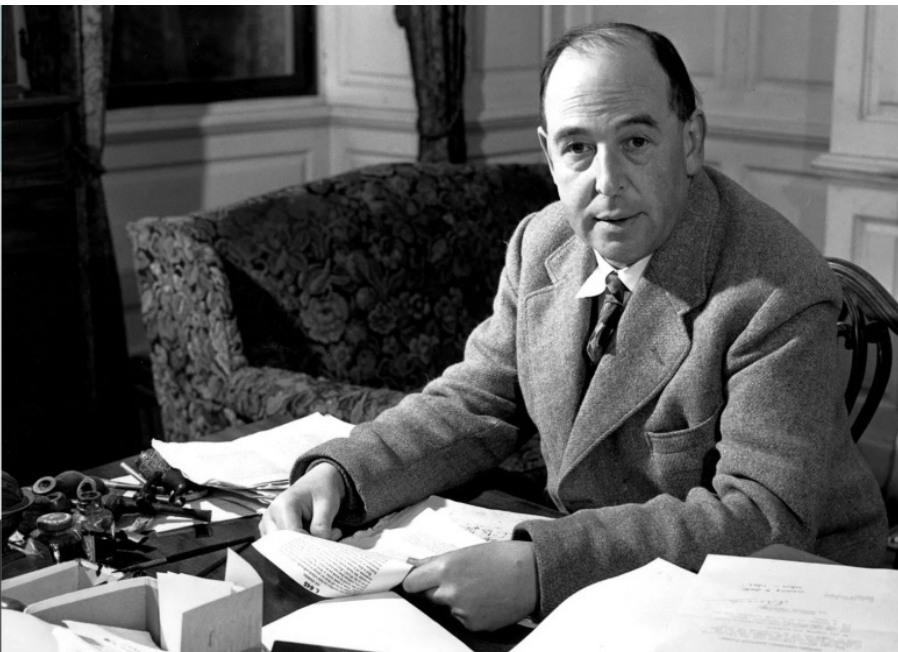
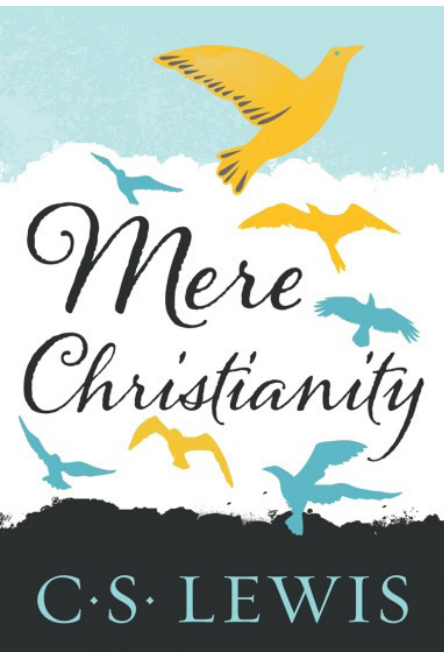




**VILLAGE CHURCH**

Presbyterian (USA)



## Service of Worship

Oct. 5, 2025 • 9 and 11 a.m.

### About Today's Service

"These are the two points I want to make. First, that human beings all over the earth, have this basic understanding that we ought to do what is right regarding how we treat others. Second, that we do not always behave that way. We know what we ought to do, but we do not do it. These two facts are the foundation to all clear thinking about ourselves, God, and the universe we live in." –C.S. Lewis

## GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

Words of Welcome

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

Introit

*Everybody's Got a Place in the Choir*

by Greg Gilpin; Morning Stars Choir and Jenny Hull, conductor (9 a.m.)

*Cantad!*

by Mark Patterson; More Love Chorale and Helen Hofmeister, conductor (11 a.m.)

\*Call to Worship (Psalm 125)

Rev. Maggie Johnson Phillips

The people who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion:

never shaken, abiding forever.

**Mountains surround Jerusalem.**

**That is how God surrounds God's people from now until forever!**

The wicked will not prosper in the land of the righteous.

**Those who love God and abide in God will do what is righteous and just.**

Let us worship God who abides with us always!

