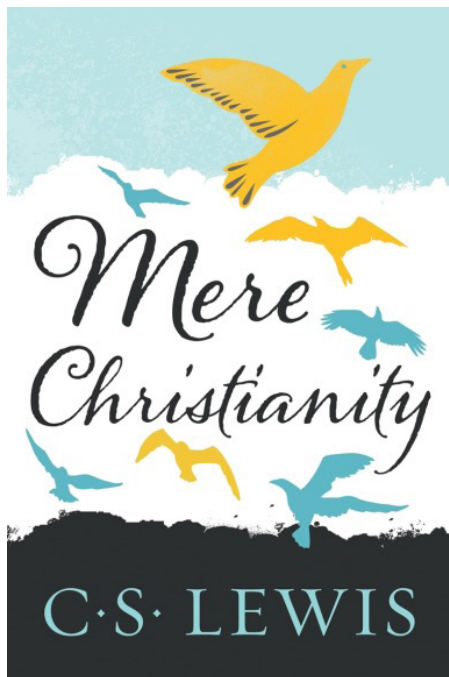




VILLAGE CHURCH

Presbyterian (USA)



"To have faith in Christ means, of course, trying to do all that he says. There would be no sense in saying you trusted a person if you would not take his advice. Thus, if you really handed yourself over to him, it must follow that you are trying to obey him. But trying in a new way, a less worried way. Not doing these things in order to be saved, but because he has begun to save you already. Not hoping to get to heaven as a reward for your actions, but inevitably wanting to act in a certain way because a first faint gleam of heaven is already inside you." –C.S. Lewis

Service of Worship

Oct. 19, 2025 • 9 and 11 a.m.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Dr. Elisa Bickers, piano

Words of Welcome

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

Introit

"House of Our God" from *Melodious Accord*
by Alice Parker; Village Choir, Intern Quartet, and Dr. Josh Maize, conductor

*Call to Worship (Psalm 25)

Rev. Maggie Johnson Phillips

Good and upright is our God. God instructs us in the way to live faithfully.

God leads the humble in what is right and teaches us God's way.

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,

for those who keep God's covenant and God's decrees.

For God has created beauty all around us.

So we praise God for God's goodness and the beauty of God's creation.

*Hymn 14

For the Beauty of the Earth

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;

for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
 friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

Refrain

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

Prayer of Confession

Giving God,

you have given us gifts too amazing and too wondrous to count.

You have given us the wonder and beauty of your creation.

You have given yourself to us in Jesus Christ, who showed us how to live.

And you have given us the daily presence of your Holy Spirit to guide and sustain us.

Yet even in the midst of your generous giving, we have not always responded with thanks.

We have taken your giving for granted.

We have not responded with courage and faithfulness.

Forgive us, gracious God.

Help us to live lives of obedience that honor and glorify you. (silent prayer)

Assurance of God's Grace

*Response to Assurance

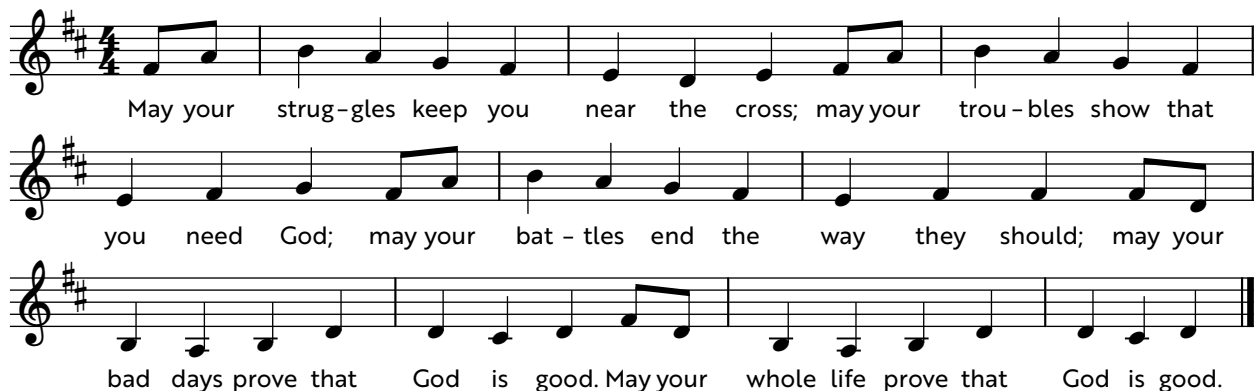


*Passing the Peace of Christ

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call for Illumination

by Jonathan McReynolds



Prayer for Illumination

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

Scripture

Romans 12:9-21

Sermon

How Christians Act: Overcoming Evil with Good

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn 300

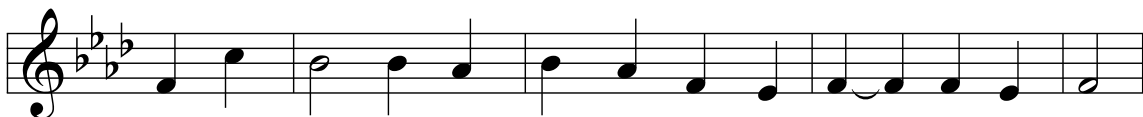
They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love



1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;
2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand;
3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;
4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,



we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,
we will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand,
we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,
and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,



and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride:
and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:

Refrain



And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our



love; yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Zach Walker

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.

