



**VILLAGE
CHURCH**

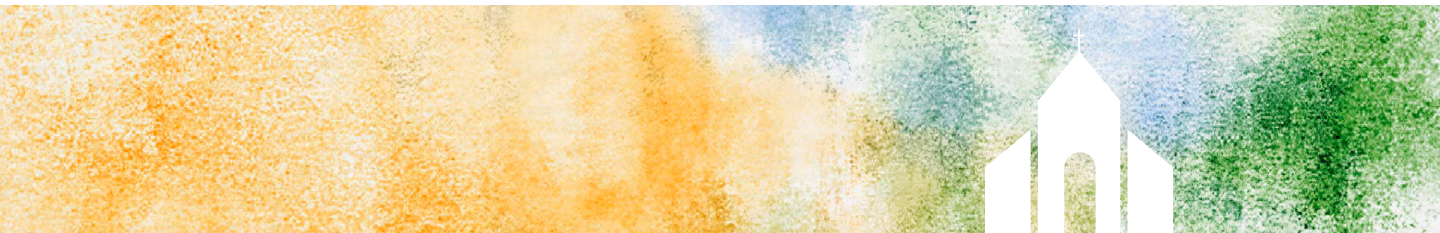
Presbyterian (USA)

Service of Worship

Sept. 7, 2025 • 9 and 11 a.m.

About Today's Service

While we know Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8), author of "Postmodern Pilgrims," Dr. Leonard Sweet, wonders how the church can give a compelling and imaginative witness to Jesus today. In this sermon series, we will explore what Dr. Sweet calls the "EPIC" church: Experiential, Participatory, Imagistic, and Communal.



GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

Words of Welcome

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

Introit

I Was Glad

by Hubert Parry; Village Choir, Dr. Josh Maize, director

*Call to Worship (Psalm 122)

Rev. Dr. Diane Janssen Hemmen

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

Now our feet are standing in your gates, Jerusalem!

Jerusalem is built like a city joined together in unity.

This is where our tribes go up—the Lord's tribes!

It is the law of Israel to give thanks there to the Lord's name, because the thrones of justice are there—the thrones of the house of David!

Pray that Jerusalem has peace; "Let those who love you have rest.

Let there be peace on your walls; let there be rest on your fortifications."

For the sake of all families and friends, we say, "Peace be with you, Jerusalem."

For the sake of the Lord our God's house, we will pray God's goodness upon all.

*Hymn 409 (st. 1 and 4)

God is Here!

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,

we know we cannot live without you. We know you are sovereign over this church, the world, and all the creation. We love you and adore you. We believe you are here.

Yet even as we believe we cannot live without you, we confess that we make our way through our days neglecting our relationship with you. We trust more in ourselves than in you. We turn to you only when we are troubled.

Forgive us, ever-present God. Draw us even closer to you. Remind us that you are in our every breath, every heartbeat. Reveal your presence in sight, sound, scent, taste, and touch. Call us to live every moment knowing you are with us.
(silent prayer)

Assurance of God's Grace

*Response to Assurance

Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en;
glad of heart your car - ols raise; ran - somed,
healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, who, like me, should
sing God's praise? Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
lu - ia! Praise the Mak - er all your days!

*Passing the Peace of Christ

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call for Illumination (Hymn 450, st. 2)

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.**

Prayer for Illumination

Alfred White (9 a.m.); Meghan Stumpf (11 a.m.)

Scripture

Haggai 1 (pg. 863)

Sermon

The Church is Experiential

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn 310 (st. 1, 2, 5)

