



VILLAGE CHURCH

Presbyterian (USA)



Service of Worship

Sept. 13, 2026 • 9 and 11 a.m.

About Today's Service

This week we celebrate "Kickoff Sunday," which in the life of our church is a renewed return to programming, worship, and fellowship. Join us as we praise God for the family we have in each other and set our intentions for the year ahead.



GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

Words of Welcome

Rev. Maggie Johnson Phillips

Introit

Rejoice in Love (9 a.m.)

by Mark A. Miller; Village Voices

Jan Cohick, piano; Dr. Josh Maize, conductor

Pastorale (excerpt) (11 a.m.)

by César Franck

*Call to Worship

Rev. Zach Walker

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

In our joy and in our grief, God is with us.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Come, let us worship the God whose love never lets us go.

We give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

*Hymn 611

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,

you meet us in every season of our lives.

You meet us in seasons of laughter and seasons of tears.

You meet us in seasons of celebration and seasons of sorrow.

Forgive us, O God, for believing that we must choose between the two.

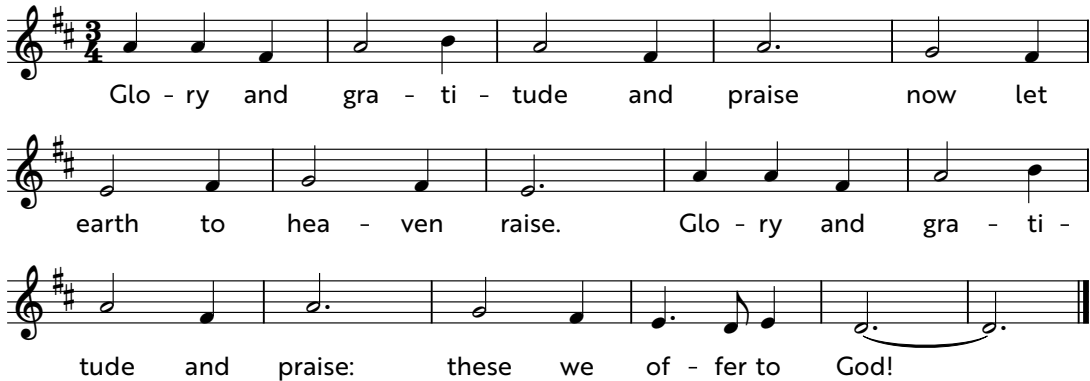
Remind us that we can feel both joy and grief, both hope and heartbreak.

Teach us to rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep.

(silent prayer)

Assurance of God's Grace

*Response to Assurance



*Passing the Peace of Christ

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Time with Children (9 a.m.)

Prayer for Illumination

Tami Morrow (9 a.m.); Rachel Priest (11 a.m.)

Scripture

Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24 (p. 554)

Sermon

Joy

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn 79

Light Dawns on a Weary World

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 Music

Jubilata Deo

by Dale Wood; Village Choirs; Theo Musick,
Helen Hofmeister, and Rev. Zach Walker, percussion

*Sung Response (Hymn 647)

**Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.
And now let the weak say, "We are strong";
let the poor say, "We are rich
because of what the Lord has done for us!"
Give thanks. Give thanks.**

*Prayer of Dedication

GOD'S PEOPLE ARE SENT

*Hymn 623

I've Got Peace like a River

*Benediction

*Benediction Response



*Postlude

Sortie
by Dale Ramsey

**All who are able may stand*

Congregational Meeting – The Village Church Session has called for a congregational meeting to be held Sunday, Sept. 20, following all worship services, for the purpose of electing officers and leaders for the new year, and presenting the 2026-2027 fiscal year budget.

The flowers in the chancel today are given in loving memory of Sydney and Matthew Landon by Richard Landon.

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
CHILDCARE			
NURSERY	Infants-23 months	9 and 11 a.m.	Room 114
	24 months-4 yrs	9 and 11 a.m.	Room 107

Special Note about Elementary Lighthouse (Sunday School) – All elementary schoolers (grades K-6) will check-in and start worship together in the Sanctuary. Then children and Lighthouse teachers will walk up to Lighthouse together. Parents will pick up from age-specific classrooms on the 3rd floor (listed above). Parents: If you have a child who changes their mind about joining us in Lighthouse and chooses to stay in the Sanctuary, please text Brooke at 816-914-3113 so we have an accurate roster. Please keep your cell phones on so we can contact you if needed!

WEDNESDAYS@VILLAGE

5:30-7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16. We have completely re-tooled Wednesday evenings at Mission Campus with all ages in mind. **This week is All-In Third Wednesday:** The evening starts in Friendship Hall at 5:30 p.m. with fresh, build-your-own meals. Dinner is free! This week, everyone remains in Friendship Hall to participate in a fun group activity led by our director of engagement, Carol Solenberger. No advance registration is necessary. Bring the whole crew and enjoy time with your church family! *Note: there is no childcare available on third Wednesdays. Children are welcome and encouraged to participate in our group activity/programming for the evening.*

Dinner this week: Build-your-own Taco Bar with lean seasoned ground beef, cilantro-lime shredded chicken, grilled fajita veggies, seasoned black beans.

For more details on the program and a weekly schedule, visit villagepres.org/wednesdays.

Register for events on ChurchCenter:
villagepres.churchcenter.com/registrations

Events with an asterisk (*) have online registration.

Please go to the URL above or scan the code to register for any of these events.



Food Pantry – Peanut butter is a rich source of protein and other nutrients that is easy and quick. This month, bring jars of peanut butter (18 oz. plastic jars preferred) to help stock the pantry shelves. **Clothes Closet** – Start checking your closets for winter coats and other cold-weather gear that you can donate for our neighbors in need.