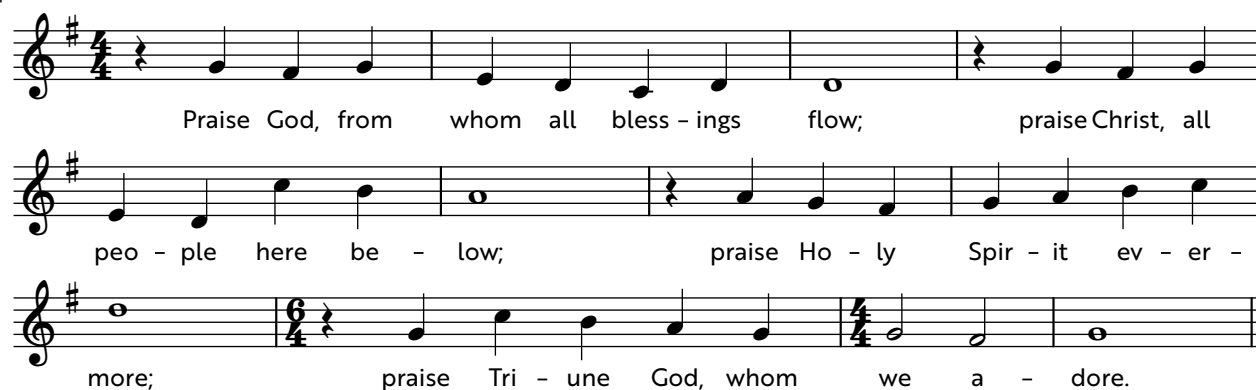
Call for the Offering

Offertory Anthem

Old Time Religion

by Moses Hogan; Village Choir and Tami Morrow, soloist

*Response



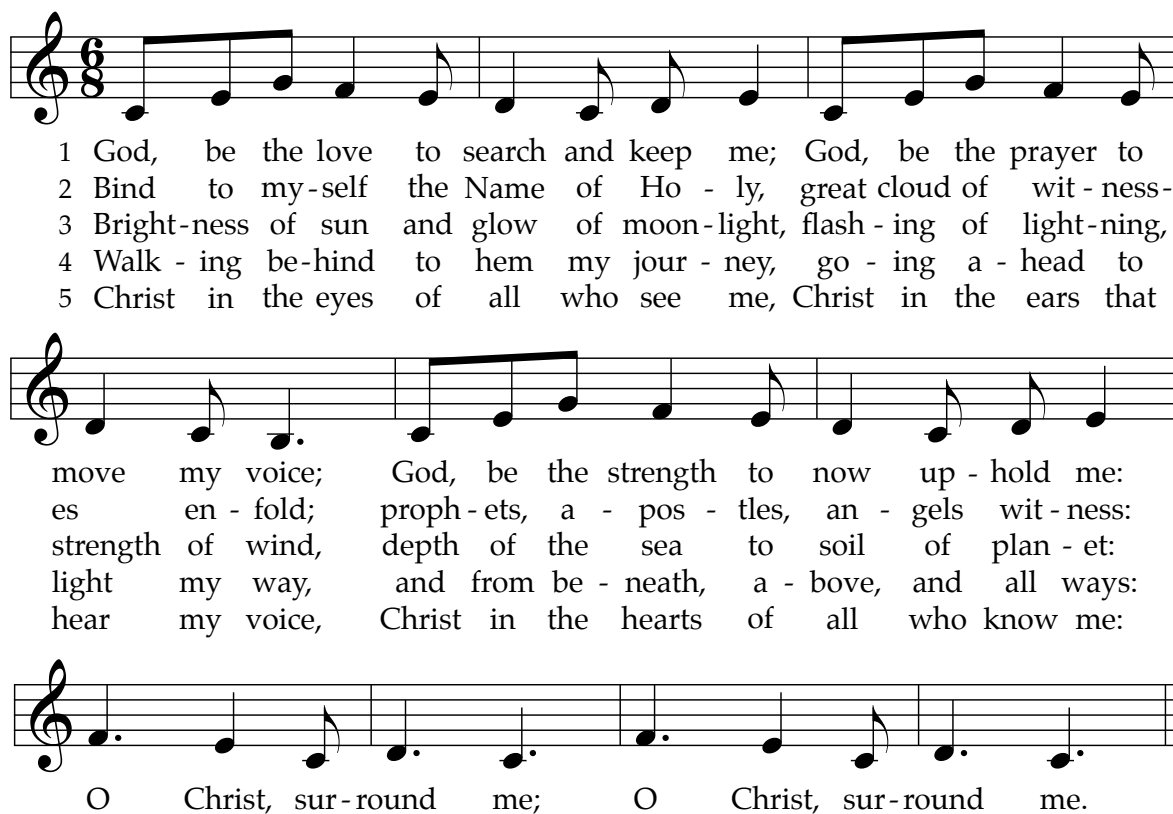
Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all
peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er -
more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

*Prayer of Dedication

GOD'S PEOPLE ARE SENT

*Hymn 543

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
2 Bind to my-self the Name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness-
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light-ning,
4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that
move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:
O Christ, sur-round me; O Christ, sur-round me.