\*Hymn 836 (st. 1, 4, 5)

*Abide with Me*

Prayer of Confession

**Abiding God,**

**you promised to abide with us and be ever present with us.**

**You came to us in Jesus Christ and gave yourself for us so we might live.**

**You showed us how to love one another.**

**Your Holy Spirit sustains and upholds us.**

**Yet we confess we do not always abide with you.**

**We neglect our relationship with you and rely more on ourselves than on you.**

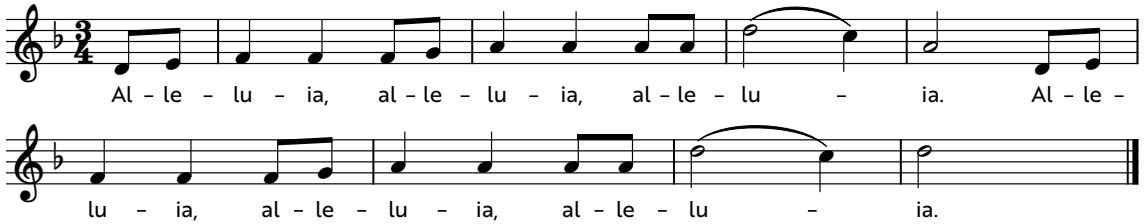
**We do not love others as you commanded.**

**Forgive our selfish ways, O God.**

**Help us to abide with you.** (silent prayer)

Assurance of God's Grace

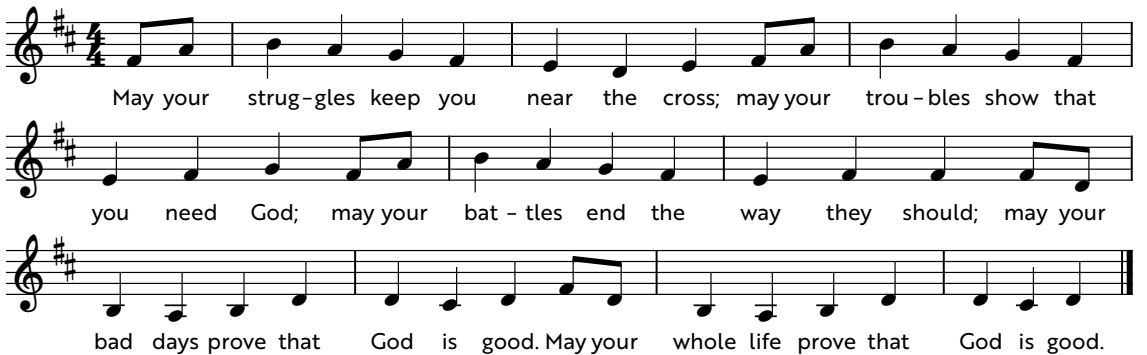
\*Response to Assurance



\*Passing the Peace of Christ

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call for Illumination (please join in singing when invited)



Prayer for Illumination

Bonny Green (9 a.m.); Sharon Marsh (11 a.m.)

Scripture

John 15:1-17 (pg. 983)

Sermon

*Who Christians Are: Abiding in God's Love*

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

\*Hymn 526

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

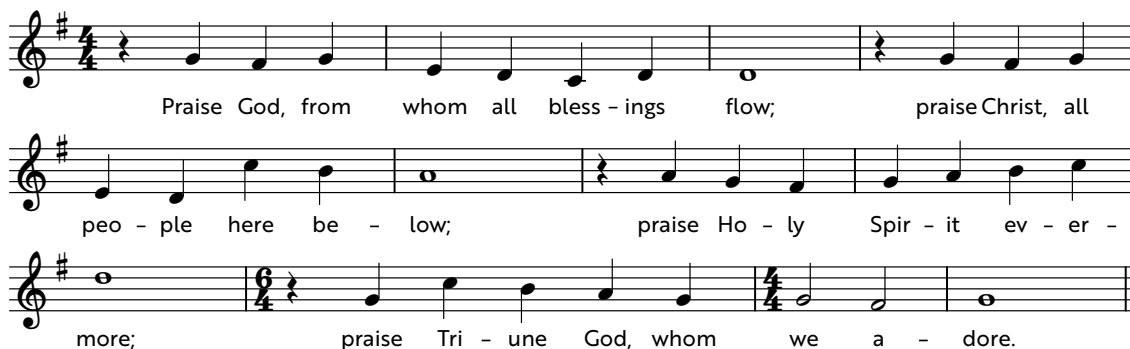
Call for the Offering

Rev. Zach Walker

Offertory Anthem

*"Be Joyful in God" from Melodious Accord*  
by Alice Parker; Village Choir and Dr. Josh Maize, conductor

\*Response



\*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

Communion Anthem (11 a.m.)