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

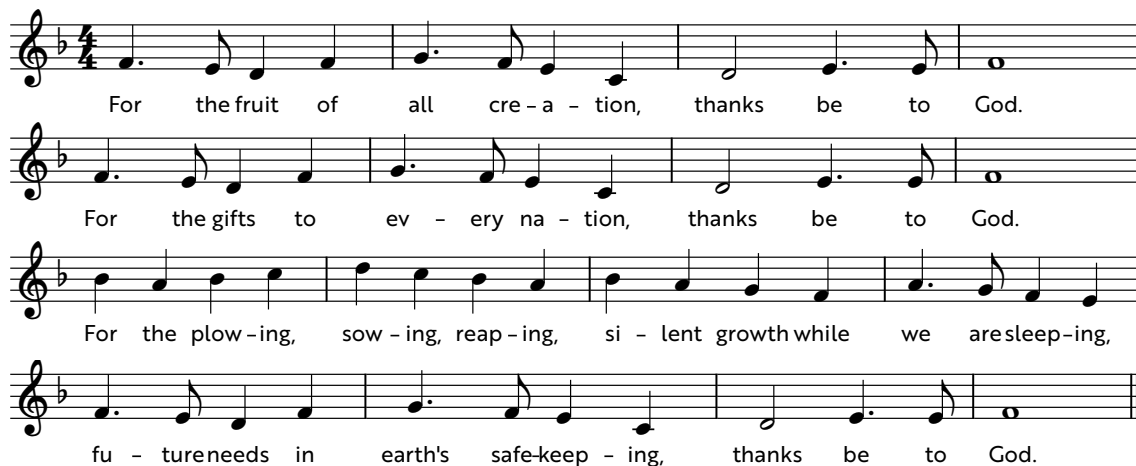
Call for the Offering

Rev. Maggie Johnson Phillips

Offertory Anthem

God's Promised Day
text by Ron Witzke; music by Anthony Maglione

*Response



For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.

For the gifts to ev - ery na - tion, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.

*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

Prayer of Response

GOD'S PEOPLE ARE SENT

*Hymn 65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*Benediction

*Benediction Response



*Postlude

CWM RHONDDA

arr. Paul Manz

**All who are able may stand*

BRASS QUINTET & PERCUSSION

Joe Lu, trumpet
Patrick Oliverio, trumpet
Brianna Volkmann, horn
Terrilynn Handy, trombone
Patrick Yeh, tuba
Theodore Musick, percussion

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

This morning's anthem was composed to celebrate Village Church's 75th birthday. The text, penned by choir member Dr. Ron Witzke, honors the long history and hopeful future of this community as one that seeks to serve, praise, and build up.

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 109. **Today is our Lighthouse Fall Kickoff during 9 a.m. worship** – Pre-K and 4-year-olds meet in Room 106 (sign in outside 106). K-6 Grade meet in Room 307 for All-Sing (group worship) at 9 a.m. (sign in outside 307). Lighthouse pickup is on the third floor. Parents, please keep your cell phones on!

If you are interested in honoring a loved one with flowers in the chancel, please contact Karen Reimer at karen.reimer@villagepres.org.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Village U community classes are designed for adults and offer opportunities for growth in mind, body, and spirit. Visit villagepres.org/village-u to see the catalog and register. Fall semester begins today!

ENGAGEMENT

Kickoff Sunday Social – Join us **today** in the Welcome Center after all services for a sweet treat and conversation!

Wednesday Family Dinner Kickoff – 5:30-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10, Welcome Center. Join us for a cookout with all the fixings (vegetarian option available). Adults \$10 (ages 12+), children \$5 (ages 5-11), age 4 and younger eat free; \$40 family max. To register and/or volunteer, go to bit.ly/WednightDinner-2025.

40s/50s Ministry Kickoff Social – 7-9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, Strang Hall (7313 W 80th St., Overland Park). All in their 40s and 50s are invited! No registration required.

MISSION MINISTRY

Village Serves: Pete's Garden – 10 a.m.-noon Wednesday, Sept. 10. Let's volunteer to make Kansas City a better place! This month we serve at Pete's Garden packing meals for families facing food insecurity. Go to bit.ly/village-serves-2025 to learn more and sign up.

Cross-Lines Volunteer Opportunity – Every other month, Village Church serves a meal to 150-250 people at the Cross-Lines Kitchen. Join us Friday, Sept. 12 to serve lunch to our neighbors in need. Learn more and sign up at bit.ly/cross-lines-2025.