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

**We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord; we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

*Postlude

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow
arr. Mark Hayes

**All who are able may stand*

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	Pre-K and 4-yr-olds	9-10 a.m.	Room 106
	Grades K-6	9-10 a.m.	Room 307

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

Scouts Holiday Greenery Sales – 8:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. **today** and next Sunday, Oct. 26. Troops 91 and 91G will be selling Sherwood Farms Greenery at both the north and south church entrances. Cash or check is accepted; credit card orders can be placed online at sherwoodfundraiser.com/Troop91/VPC. Pickups will be Nov. 30 & Dec. 7. Email jlkeane2@gmail.com with questions.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

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.

Village U: Science Literacy for Responsible Citizenship – 6:30-8 p.m. Mondays, Nov. 3-17, Heritage Dining Room (230). Science and technology increasingly impact our everyday lives, thus responsible citizenship demands basic knowledge of scientific reasoning and results. Taught by Dr. Blane Baker, professor of physics at William Jewell College. Register at villagepres.org/village-u.

Village U: No Longer Reasoning Like a Child: Growing and Embracing an Adult Faith – 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Nov. 5-19, Rooms 132/133. In this class, Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka will discuss the elements needed to grow into a mature, adult faith. Together, the class will explore what that means and how an adult faith is nurtured and lived in all facets of our lives. Register at villagepres.org/village-u.

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.

Village Connect Groups provide Bible study opportunities that deepen your faith and relationships with others. This year's study created by Pastor Rodger: "Jesus' Beatitudes: Blessings for Our Life Today." Interested in joining a group or want to learn more? Contact carol.solenberger@villagepres.org.

MISSION MINISTRY

Be The Church Service Night – 5-6:30 p.m. **tonight**, 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.

Thank you to all who participated in the Food Pantry's September Peanut Butter Drive! Your

donations, both financial and jars of peanut butter, will provide much needed protein and other nutrients to our neighbors in need. **For the Clothes Closet**, what sweaters do you have tucked into the back of a dresser drawer that you won't be wearing any more?

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.

Join the Tidings of Joy Choir – October means it's time to start preparing for our annual Tidings of Joy Christmas Concert—and we'd love for you to sing with us! Our first choir rehearsal will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 23 in the Sanctuary. If you're interested in joining or have any questions, please email bonny.green@villagepres.org.

PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

Oct. 23 is the last day for All Saint's Day names – If your loved one passed away before 2025 and you would like to have his/her name listed in the bulletin at all worship services on All Saints Sunday, Nov. 2, email linda.alley@villagepres.org or call 913-671-2327 by this Friday.

It's a Christmas tradition – Delivering poinsettias to our homebound members is an annual Village tradition. You receive more than you give! Please sign up to deliver throughout the metro area—you choose where and how many. Delivery is on Sat., Dec. 7. Contact Linda Alley for more information at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

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 pslentzhowardl@gmail.com by Oct. 21. Honorees will be recognized in April.

Wednesday Women's Fellowship - 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 12, Room 206. Join us to discuss ways to "Declutter Your Heart and Your Home" and discover practical options to get started. Optional dinner at 5:30 p.m., program begins at 6:30 p.m.

Questions and to register: carol.solenberger@villagepres.org.

Operation Breakthrough needs volunteers to help with year-round tutoring program. Volunteers work one-on-one to assist students with literacy and mathematics one hour per week. Email charlottesdavison@gmail.com with questions and to volunteer.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

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.

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 for games, Scripture and connection. Come as often as you can—we'd love to have you!

Manna Retreat – Jan. 22-25, 2026. We're headed to the mountains! Join us in Montreat, North Carolina with young adults from all across the country. We'll spend the weekend in worship, small groups, recreation and more! Cost \$450 (includes flight, room, and meals during the conference). You won't want to miss it: 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!

Register for the Dominican Republic Mission Trip – 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.

Got more candy than you know what to do with? We'll gladly take it off your hands! Each year, we collect Halloween candy to include in care packages for our college students. If you'd like to contribute, just drop off your extra candy at the south reception desk. We'll take care of the rest.

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

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

Giving – True joy in giving isn't about the size of the gift, but the love behind it. 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.



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.

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