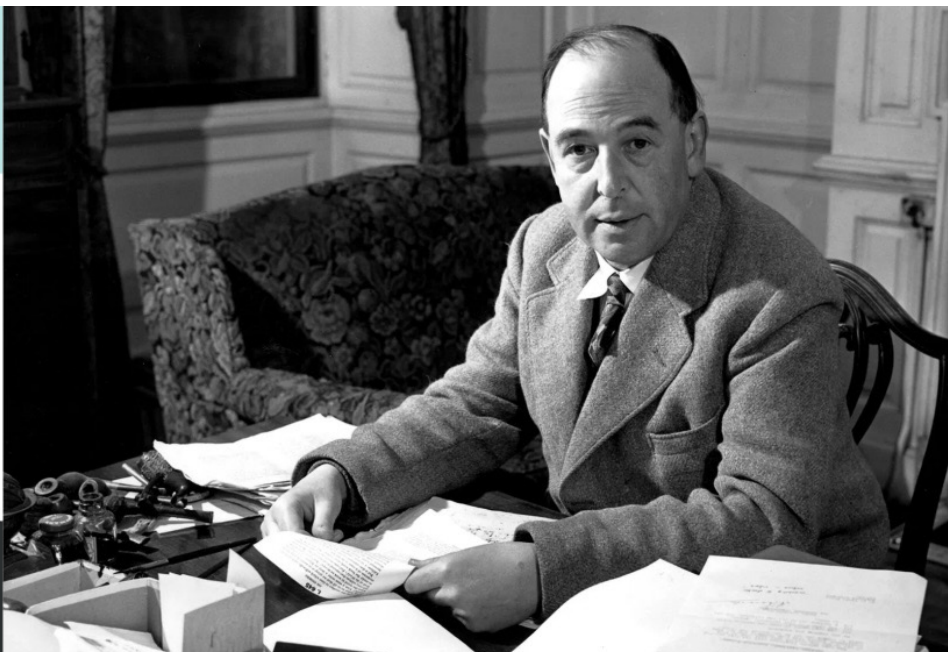
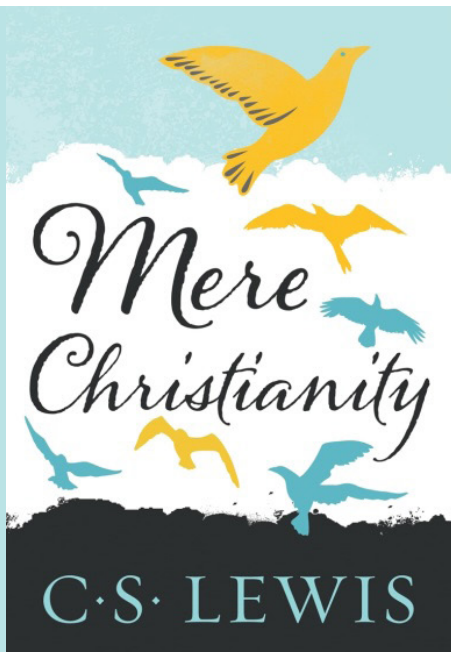




VILLAGE CHURCH

Presbyterian (USA)



"It may be hard for an egg to turn into a bird: it would be a jolly sight harder for a bird to learn to fly while remaining an egg. We are like eggs at present. And you cannot go on indefinitely being just an ordinary, decent egg. We must be hatched or else we will eventually rot." –C.S. Lewis

Service of Worship

Oct. 26, 2025 • 9 and 11 a.m.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Helen Hofmeister, organ

Words of Welcome

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

Introit

Bist du bei Mir

by J.S. Bach, arr. Kenneth Bray; Village Brass
and Dr. Langston Hemenway, conductor

*Call to Worship (Psalm 92)

Rev. Alice Whitson

It is good to give thanks to the Lord; to sing praises to God, O Most High,
to declare God's steadfast love in the morning and God's faithfulness by night.

For you, O Lord, have made us glad by your work;
at the works of your hands we sing for joy.

The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like the cedar in Lebanon.

They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God.

In old age they will still produce fruit; they are always green and growing;

showing that God is upright;

God is our rock, and there is no unrighteousness in God.

*Hymn 714

God of the Fertile Fields

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,

you created us good and love each of us just as we are.

Like all living things, you created us to grow and change.

Yet at times we are reluctant.

We cling to what we think we know.

**We resist opportunities to learn and expand our views of you
and the world you created.**

Forgive us, loving God.