MUSIC MINISTRY

2nd Thursday Recital Series begins – 12:15 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11, Sanctuary. Alison Borberg, soprano, and Joe Cartwright, piano present a mix of musical theater and cabaret. Free admission.

Brian Bartling, lutenist – 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12, Chapel. KC native Brian Bartling will present his concert of 17th-century music for Baroque lute titled "Le Cabinet Extraordinaire." Tickets \$20 at the door; students \$10.

Te Deum concert – 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 27, Sanctuary. Sergei Rachmaninoff's "All-Night Vigil" will be presented in English translation, honoring the work's profound spiritual and musical legacy. Tickets at te-deum.org.

PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

Stephen Ministers are individuals who have caring hearts and the wish to help others. After receiving more than 50 hours of training, they provide confidential, one-on-one care for those facing a life challenge. If you are interested in becoming a Stephen Minister, please contact Alice Carrott Eidson: alice.carrott@yahoo.com.

Growing Through Grief – 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 24-Oct. 22, Room 132. Grief is a hard journey; we are here to help you every step of the way. Rev. Tim Soule facilitates this 5-week class where you will receive support and comfort. Register at villagepres.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3097171.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Sunshine & Stroll – 1:30-3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14, Mohawk Park (67th & Lamar). Join us to soak up some sunshine, take a stroll around the park, or sit and chat with other women. Kiddos are welcome.

MOTS (Moms of Teens) – 8:30-10:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 20, Young Adult Room (8). Interested in talking to other moms of teens? Join us for coffee and conversation.

Mingle & Bingo – 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 23, O'Neill's Restaurant. Women of all ages are invited for a night of fun and games with featured speaker Rev. Maggie. \$15/person (includes appetizers). Bingo cards \$5/each; proceeds benefit Village Food Pantry and Clothes Closet. RSVP to becky.anderson418@gmail.com.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Parents Group – 9-11 a.m. second Wednesdays, Young Adult Room (8). Starting Sept. 10, parents and their littles

are invited for faith, fellowship, and food with Pastor Maggie.

Y.A.M. (Young Adult Ministry) Night – 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesdays, Young Adult Room (8). All 20s and 30s are invited to join us weekly starting Sept. 10. We'll enjoy dinner, games, Scripture, and connection.

Royals Game – 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 19. Bring your friends and join us at Kauffman Stadium for a night of fun, fellowship, and baseball! Tickets \$20. Register at bit.ly/VillageYoungAdults.

YOUTH MINISTRY

All Youth and Family Kickoff – 6-7:30 p.m. **tonight**, Youth Loft (332/333). All youth (grades 7-12) and their families are invited to join us as we launch into an exciting new program year.

Time & Talent Cards – Giving isn't just about money—our time and our talents are also gifts from God meant to be shared. During the month of September, these cards will be available in the pews for you to choose one or more ways to serve your church family during the fall 2025 season. Completed cards can be placed in the offering plate or in the baskets located by all Sanctuary doors. For more ways to serve, go to villagepres.org/serve.

Giving – When we give, we reflect God's generous heart and share God's grace, provision, and love. Even the smallest act, offered with sincerity, can bless others, inspire kindness, and shine God's light in the world. You may give to Village Church at villagepres.org/giving or scan the QR code to the right.



CURRENT SERMON SERIES

Sept. 7-28: The EPIC Church

In his book "Postmodern Pilgrims," Dr. Leonard Sweet offers a vision for the 21st century church that engages both the church's traditions and its need for innovation. He calls for a faith that is both ancient and future, historical and contemporary. While he reminds us that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8), he wonders how the church, the body of Christ, can give a compelling and imaginative witness to Jesus today. In this sermon series, Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka will explore what Dr. Sweet calls the "EPIC" church: Experiential, Participatory, Imagistic, and Communal.

Sept. 7	The Church is Experiential
Sept. 14	The Church is Participatory
Sept. 21	The Church is Imagistic
Sept. 28	The Church is Communal

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. Dr. Diane Janssen Hemmen, senior associate pastor • 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