*Ose Shalom (The One Who Makes Peace)*

Traditional Hebrew, arr. by John Leavitt;

More Love Chorale and Amy Jantz, clarinet

Prayer of Response

## GOD'S PEOPLE ARE SENT

\*Hymn 459

*O Word of God Incarnate*

\*Benediction

\*Benediction Response (Hymn 836, st. 3)

**I need thy presence every passing hour;  
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.**

\*Postlude

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*  
arr. Mark Sedio

*\*All who are able may stand*

### **ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC**

More Love Chorale's anthems today are offered in celebration of World Communion Sunday. The Introit's Spanish text translates as "Sing to the Lord a new song," and the communion anthem's Hebrew text says "The One who makes peace in the heavens, he makes peace for us, and for all Israel, and let us say Amen."

**Friendship Hall re-opening tonight** – The renovations in Friendship Hall are completed! All are invited to our first Gathering worship service in the new space at 4 p.m. Stay for the Food Truck Festival at 5 p.m. in the South Lot followed by a free concert from the KC Wind Symphony in the Sanctuary at 7 p.m.

**Child care** is available on the first floor during both services. Bring infants through 23 months to Room 114 and kids ages 2-3 to Room 109. Parents, please keep your cell phones on!

**Sunday Morning Faith Formation** – Adults: Village Forum, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Room 126/127; The Faith Journey, 10:10-10:50 a.m., Room 124. Youth (Grades 7-12): 9-10 a.m., Room 333. Kids: Lighthouse, 9-10 a.m., Rooms 106 (Pre-K/4s) and 307 (Grades K-6).

**The flowers in the chancel today** are given in loving memory of James Henry Patterson by Alison, Bill, and Ellie Patterson.

*If you are interested in honoring a loved one with flowers in the chancel, please contact Karen Reimer at [karen.reimer@villagepres.org](mailto:karen.reimer@villagepres.org).*

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION

**Benefits of Native Landscape Plants** – 7-9 p.m. Monday, Oct. 6, Room 126. Tracy Twombly, owner of local nursery Sow Wild Natives, will explain what a native plant is and why it's important to include them in our home landscapes.

**Grandparents for Gun Safety Community Forum - Faith & Firearms: Turning Faith Into Action** – 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 13, Rockhurst University, Arrupe Auditorium (5351 Forest Ave., KCMO). Pastor and activist John Pavlovitz and local leaders will provide examples of how communities are working to reduce gun violence in KC. For more info, visit [grandparentsforgunsafety.org](http://grandparentsforgunsafety.org).

**Village U: Men's Breakfast & Bible with Rodger Nishioka** – 8-9 a.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 14-Dec. 2, Friendship Hall. Men are welcome for fellowship, a hot breakfast, and Bible study led by our senior pastor. This eight-week study will explore the ministry of the Apostle Paul.

## ENGAGEMENT

**New Member Luncheon** – noon-1:30 p.m. **today**, Rooms 232/233. Interested in joining Village Church? You're invited to join us for lunch. Our next New Member luncheon is Dec. 7. For more info email [carol.solenberger@villagepres.org](mailto:carol.solenberger@villagepres.org).

**Food Truck Festival** – 5-7 p.m. **tonight**. Join us in the South Lot for a variety of options for dinner: 451 Pizza, Tiki Taco, Chez Elle Crêperie, Meltbox Ice Cream, and our own Chef Teri on the grill. Bring your own chair and invite your friends and neighbors! Stay after the event for a free concert from the KC Wind Symphony at 7 p.m.

**Wednesday Family Dinner** – 5:30-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 8, Friendship Hall. All are invited to our first Wednesday Dinner in the new renovated Friendship Hall! Chef Teri will be serving beef lasagna, veggie lasagna, carrots, Caesar salad, and dessert. In honor of this special day, dinner is free of charge for everyone when you register at [bit.ly/WednesdayDinner-2025](http://bit.ly/WednesdayDinner-2025).

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Social** – 10-11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 12, Welcome Center. Join us next Sunday for a sweet treat & conversation!

## MISSION MINISTRY

**Flu Shot Clinic** – 4-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 8, Rooms 132/133. Flu vaccine, 65+ flu vaccine, and Covid booster are available. Free with insurance card and ID. Sign up at [bit.ly/flu-2025](http://bit.ly/flu-2025); walk-ins also welcome.