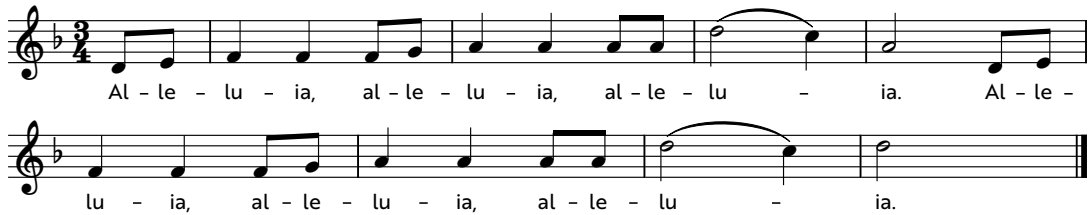
Grant us the courage to lean into discomfort.

Grant us the humility to ask for help.

Grant us new insights that change us for your glory. (silent prayer)

Assurance of God's Grace

*Response to Assurance

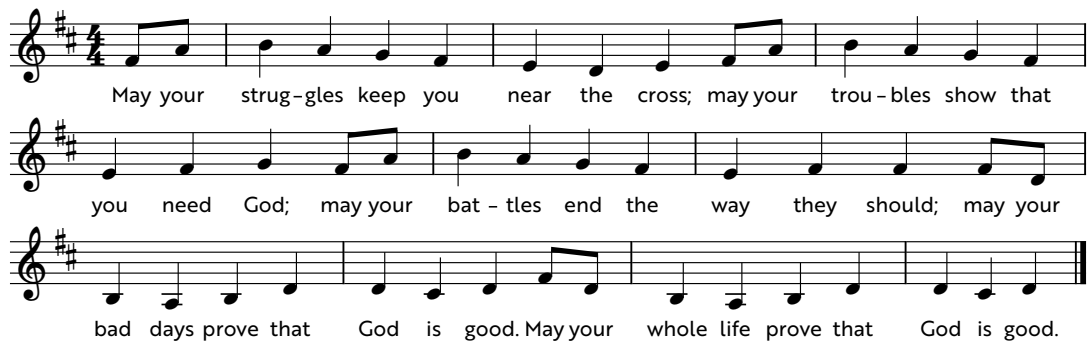


*Passing the Peace of Christ

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call for Illumination

by Jonathan McReynolds



Prayer for Illumination

Tami Morrow (9 a.m.); Suzanne Rumold (11 a.m.)

Scripture

Mark 4:26-32 (pg. 914)

Sermon

Why Christians Grow: Nurtured and Nudged by God

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn 721

Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

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.

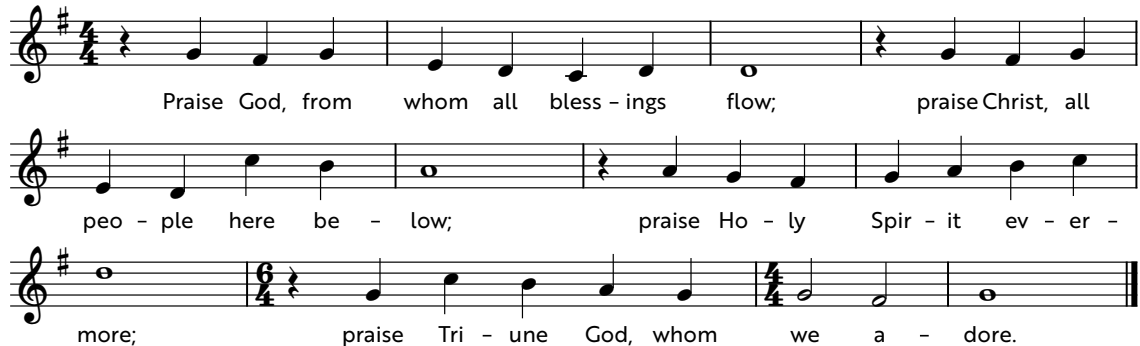
Call for the Offering

Offertory Anthem

What is the World Like

by Sally Ann Morris; Village Choir and Jared Brooks, conductor

*Response



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all
people here below; praise Holy Spirit ever -
more; praise Tri - une God, whom we adore.

*Prayer of Dedication

GOD'S PEOPLE ARE SENT

*Hymn

Hymn to Lewis

by Dr. Ron Witzke (see insert)

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

**O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me.
By your side I will seek other seas.**

*Postlude

"Thine Is the Glory" from Judas Maccabeus
by G.F. Handel, arr. Richard Brown

**All who are able may stand*

The flowers in the chancel today are given in loving memory of Mark Curtis by Thomas and Janet Curtis.

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

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

"Hymn to Lewis" loosely captures each Sunday's sermon theme, each stanza representing a scripture passage read in October (John 15, Ephesians 2, Romans 12, and Mark 4). My hope is that the words are sufficiently nuanced to reflect an honest reading of the text together with C. S. Lewis' interpretation in *Mere Christianity*, conscious that these theological themes are adapted for every generation. –Ron Witzke

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**. 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.

