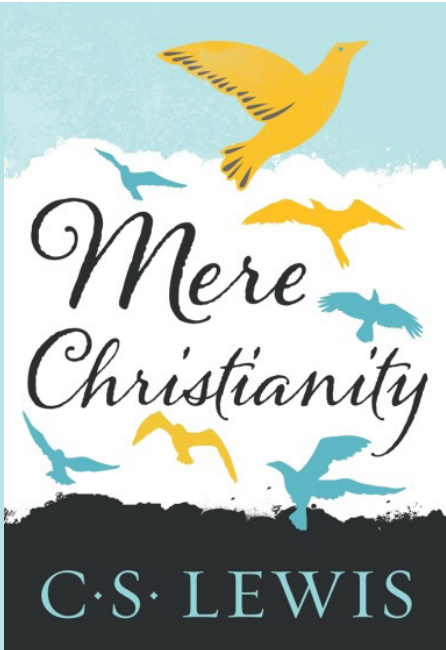




VILLAGE CHURCH

Presbyterian (USA)



"Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what God is doing. God is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof; you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently God starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make any sense. What on earth is God up to? God is building quite a different house from the one you thought. You thought you were being made into a decent little cottage; but God is building a palace. God intends to come and live in it—to live in you." –C.S. Lewis

Service of Worship

Oct. 12, 2025 • 9 and 11 a.m.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

Words of Welcome

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

Introit

Sing to the Lord

by Helen Steiner Rice, Ralph Waldo Emerson,
and Noel Goemanne; Alegría Choir (9 a.m.)

Canta Una Canción

by Victor C. Johnson; Village Voices and Dr. Josh Maize, conductor (11 a.m.)

*Call to Worship (Psalm 85)

Rev. Alice Whitson

Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us.

Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.

Let us hear what the Lord God will speak to us,

for God will speak peace to God's people,

to God's faithful, to those who turn to God in their hearts.

Surely God's salvation is at hand for those who fear God,

so that God's glory may dwell in our land.

*Hymn 385

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God,

you are the Lord God and by your grace, we are your people.

We are here to praise you and glorify you, for you alone are worthy.

You alone are good and your mercy is forever sure, enduring from age to age.

Sometimes we take your mercy for granted, loving God.

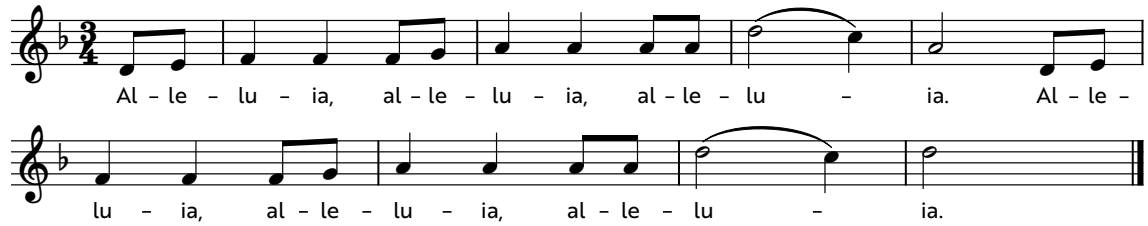
Sometimes we assume your forgiveness without confessing our sinfulness.

Forgive us for taking your grace for granted.

Help us to lift our praises to you and to live alleluias every day. (silent prayer)

