



**VILLAGE
CHURCH**

Presbyterian (USA)



Service of Worship

Aug. 3, 2025 • 9 and 11 a.m.

About Today's Service

Today, Rev. Melanie Hardison will be preaching at all services as she concludes her ministry at Village Church and prepares to embark on her new call to serve at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church.



GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Chris Leaver, organ

Words of Welcome

Rev. Melanie Hardison

Introit

Londonderry Air
arr. Bryan Miller; Brass Quintet

*Call to Worship

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

We gather to worship the God of life.

The God of living, life-saving water meets us here.

We come hoping to drink from springs of abundance.

God quenches our thirst and restores our souls.

When the journey makes us weary, when we fear we've lost our way,

God, the fountain of eternal life, beckons us forward.

When we need reminders of divine love and grace,

God, the wellspring of mercy, provides streams in the desert.

Thanks be to God!

*Hymn 37

Let All Things Now Living

Prayer of Confession

O God, you are the giver of living water, the source of deepest compassion, the fountain of eternal life. You are the one who searches us and knows us. You know when we sit down and when we rise up; you are acquainted with all our ways. You hem us in, behind and before, and lay your hand of peace upon us. God, we seek to be close to you, to remember your presence with us. When we forget, forgive us. When we become focused on our own desires and agendas, guide us in your ways. Help us remember that you are always behind us and before us, beside us and within us. Flow through our lives like living water, that we might remember your promises to be springs in the desert. (silent prayer)

Assurance of God's Grace

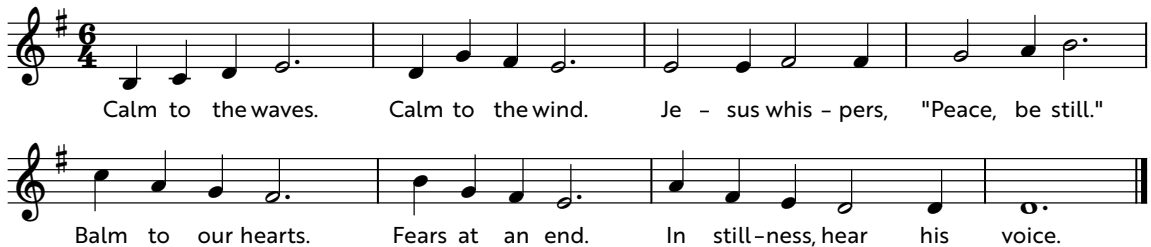
*Response to Assurance



*Passing the Peace of Christ

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call for Illumination



Prayer for Illumination

Sandy Wells (9 a.m.); Miriam Frey (11 a.m.)

Scripture

Exodus 17:1-7 (pg. 63)

Sermon

Behind and Before

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn 306


Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Call for the Offering

Offertory Music

Quintet
by Michael Kamen

*Response



All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in high - est heav - en,
to Fa - ther and to Son and Spir - it now be giv - en:
the one e - ter - nal God, whom heav-en and earth a - dore, the
God who was, and is, and shall be ev - er - more.

*Prayer of Dedication

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God, we give you thanks...

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

Communion Music

Prayer of Response

GOD'S PEOPLE ARE SENT

*Hymn 694

Great God of Every Blessing

*Benediction

*Benediction Response (Hymn 694, st. 1)

**Great God of every blessing, of faithful loving care,
you are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.**

*Postlude

Prelude in Classic Style
by Gordon Young

**All who are able may stand*

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

You may recognize the tune of this morning's Introit as the Irish song, "Danny Boy." You're correct! "Londonderry Air" is the official tune name for this particular folksong. Did you know that many hymns, including some we sing often, are based on Old English, Welsh, Scottish and Irish folksongs? There are even some based on drinking songs that would have been sung in local town pubs. Interestingly, "Londonderry Air" has been used as the tune for over 15 hymns since the 19th century. What better way to teach a congregation a sacred song than by using a tune they already know?

Farewell to Rev. Melanie Hardison – After nearly six years of faithful leadership among us, Rev. Melanie Hardison has accepted the call to serve as Associate Pastor for Congregational Care at the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia. Today, Melanie is preaching at all services. Next Sunday, Aug. 10, the Session has called congregational meetings at the close of services to concur with Melanie's request to serve the Bryn Mawr congregation. We will have a churchwide celebration for her in the Welcome Center following the 11 a.m. worship service as we ask God's continued blessing upon her. Please join us!

ENGAGEMENT

New Member Luncheon – Interested in joining Village Church? You're invited to join us **today** from noon-1:30 p.m. in Rooms 232/233 for lunch. Our next New Member luncheon is Oct. 5. Please email carol.solenberger@villagepres.org for more information.

2nd Sunday Social – Join us from 10-11 a.m. next Sunday, Aug. 10 for a sweet treat and conversation!

VERT (Village Emergency Response Team) volunteers needed – Our VERT team is a vital part of worship and large events. Volunteers receive training and serve as a responder to any medical emergencies that may arise until professional medical attention arrives. Time commitment is 2-5 hours/month. Contact carol.solenberger@villagepres.org to volunteer.

MISSION MINISTRY

Blood Drive Aug. 26 – Donate between 1 and 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 26, in Rooms 132 and 133, Mission Campus. Sign up at bit.ly/village-blood-drive and enter the group code BT. Walk-ins are also welcome. Save a life with this critical support, and thank you!