Help Village Fill the Heart
to Meet Our 2025 Budget*



\$5,711,000

2025 Funding Goal

\$3,396,902

60% Funded

*Pledge and
non-pledge gifts

villagepres.org/giving



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Village U: Science Literacy for Responsible Citizenship – 6:30-8 p.m. Mondays, Nov. 3-17, Heritage Dining Room (230). 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.

Environmental Action Network: The Current Approach to Climate Change in America – 7-9 p.m. Monday, Nov. 3, Room 126. Chick Keller discusses the resurgence of the oil and gas industry, projects nuclear as the long-term solution to climate change, and more.

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. 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.org/wfd. Email carol.solenberger@villagepres.org to volunteer and eat free.

Village Connect Groups provide Bible study opportunities that deepen your faith and relationships with others. This year's study is "Jesus' Beatitudes: Blessings for Our Life Today." To join a group or learn more, contact carol.solenberger@villagepres.org.

New Member Luncheon – noon-1:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Rooms 232/233. If you're interested in becoming a member of Village Church, you're invited to join us. Child care is available. Contact carol.solenberger@villagepres.org to RSVP and for more info.

MISSION MINISTRY

Village Serves – 3:30-6:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 8. This month Village serves at Ronald McDonald House preparing and serving a meal for inpatient families. Learn more and sign up at bit.ly/village-serves-2025.

Volunteer at Cross-Lines Kitchen – Friday, Nov. 14. Serve lunch to 150-250 neighbors in need at the Cross-Lines Kitchen. Learn more and sign up at bit.ly/cross-lines-2025 or contact Jim Bolton: jcb3823@gmail.com.

Food Pantry Thanksgiving Baskets – For a \$50 donation, you can provide a turkey and all the fixings for a family of four. Please consider sponsoring baskets for one or more families! For the **Clothes Closet**, please consider gifting new underwear for people of all ages and sizes.

MUSIC MINISTRY

2nd Thursday Recital – 12:15 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13, Chapel. Featuring Jessica Koebbe, piano and Can Balcik-Moretti, violin. Please join us for a noontime recital with a short reception afterward in the Welcome Center to meet the artists. Free admission.

Join the Tidings of Joy chorus – There's still time! Our next rehearsal is at 7 p.m. this Thursday, Nov. 13, in the Sanctuary. Questions: bonny.green@villagepres.org.

PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING

Share a photo of your loved one – Starting next Sunday, All Saints' Sunday, Nov. 2, we invite you to share a photo and/or add the name of your loved one to the wall in the Welcome Center. This loving tribute will remain on display through Nov. 22.

It's time for poinsettias (really) – Donating \$15 honors a loved one and provides a poinsettia to a homebound member. Your loved one's name(s) will be in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Visit villagepres.org/poinsettias or send the name(s) with a check (\$15 per person) to Karen Reimer at the church.

We need your help with poinsettia delivery – These go to our members who are homebound, ill, hospitalized or are in rehab. You choose where and how many to deliver throughout the metro area. Delivery is on Saturday, Dec. 6. Contact Linda Alley for more information at 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

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

Wednesday Women's Fellowship – 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 12, Room 232. Discover ways to “Declutter Your Heart and Your Home” and discuss 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.

Female family photos needed – At this year's Advent Celebration on Dec. 2, we will honor our female generational connections. Email pictures of women in your family (JPG or PNG format) to pslentzhoward1@gmail.com by Nov. 14. Photos will be shown on the screens and as a part of table decorations.

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 (8) for games, Scripture and connection.

Parents Group – 9-11 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 12, Young Adult Room (8). Parents and their littles are invited for faith, fellowship, and food with Pastor Maggie on second Wednesdays.

Manna Retreat – Jan. 22-25, 2026. Join us in the mountains of Montreat, NC along 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.

40s and 50s MINISTRY

Progressive Dinner – 6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15. We'll progress from house to house for a night of fellowship, fun, and food. Meet at Wassmer Park (67th & Roe) to begin the journey. RSVP at bit.ly/vpc-4050 so our hosts can prepare enough food!

UPCOMING SERMONS

Oct. 26 **Why Christians Grow - Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka**
Nov. 2 All Saints' Sunday - Rev. Dr. Diane Janssen Hemmen

Nov. 9-23: God's Gift of Generosity

Rev. Dr. Karl Travis had been healthy all of his life until he embarked upon a painful seven-year struggle to finally discover a diagnosis of a rare disease. He was given a few months to live. As he was writing his funeral service, he picked up a manuscript he had started years ago titled "God's Gift of Generosity." In his preface, he noted how odd it may seem to write about God's generosity in his condition. But Karl found that as he faced this terminal illness, more than anything, he leaned into the generosity of God. In this sermon series, Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka will explore the three facets of generosity that Dr. Travis highlights in his book, published last year.

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