Assurance of God's Grace

*Response to Assurance



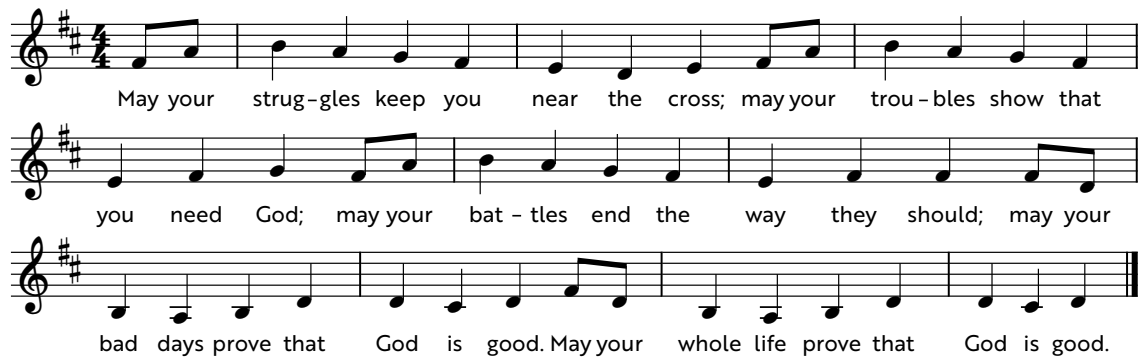
*Passing the Peace of Christ

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Time with Children

Call for Illumination

by Jonathan McReynolds



Prayer for Illumination

Diann Markley (9 a.m.); Carol Gee (11 a.m.)

Scripture

Ephesians 2:8-22 (pg. 1064)

Sermon

What Christians Believe: A Dwelling Place for God

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn 649

Amazing Grace

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Diane Janssen Hemmen

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.**

Call for the Offering

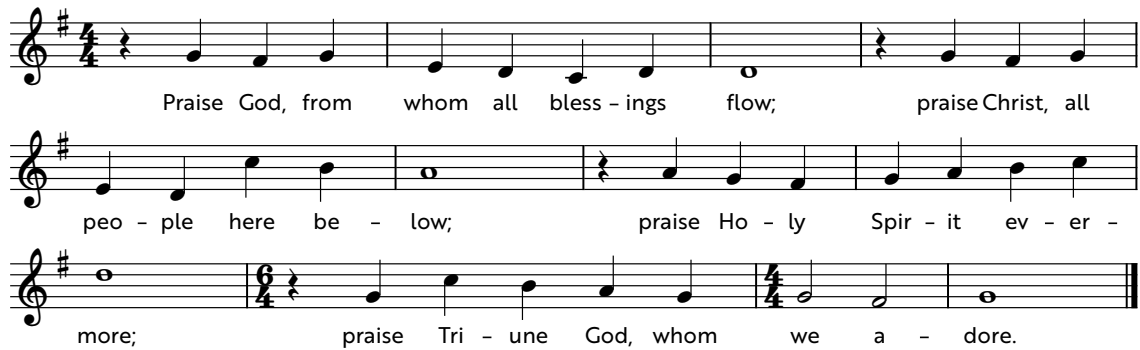
Offertory Anthem

His Eye is On the Sparrow

by Civilla Durfee Martin and Charles H. Gabriel; arr. Dr. Elisa Bickers

Village Choirs and Wilkin Yan, soloist

*Response



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all
peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er -
more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

*Prayer of Dedication

GOD'S PEOPLE ARE SENT

*Hymn 361 (st. 1-3)

O Christ, the Great Foundation

*Benediction

*Benediction Response (Hymn 361, st. 4)

**This is the moment glorious when he who once was dead
shall lead his church victorious, their champion and their head.
The Lord of all creation his heavenly kingdom brings:
the final consummation, the glory of all things.**

*Postlude

March on the Old Hundredth Psalm Tune
by Brenda Portman

**All who are able may stand*

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

We are grateful to be led in the offertory anthem today by Sandy "Wilkin" Yan, executive director of the Light a Candle Foundation in La Romana, Dominican Republic. The foundation is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide sustainable healthcare and health education in severely underserved communities. Village Church is glad to be a mission partner. Wilkin and his band will be leading music today in the Gathering service.

2nd Sunday Social – Join us **today** in the newly renovated Friendship Hall after the 9 a.m. service for a quick bite and conversation!

SUNDAY FAITH FORMATION

ADULTS	"Village Forum"	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Room 126
	"The Faith Journey"	10:10-10:50 a.m.	Room 124
YOUTH	Grades 7-12	9-10 a.m.	Room 333
KIDS	Today is Family Worship Sunday (no Lighthouse). Kids ages 4 and up are invited to join us in "big church".		

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

The flowers in the chancel today are given in loving memory of Mary Lou Niebling by her children.

