



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

December 9, 2018 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

We are invited to Matthew's house today. It's wall-to-wall people in Matthew's house as the whole family has gathered. Folks have come from everywhere to see this baby. They have even come from every age. Don't be surprised if you find yourself in this family tree.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Good People All, This Christmas Time</i> (8 a.m.) arr. Aaron Shows</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>O Tannenbaum</i> (9:30 a.m.) by Patricia Hurlbutt; Village Ringers</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Angel Tidings</i> (11 a.m.) by Cynthia Dobrinski; Morning Bells</p>
Words of Welcome	Rev. Tom Are, Jr.
Why Village Matters	Ryan Manies
Call to Worship	<p>Donna & Ron Patton (8 a.m.)</p> <p>Pam & Charlie Peffer (9:30 a.m.)</p> <p>Janice & Dave Gill (11 a.m.)</p>

We are waiting

**sometimes patiently, sometimes apathetically,
and sometimes wearily.**

We are waiting and preparing ourselves

**not only for the celebration of the birth of God's love in Bethlehem;
but also, for the birth of God's promised day.**

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

**People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.**

*Hymn, No. 82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
HYFRYDOL

*Prayer of Confession

Rev. Hallie Hottle

**God of all grace,
Lead us in the paths of peace,
and teach us Your ultimate purpose for our lives.
Do not lose patience with us, we pray,
as we seek to set fear aside
and walk in Your light.** (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!**

Welcome New Members (11 a.m.)

*Passing of the Peace

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Dee Couch (8 a.m.)
Kathy Lueckert (9:30 a.m.)
Kim Higgins (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Matthew 1:18-25 (pg. 877)

Call to Prayer (from Hymn, No. 115)

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

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

Glad Tidings of Joy (9:30 a.m.)

music: Lloyd Larson; Village Ringers

In the Bleak Midwinter (11 a.m.)

arr. Karen Buckwalter; Morning Bells

Scripture Reading

Matthew 1:1-17 (pg. 877)

Sermon

Christmas at Matthew's House

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 140

Once in Royal David's City

IRBY

Offertory

While We Are Waiting, Come, O Come, Emmanuel

music: Don Cason & John Weaver; Village Choir

*Response (from Hymn, No. 145)

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

*Hymn, No. 119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

**Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.**

*Postlude

The King of Glory Comes
arr. Aaron David Miller

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



DID YOU SEE THE DOOR?

We are on the Gospel Writers Tour of Homes, and in the Welcome Center there are artistic imaginings of the front door of each home. Thanks to Kim Higgins and other members of the Liturgical Arts team for this display.

Mark's Door is quite simple and devoid of any decoration. When you are in the wilderness, you don't need decorations, but you do need a little light. The lamp burns as a reminder that we are God's children and loved by God. Mark says that Jesus comes into the wilderness and brings the "peaceable kingdom" that Isaiah described. (look it up in Isaiah 11:6-9).

Matthew's Door is festive, clad in purple to celebrate Jesus as the Royal Son of King David. His wreath is filled with international flags, as Jesus has come as the savior of the nations. Look through the window glass. You can see the house is filled with people. Matthew knows that Jesus draws the whole human family to himself.

THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of December 10, 2018)

The following daily Bible readings were written by the Rev. Becky Chamberlain 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. 10

John 1:1-18

In John's Prologue (vs. 1-18) or preface to his gospel, God's Word, which spoke all creation into existence, enters history and takes on human form in the person of Jesus, the Word. What does that Word say?

Tuesday, Dec. 11

John 1:1-5, 14

Jesus speaks the Word of God and is the Word of God. His words and actions speak: judgment and mercy, forgiveness and reconciliation, healing and wholeness, joy and love. All that is broken, fallen and sinful is answered with God's Word of salvation and restoration. What do my words speak? How does Village speak God's word to our neighbors, our city, our world?

