, 913-469-5683, bradsteil@everestkc.net or Art Newcomer, 913-752-7540, artnewcome@aol.com.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY – It’s hard to believe that school starts next week and summer’s almost over - but the Clothes Closet continues to need summer clothing in all sizes - and kitchen items: dishes, glasses, flatware, pots and pans. The Food Pantry’s clients are so thankful for your donations of canned beets, canned spinach and canned potatoes. Thank you.

BLOOD DRIVE – Village will host a blood drive from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. this Tuesday, Aug. 14, in Rooms 132 and 133. To make an appointment online visit esavealifenow.org and use sponsor code of “villagepres” or stop by our registration table in Friendship Hall from 9 a.m. and noon today and Aug. 12.

THELMA’S KITCHEN GRAND OPENING – Our 2018-2019 Signature Mission, Reconciliation Services’ Thelma’s Kitchen at 31st and Troost, is hosting grand opening festivities from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 16, with a program and official ribbon cutting at 2 p.m. If you would like to join the celebration and tour the kitchen, RSVP to Deborah White in Mission by Tuesday, Aug. 14, at 913-671-2369 or deborah.white@villagepres.org.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

NEW SESSION OF GROWING THROUGH GRIEF STARTS SOON – Grief is a journey. Growing Through Grief helps people discover God’s healing presence during this difficult time. The next series will be every Wednesday night for five weeks, 5:30-6:45 p.m. Sept. 12-Oct. 10, in Room 124. You’ll receive a copy of "Understanding Your Grief – Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart." Contact Linda Alley at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org to register.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

CREPES AND CONVERSATION – 9:30-11:30 a.m. Sept. 12 in Friendship Hall. Join us at this free event to welcome fall and introduce all the activities that involve PW. We will meet for breakfast then continue to the Shawnee Mission East Renovation Sensation Homes tour. Please RSVP by Aug. 31.

MISSION SEWING – Fall is nearly here; and Mission Sewing needs more sewers, particularly afternoons from 1-3 p.m. Pillow stuffers, hand sewers and pressers are also needed. If this appeals to you, stop by Room 115 any Tuesday and check us out. For more information, please call Edie Hultman at 913-432-3515.

SOCIAL WITNESS & ADVOCACY

JOHNSON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT needs volunteers to conduct a survey as part of their tri-annual Community Health Assessment to identify factors that affect the health of residents and the community. It will be done on Saturday, Sept. 8, in preselected neighborhoods. Volunteers will be trained at 8 a.m.; will go out in pairs to conduct the survey until about 4 or 5 p.m., and will be eligible to win a gift card for participating. To volunteer: surveymonkey.com/r/CHAVolunteer2018. Contact barbara.mitchell@jocogov.org for more information.
YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

BEER & BIBLE – 7 p.m. Thursdays at KC Bier Co. in Waldo, 310 W. 79th St., Kansas City, Mo. Bring a Bible. Pizza is on us, drinks are on you. This month: Luke’s Gospel. All 20s and 30s invited.

LOVE YOUR CITY SATURDAY: ROASTERIE & BOULEVARD – 9:15 a.m. Aug. 25, at the Roasterie, 1204 W. 27th Street, Kansas City, Mo. We’ll start with a tour of the Roasterie, and end with a tour of Boulevard Brewing. Child care available with RSVP by 8/17. Sign up online at VillagePresYA.org/saturdays.

YOUTH MINISTRY

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 SCHOOL (middle school and high school) – 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the Youth Loft (Room 333).

PROGRAM BREAK – All programs are on break as school gets started and we wish our interns farewell. Kickoff for programs is Sept. 9!

SPORTING KC MATCH ON AUG. 18 – On Saturday, Aug. 18, we will meet at the church at 5:30 p.m. and head out to see Sporting KC play the Portland Timbers. Cost is $20 and registration forms are on the youth website: villagepresyouth.org/forms.

DISCOVER VILLAGE

A new way for you to connect. You’re invited to stop by our new Discover Village desk, between worship services, at the north Welcome Center entrance. Hosts will be available at the desk every Sunday morning to help you connect or answer questions. We look forward to meeting you!
PROFESSOR ALLAN COLE SPEAKS AT MAY 5 RETREAT

– Come hear Prof. Allan Cole talk about “The Authentic Caregiver and The Power of Vulnerability” starting at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 5, in Friendship Hall. Prof. Cole will share his story about being diagnosed with Parkinson’s Disease and how he became more open both to his own fears and to others’ offers of support. Lunch is provided. Sponsored by Stephen Ministry. Register with Linda Alley at linda.alley@villagpres.org or at 913-671-2327 by Monday, April 30.

PEANUT BUTTER Sunday
Please bring jars to church for the Village Food Pantry

Sept. 9

DINNERS RESUME Wednesday, Sept. 12
RSVP by Monday, Sept. 10
SUMMER SERMON SERIES

Great Expectations
What should you expect as a visitor, regular attender, new member or long-time member of Village Presbyterian Church? What does God expect of each of us as followers of Jesus Christ? What does God expect of us all as a faithful congregation?

The Strategic Framework, proposed by the Strategic Planning Team and adopted by the Session in November 2017, identified four expectations for Village Church.

Beginning today and continuing for the following three Sundays, the Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate pastor, will preach on each of the four expectations:

- July 29  Expecting to be Invitational – Come and See!
- Aug. 5  Expecting to be Magnetic – How to Build an Ark
- **Aug. 12 Expecting to be Formational – Body Building**
- Aug. 19  Expecting to be Leaders – Leading as Loving

MINISTERS
All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM
- Rev. Thomas L. Are, Jr., senior pastor  Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist
- Will Breytspraak, director of music  Rev. Len Carrell, pastor of pastoral care
- Rev. Becky Chamberlain, interim pastor of pastoral care  Rev. Dr. Brandon Frick, site pastor of Village on Antioch
- Rev. Hallie Hottle, pastor of young adult ministry  Marjean Lindquist, director of child care
- Kathy Lueckert, director of finance and administration  Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate
- Matthew C. Shepard, associate director of music  Molly Sirridge, director of stewardship and endowments
- Rev. Zach Walker, pastor of youth ministries  Deborah White, director of mission
- Cindy A. Wilcox, director of connectional ministries  Ellen Wootton, interim director of children and family ministry
- 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.*
*Click the home page link “Live Sermon and Sermon Archives.”*
*Our worship service broadcast at 8 a.m. Sundays on 1660 AM KMBZ, the Business Channel, is a recording of the previous week’s service.*
*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.*