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

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.

Village U: Men's Breakfast & Bible with Rodger Nishioka – 8-9 a.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 14-Dec. 2, Friendship Hall. Join with other men 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. Register at villagepres.org/village-u. Suggested donation \$8.

Guns to Gardens – 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, Central Presbyterian Church (3501 Campbell St., KCMO). Surrender unwanted firearms safely and responsibly and receive a grocery store gift card. Firearms will be dismantled and repurposed into garden tools. For more information, visit centralpreskc.org.

ENGAGEMENT

Wednesday Family Dinner – 5:30-6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Friendship Hall. Join us for food and fellowship. Adults: \$10 (12+), ages 5-11: \$5, 4 and under free, \$40 family max. Register at villagepres.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/category/87490. Email carol.solenberger@villagepres.org to volunteer and eat free.

Co-ed Seniors Afternoon – 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24, Welcome Center. Enjoy games and social time with other seniors. Bring your own board games, learn to play canasta, and enjoy good company and light refreshments!

Endowment Trust Reception – 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 27. Join us for dessert, wine, and a bit of thanksgiving at the home of Kathy & Jeff Collins (4716 W. 86th St.) to learn more about legacy gifts through the Endowment Trust. RSVP at villagepres.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3190646 by Oct. 23.

October New Members – We welcomed 8 new members last Sunday: Stacie Cronberg, Joanne Francisco, Jesse Langdon, Becky Lindhardt, Betsy Roberts, Hannah and John Stolle, and Garrett Webb. Help us welcome these new members to the Village family!

MISSION MINISTRY

Be The Church Service Night – 5-6:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 19, Friendship Hall. Give back during this annual night of service that benefits others. Pizza and cookies at 5 p.m, then at 5:30 p.m. we have a variety of engaging service projects for all ages! Questions: zach.walker@villagepres.org.

Blood Drive – 1-6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 21, Rooms 132/133. Sign up at bit.ly/village-blood-drive and enter the group code BT. Walk-ins are also welcome. Thank you for saving lives with this critical support.

MUSIC MINISTRY

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

All Saints' Sunday – If a loved one passed away in 2025 and the church was informed, their name will be in the bulletin at all worship services on All Saints Sunday, Nov. 2. To submit additional names from any other year, email pastoral-care@villagepres.org or call 913-671-2327 by Oct. 24.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Sunshine & Stroll – 1:30-3 p.m. **today**, 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 fee includes copy of book. Register at villagepres.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3052411 or stop by the Welcome Center or Friendship Hall today after the service.

Faithful Women of Outstanding Service – Honor a woman that supports the mission of Village Church, nurtures her faith and that of others, works for peace and justice,

and promotes an inclusive community through leadership and service to Village Church. Please send nominations to pslentzhoward1@gmail.com by Oct. 21. Honorees will be recognized in April.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Y.A.M. (Young Adult Ministry) Night – 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesdays. All 20s and 30s are invited! We'll enjoy dinner at 5:30 p.m. in Friendship Hall, then we'll move to the Young Adult Room (Room 8) for games, Scripture and connection. Come as often as you can—we'd love to have you!

Picnic in the Park – 5:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 20, Wassmer Park (67th & Roe). Young adults with kiddos, bring the whole family for an evening of playgrounds, popsicles, and dinner. No cost, but sign up at bit.ly/VillageYoungAdults.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Weekly programs – All Youth Sunday School (gr. 7-12), 9-10 a.m. Sundays; Village High Youth Group (gr. 9-10), 6:30-8 p.m. Sundays; Village Middle Hangout (gr. 7-8), 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesdays; Village Middle Youth Group (gr. 7-8), 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays. Hope to see you there!

Dominican Republic Mission Trip registration open – Youth in grades 9-12 are invited to serve in the D.R. March 12-19, 2026 on our annual spring break mission trip. This is a great opportunity to build meaningful connections serving alongside the local community. To learn more and register, visit bit.ly/YouthDR2026.

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.

Oct. 5	Who Christians Are (World Communion Sunday)
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.

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