Wednesday, Dec. 12

John 1:6-9, 15

John the Baptist was sent by God to testify to Jesus. The writer uses the word "testify" three times to emphasize its importance. John's testimony was necessary for people to recognize Jesus, the true Light in a dark world. How important is my testimony? Who might need my witness to point the way to Jesus?

Thursday, Dec. 13

John 1:10-13

Jesus' own people did not accept him as the Word in human form, but all those who did accept him were given power to know their true selves, their identities as beloved children of God. Today I give thanks for those who testified to me of God's love! Today I give thanks for all those who have come to faith in Christ by the testimony of Village Church!

Friday, Dec. 14

John 1:14-16

I love The Message's paraphrase of verse 14: "The Word became flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood." My neighborhood! Your neighborhood! Neighborhoods east of Troost! Wyandotte County neighborhoods which have the highest poverty rates in Kansas City! How might we do even more in these neighborhoods where Christ lives to bring abundance and opportunity, jobs, fair housing, safety, good schools, and so much more?

Saturday, Dec. 15

John 1:18

Where does God dwell? In former times, God dwelled in a movable Tabernacle as the Israelites were on the move to the Promised Land. Once they arrived, God dwelled in the Temple that Solomon built. Then, God "tabernacled" with us in Jesus, the Word made flesh. Now, WE are the place where God dwells (I Corinthians 3:16). WE are God's tabernacle, God's temple. What a staggering truth! What a gift and a responsibility!

Sweetly Singing O'er The Plains

3 & 6 p.m. SUNDAY, DEC. 16



Village on Mission Sanctuary

Child care provided with a reservation by Dec. 9

A free-will offering benefits the Sherwood Center - providing special education services to individuals with autism.



Discover Village Information Center

A place for you to connect and ask questions. You're invited to stop by our Discover Village desk, between worship services, at the north Welcome Center entrance. Hosts will be available at the desk every Sunday morning; a place where you can share conversation and enjoy a cookie. We look forward to meeting you!



Support Us When You Shop This Christmas!

As you sit down to do your shopping online, check out, smile.amazon.com. When you log in, choose United Presbyterian Church in the USA Village United Presbyterian Church. You'll get great deals and Amazon will send us a donation.



TODAY AT VILLAGE

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

JOINING VILLAGE CHURCH – Village receives new members every other month at a special Sunday luncheon. Village will receive 19 new members today. The next joining dates are Feb. 3, April 7 and June 2. Contact cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org or 913-671-2331 for information.

PLEASE DELIVER A POINSETTIA TODAY – Today is Poinsettia Sunday! Two-hundred-fifty 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. Volunteers are there to help get you instructions and information. You will bring a gift that brightens a homebound member's Christmas season – and you'll receive much more in return. Thank you for your time and help.

NEW TO US? Village Presbyterian Church is a family of faith actively shaped by the life of Christ to love one another, providing leadership for the transformation of our communities and serving the world. We are a Presbyterian (USA) family of faith that is inclusive, generous and welcoming of all people. Village is one church worshipping 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.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday classes include:

FAITH JOURNEY is now studying "You Are What You Love - The Spiritual Power of Habit" by James K. A. Smith who says that who and what we worship fundamentally shapes our hearts. And while we desire to shape culture, we are not often aware of how culture shapes us. We will explore the formative power of culture and the transformative possibilities of Christian practices. Facilitated by Kathy Ray. Room 230.

FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH – MARY'S STORY – The prophet Isaiah proclaimed: "A young woman shall conceive and bear a son and shall call his name Immanuel." Christian tradition identified that young woman as Mary, the mother of Jesus. This class, led by Rev. Dwight Tawney, will explore the rich outgrowth of Christmas stories that surround Mary and the family of Jesus. Today and Dec. 16. Room 15.

VILLAGE FORUM – Today and Dec. 16, Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka will teach about the Spirituality of Aging. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in May of 2017 there were 47.8 million Americans age 65 and older comprising 15 percent of the total population. By 2060, the Census Bureau projects 25 percent or one in four Americans will be age 65 and older. So, as we age, how do we experience the presence of God? How do our spirituality and religious practice change over time? On Dec. 23, Maryanna Adelman will lead a discussion on contemporary Jewish holiday practices, focusing on the weekly celebration of Shabbat and the "minor" holiday of Hanukkah. Room 126.