Food Pantry and Clothes Closet – This month, the Pantry is in need of cereal, hot or cold. Kids will be going back to school soon and cereal is a quick breakfast. And in the Clothes Closet, think back to school wear for kids and adults. If shopping is not your thing, a financial gift to support our work is always welcome!

MUSIC MINISTRY

Get involved – Our Music Ministry is gearing up for an exciting fall season, and we'd love for you to be a part of it. Whether you sing, play an instrument, or just have a passion for worship through music, now is the perfect time to get involved. If you're interested in joining one of our ensembles, please reach out to Bonny Green at bonny.green@villagepres.org

PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

August Faith and Grief Support Group – noon-1 p.m., this Wednesday, Aug. 6, at Visitation Catholic Church. This month's speaker Dan Devine shares his journey with his wife, Michele, who had Frontotemporal Degeneration (FTD). Lunch is provided.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Coffee & Connection – 9-10:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 23, Room 232/233. Start your weekend with coffee and info about how to get connected with other women at Village through Bible studies, events, and volunteer opportunities. All women are invited.

Habitat KC's Women Build – 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11. Join Village women to help other women build strength, stability, and self-reliance through homeownership. No experience necessary. Tools, guidance and lunch provided. Email lisa.harrison@villagepres.org by Aug. 20 to register.

MOTS (Moms of Teens) – Do you have a teenager and are you interested in talking to other moms with teens? Join us for coffee and conversation 8:30-10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 20 in the Young Adult Space, Room 8.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Bible & Brunch- 12:15 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 10. Two of our favorite things: scripture and breakfast food! We'll meet in the Young Adult room after 11 a.m. worship to walk through 1 Corinthians together. Food and drinks provided.

Service Saturday – 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16. We'll head to ScrapsKC (3269 Roanoke Rd, KCMO) to assist our neighbors with their mission of creative upcycling. Kids 3+ are welcome with their young adult parent. Sign up at bit.ly/VillageYoungAdults, limit 25 people.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Programs on Break! – We are prepping for kickoff next month, so programs are on pause to allow time for rest and the start of the school year. Join us for Kickoff Sunday on Sept. 7.

Youth Sunday – Join us as our students lead us in all worship services on Aug. 24! They will share the ways they have seen God moving in their lives over these summer weeks and inspire us to recognize God's movement in our own lives as well.

Blessing of the Backpacks – At all worship services on Sunday, Aug. 10. Calling all kiddos of any age and stage! Bring your backpacks (or book bags of any kind) for our annual Blessing of the Backpacks.

Child care is available on the first floor during both services. Bring infants through 23 months to Room 114 and kids ages 2-4 to Room 107. **No Summer Lighthouse today:** Kids join us in big church. Lighthouse will resume on Sunday, Sept. 7.

The Gathering – Join us for a modern, imaginative style of worship at Village Church offered at 4 p.m. Sundays in the Sanctuary (while Friendship Hall is being renovated). Child care is available.

Giving – You may give to Village Church at villagepres.org/giving or scan the QR code to the right. Set up an automatic, recurring gift by contacting Bob Sperry at bob.sperry@villagepres.org or 913-671-2325.



UPCOMING SERMONS

Today, Rev. Melanie Hardison preaches before departing for her new call to serve the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia. For the next two Sundays, Aug. 10 and 17, Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka will preach on stories of Jesus' life using clips from *The Chosen*, the first multi-season television series based on the gospel stories. Aug. 24 is Youth Sunday, where our young people plan and lead worship. And on Aug. 31, Labor Day weekend, we will enjoy a hymn sing featuring favorite songs of our faith.

Aug. 3

Rev. Melanie Hardison preaching

Aug. 10

Scenes from *The Chosen* - Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

Aug. 17

Scenes from *The Chosen* - Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

Aug. 24

Youth Sunday

Aug. 31

Hymn Sing Sunday

MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior pastor • Dr. Elisa Bickers, co-director of music ministry & principal organist

Brooke Brundige, director of children & family ministry • Lora Garrison, director of international mission

Rev. Melanie Hardison, pastor for pastoral care • Kathy Lueckert, senior director of business operations

Dr. Joshua Maize, co-director of music ministry • Alan Olson, director of facilities

Rev. Anna Owens, Antioch Campus site pastor • Angel Patterson, director of youth ministry

Rev. Maggie Johnson Phillips, pastor for young adult ministry & worship arts

Robert Rumold, director of information technology • Carol Solenberger, director of engagement

Bob Sperry, director of giving & endowment • Sandra Stephens, director of child care

Rev. Zach Walker, pastor for mission • Rev. Alice Whitson, pastor for communications

Rev. Dr. Robert H. Meneilly, founding pastor, 1947-1994

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.

You may call in to listen to a week-delayed broadcast of our Sanctuary service on our worship service phone line: 913-203-1301. You can opt-in to be called automatically at 9:30 a.m. Sundays.

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

Printed on paper from sustainably managed forests.

Music for today's service is presented with permission from onelicense.net (#A-705103) and CCS PERFORMmusic (PML8498).

Village Presbyterian Church • 6641 Mission Rd. Prairie Village, KS 66208 • 913-262-4200 • villagepres.org