**Celebration Dominicana Fundraiser** – 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, Milburn Country Club. Join the Dominican Republic Medical Partnership of Village Church (DRMP) for an unforgettable evening of live music, dancing, food and drink, and an auction/raffle. Since the early 1990s, the DRMP has been providing free healthcare services to impoverished Haitians living in the D.R. Purchase tickets/sponsorships at [villagepres.org/cd-2025](http://villagepres.org/cd-2025).

## MUSIC MINISTRY

**Kansas City Wind Symphony Concert** – 7 p.m. **tonight**, Sanctuary. "Destinations" honors places we've been and places we'd like to go, featuring works by Hector Berlioz, Percy Aldridge Grainger, and Haydn Wood. Free admission.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday Recital: La Gioia Wind Quintet** – 12:15 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 9, Chapel. Join us for a noontime recital and a short reception afterward in the Welcome Center to meet the artists. Free admission.

**Together, We Sing** – 7:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 20, Sanctuary. Our Mission and Antioch Choirs present a concert featuring Alice Parker's "Melodious Accord" and Howard Hanson's "Song of Democracy." A free-will offering will be taken to support our Village Food Pantry and Clothes Closet.

### PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

**Remember your loved one on All Saints Day** – Part of our worship services on All Saints Sunday, Nov. 2, is listing names of loved ones we miss. Names of those who passed away in 2025 will be listed (if the church was informed). To include additional names, contact [linda.alley@villagepres.org](mailto:linda.alley@villagepres.org) or 913-671-2327 by Oct. 24.

### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

**Wednesday Women's Fellowship** – 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 8, Room 206. Join us to watch author David Brooks' interview about his book *The Second Mountain* and discuss emerging from loneliness to find renewal. Optional dinner at 6 p.m.; program begins at 6:30 p.m. To register: [carol.solenberger@villagepres.org](mailto:carol.solenberger@villagepres.org).

**Sunshine & Stroll** – 1:30-3 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 12, 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!

**Declutter Your Heart and Your Home** – 9-11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 18, Friendship Hall. We'll discuss author Julia Ubbenga's minimalist philosophy and learn more about her spiritual journey toward being "rich in what matters." \$16 registration fee includes copy of book. Register at [villagepres.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3052411](http://villagepres.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3052411) or stop by the Welcome Center today after the service.

### YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

**Parents Group** – 9-11 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 8, Young Adult Room (8). Parents and their littles are invited for faith, fellowship, and food with Pastor Maggie on the second Wednesday of every month.

**Y.A.M. (Young Adult Ministry) Night** – 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesdays, Young Adult Room (8). All 20s and 30s are invited to enjoy dinner followed by games, Scripture and connection. Come as often as you can - we'd love to have you!

**Fall Retreat** – Nov. 7-9. We'll spend Friday evening to early Sunday afternoon outside of Excelsior Springs, MO hiking, exploring, resting, and examining our faith. Cost is \$100. Register at [bit.ly/VillageYoungAdults](http://bit.ly/VillageYoungAdults).

### 40s & 50s MINISTRY

**Date & Dance Night** – 7 p.m. Oct. 11, Cabaret Arts & Social Theater (9050 Metcalf Ave.) We're going out for a fun night with a professional dance instructor. It's the perfect date night activity and you learn something new! Come solo or with a partner. Event is free; sign up at [bit.ly/vpc-4050](http://bit.ly/vpc-4050).

## CURRENT SERMON SERIES

### Oct. 5-26: Mere Christianity

C.S. Lewis (1898-1963) was a British writer, literary scholar, and theologian. He is best known for writing the *Chronicles of Narnia*. Though baptized as an infant, Lewis became an atheist at 15 years old because he was angry at God, both for not existing and for creating such a terrible world. He became a Christian “kicking, struggling, and resentful” at 33 years old, influenced by friends like J.R.R. Tolkien and various writings. *Mere Christianity* is Lewis’ compelling apologetic for Christianity. For Lewis, Christianity is not easy or simple; rather, it is demanding and risky. In this sermon series, Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka will explore Lewis’ arguments for a Christian faith that is a radical reordering of our lives.

<b>Oct. 5</b>	<b>Who Christians Are (World Communion Sunday)</b>
Oct. 12	What Christians Believe
Oct. 19	How Christians Act
Oct. 26	Why Christians Grow

---

## 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](http://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](http://villagepres.org)