10:45 a.m. Adult Sunday class:

SPECIAL ADVENT ADULT CLASS – Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka will teach on the Advent passage preached each morning. Today – Matthew's gospel. Dec. 16 – Luke's gospel. Rooms 132-133.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

ALL SERVICES–CHILD CARE – Infants through 3-year-olds are welcome in Rooms 114, 111 and/or 107.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:25-10:30 a.m. – **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. **K-6th grade**—Kids' Kingdom Sunday school meets on the third floor. Registration and grade specific room assignments are posted outside Room 307. Room information is also posted outside Room 207.

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 203; Prelude Choir (K-2nd grade) meet in Room 201; Hallelujah Choir (3rd-6th grade) meet in Room 204. Pick up for all children is on the 2nd floor.

BAPTISMS and NEW BABIES – The next baptism dates are Jan. 20 and March 17. An education class is offered for members who are new to Village baptism. Share news of your new baby so we can welcome and commemorate the new family member's arrival. Call 913-671-2350 or email kate.ruecker@villagepres.org.

THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT – 10:30 a.m. next Sunday, Dec. 16, in Friendship Hall. Come witness the greatest story ever told through the eyes of the children at Village. Join professional actress and Village Church member, Margaret Veglahn, as she directs our sixth graders in a production you won't want to miss!

FAMILY WORSHIP SUNDAYS – All children are invited to participate in worship on Dec. 23 and Dec. 30. Child care is available for children ages 0-3 years. NO SUNDAY SCHOOL scheduled due to the Christmas holiday.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

CHRISTMAS DINNER – Come celebrate the holidays with friends at the Wednesday Night Dinner Christmas meal at 5:15 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12, in Friendship Hall at Village on Mission. Cost is \$7 a person, \$3 for age 10 & under. RSVP by calling 913-671-2359 or emailing liz.middleton@villagepres.org by noon Monday, Dec. 10.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY/CLOTHES CLOSET – Winter is not officially here but the snow and cold weather have arrived! Winter coats, hats, gloves and mittens, scarves and warm socks are on our wish list for the Clothes Closet. The Food Pantry is asking for pasta and pasta sauces - a favorite of the clients and not readily available from Harvesters. Our clients have requested inspirational books and Bibles for adults and children during the Christmas season. Thank you.

DECK THE VILLAGE TREES WITH DIAPERS AND HATS AND MITTENS – Now through Dec. 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 for more information.

BORDER MINISTRY HELP REQUEST – Border Ministry of the Presbyterian Church received a request for much-needed over the counter medications and wound care supplies from our colleagues in Tijuana who are caring for migrant women, children and families being sheltered in their city. If you wish to contribute, the items needed are listed on our website at www.villagepres.org/border. All items must be unopened & not expired. A donation bag is located in front of the office of Lora Garrison, director of international mission, Room 212C at Village on Mission. Email lora.garrison@villagepres.org with any questions.

MUSIC MINISTRY

SECOND THURSDAY RECITAL DEC. 13 – We invite you to join us for Second Thursday Recital at 12:15 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13, in the Village on Mission Sanctuary featuring guest organist Kurt Knecht. Kurt is the organist at St. Paul's Episcopal in Kansas City. He has been a featured soloist with groups ranging from Smokey Robinson to The Florida Orchestra. Kurt regularly appears as a concert organist and collaborative pianist.

THE TRADITION CONTINUES – Village Voices and ALL alumni are invited to sing for the 11 p.m. Christmas Eve Service. Rehearsal begins at 10:15 p.m. in Room 14. Alumni can sit in the choir loft or with their families and come up for the two anthems. We look forward again to this annual tradition!

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

TAIZÉ WORSHIP SERVICE – The holiday season is here. Along with the fun and anticipation, sometimes taking a moment to relax and be centered is just what we need. Consider coming to Taizé, a service filled with silence, contemplation, candlelight and scripture. Communion is also served. Join us at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 18, in the Village on Mission Chapel. Starting in January, Taizé will be held at 6:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

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

THEOLOGY THURSDAYS – 7 p.m. Thursday, at Village Presbyterian Church (3rd Floor), for our LAST Theology Thursday of 2018. We'll talk about "Christmas Decoded: Theology of the Incarnation," and pray together for the start of a new year.

YOUNG ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY – 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20, at The Brooksider (downstairs). Wear your favorite Christmas sweater and bring a friend for a SURPRISE white elephant gift exchange (surprise as in you bring nothing, we provide wrapped gifts, you leave with something fabulous). All we ask you to bring is \$10 as a contribution to our Grandview Park Kitchen Renovation Project. Appetizer-style food provided. Drinks are on you. RSVP at VillagePresYA.org/calendar/christmas.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Join us for any of our weekly activities beginning today – All are welcome regardless of previous Village attendance and no sign-up is required. Check villagepresyouth.org for more details.

ALPHA & OMEGA (middle and high school Sunday mornings) – 9:30 a.m. today.

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, in the 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, at Zach's house (5401 W. 77th St., Prairie Village) And yes, we give you a ride to school afterward if you need it!

CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION IS OPEN – The Confirmation Class is open to all students in 9th grade, or older if they have not yet taken the class. Forms and schedules can be found on the youth website: villagepresyouth.org/forms.

Christmas Eve Worship Service Times

Village on Mission – 5 p.m. Family Worship with The Gathering Band; 7 & 9 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Worship; 11 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service with Communion. All services will be in the Sanctuary.

Village on Antioch – 7:30 pm. Traditional Candlelight Service in the Sanctuary.

You're Invited to a Retirement Luncheon for Marianne Weber

Marianne Weber, coordinator for adult educational ministries, is retiring after serving Village Church for 24 years. All are invited to a luncheon in her honor from noon-2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20, in Friendship Hall. Cost is \$10 per person.

Register online at bit.ly/Marianneluncheon or by calling Linda Alley at 913-671-2327. The deadline for registrations is next Sunday, Dec. 16. Contact Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka at rodger@villagepres.org for more information.



Seeking Your Input On Sermon Topics **I wish the preacher would talk about.....**

Every year the pastoral staff selects five or six conversations to have as a church family. These are our Sermon Series. For January and February, we are inviting you to suggest the topics. What do you wish the Sunday sermon to consider? Is there a Bible passage or a general topic you would like the preacher to consider? Let us know. We will choose from the most popular suggestions. So, what do you wish the preacher would talk about?

Email your question or suggestion to tom@villagepres.org.

2019 Annual Commitment Appeal

"Be generous with what God Gave you." 1 Peter 4:10

Your support is so very important in helping us be a church that is Living Toward God's promised Day.

Please consider your 2019 commitment. Complete your card and return to the church or go online to villagepres.org/giving, and click "Continue to Commitment Form," complete and click "Send."



VILLAGE
COMMITMENT

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.

ADVENT SERMON SERIES

Gospel Writers Tour of Homes

Part of the power of the celebration of Christmas is found in tradition. You, no doubt, return to familiar observations of the season. There are decorations, foods and other traditions that we revisit year after year. It's part of what makes it Christmas. This Advent we will consider how each Gospel writer might celebrate this season. How might Matthew decorate his home, or what carols would be most important to Luke? Each writer speaks of Jesus in a different way, so if we look closely, we will find that each Gospel writer celebrates this season in his own way. So, let's take a Gospel Writers Tour of Homes this Advent. It will no doubt bring to sharper focus what will be important to celebrate in our homes this Christmas.

- Dec. 2 Christmas at Mark's House
Dec. 9 Christmas at Matthew's House
Dec. 16 Christmas at Luke's House
Dec. 23 Christmas at John's House
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve: Welcome Home, Little One

MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Tom 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 pastor
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 ❖ 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."

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.