Village Connect Small Groups deepen your faith and relationships with others. This year's study created by our Village pastors is "Grounded in Grace: Celebrating the Presbyterian Tradition." Groups begin meeting in October. Interested in joining a group or want to learn more? Contact carol.solenberger@villagepres.org.

The Memorial Guild needs you – When there is a memorial service at Village, volunteers share their time either ushering for the service or hosting at the reception afterwards. Volunteers create their own schedule. For more information, contact Linda Alley: 913-671-2327 or linda.alley@villagepres.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mahjong Mondays – 6:30-8 p.m. Sept. 14, Heritage Dining Room (230). All are welcome! Bring your Mahjong card (copies will be available). We meet on the second Monday of every month.

Young Adults Picnic in the Park* – 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 15, Neale Peterson Park (6136 Mission Rd.). Young adults with small children are invited to bring the whole family for an evening of free food, laughter, and fun.

Village U: Religious Conflicts in Matthew's Community* – 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Sept. 15-Oct. 6, Rooms 126/127. Theologian and Scripture scholar Biagio Mazza delves into the mind and heart of the Matthean community by examining their cultural, religious, and political context.

Monthly Caregiver Support Group – 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16, Country Club Christian Church (6101 Ward Parkway, KCMO). Caregiving is loving, hard work. Facilitator Becky Parrott (LCMFT) holds a certificate in "Mental Health and Aging" and serves as a board member for the Johnson County Commission on Aging. Meeting will be in the KALOS Suite (3rd floor).

Bad Weather Is Getting Worse: What Will Happen? – 7-9 p.m. Monday, Sept. 21, Room 233. Chick Keller will cover the environmental reasons why people believe weather is getting worse, and discuss how America is ignoring the issue.

Women's Fall Book Club* – 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Sept. 22, Oct. 6, 20, Young Adult Room (8). We will read "True to You" by Dr. Kathleen Smith, a guide on exploring our identity, values, and being your true self.

Gold Line Saxophone Quartet – 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 25, Sanctuary. This Los Angeles-based saxophone group merges the sounds of 19th century classical music with contemporary artists and pop/movie music from the 90s to today. Enjoy a brief pre-concert lecture at 6:15 p.m. Free admission.

Village Serves* – 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Sept. 26, Center of Grace (520 S Harrison St., Olathe, KS). Center of Grace is this year's Signature Mission. Let's demonstrate how Village cares for our neighbors by participating in a family-friendly volunteer day with them! We will participate in outdoor yard work, a deep clean of the community kitchen, conference room setup, and a tour of the campus.

Celebration Dominicana Fundraiser* – 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, Milburn Country Club. The Dominican Republic Medical Partnership (DRMP) of Village Church will host an evening of live music, dancing, food/drink and auction/raffle items all while supporting DRMP's mission of providing healthcare and education to underserved communities in the DR. Can't attend? Make a donation and help support this important work! Tickets are available in Friendship Hall or online.

Village Forum Sunday Morning Adult Class: "Psychology & Sociology of Conspiracy Theories" – 9:30-10:30 a.m. Sundays, Sept. 27-Oct. 11, Rooms 126/127. Dr. Leslie Dorough Smith of Avila University will guide us through a three-week study on why people are attracted to certain types of non-rational thinking.

VOCES8 Concert – 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 3, Sanctuary. Friends of Chamber Music presents VOCES8, the acclaimed British vocal ensemble. Their "Towards Paradise" program is a deeply reflective sacred tapestry tracing a spiritual journey through music of longing, faith, consolation, and peace. Tickets at chambermusic.org.

New Member Luncheon* – noon, Sunday, Oct. 4, Room 232/233. If you're interested in becoming a member of Village Church, you're invited to join us. Childcare will be available for this event.

Village Golf* – 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 13, Fred Arbanas Golf Course, KCMO. Cost is \$43 (over 60 yrs), \$50 (under 60 yrs), cart included (pay on arrival). Register by Oct. 5.

Barbie & Me: A Workshop on Perfectionism and Unpacking the Female Mindset* – 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, Friendship Hall. Holistic health coach Lauren Claflin of Compassion Fix will lead the conversation about the impact perfectionism has on women in today's world. All women are welcome! Childcare is available.

CURRENT SERMON SERIES

Words of Faith (June 28-Sept. 20). Words matter. How we speak about our faith matters. How we describe what it is we do and do not believe matters. In this summer's sermon series, our pastors will explore different words of faith that come to us from a variety of places—scripture, theology, culture—in hopes that we might broaden our vocabulary and deepen our faith.

Sept. 13	Joy - Rev. Maggie Johnson Phillips (<i>Kickoff Sunday</i>)
Sept. 20	Commandment - Rev. Zach Walker
Sept. 27	There's Just Us - Rev. Tom Are, Jr.
Oct. 4	Seeing with Prophetic Eyes - Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka (<i>World Communion Sunday</i>)

With gratitude, we give thanks for those who have made a pledge to the Here for Good Capital Campaign. Your generosity is a blessing and a meaningful step in strengthening the future of our church and its ministry. *Names are printed with permission.*

Carol and Tom Are
Dianne and Jim Deckert
Amy Harberts
Rev. Dr. Diane Janssen Hemmen
and Gregg Hemmen
Judy Lindberg
Mary and Andy Weed
Linda Houston
Lauren and Tom Mitchelson
Judi and Bill Walker

Barbara Jaekel and Bob Walsh
Carol Lynn and Jeff Ellis
Nancy and David Shuss
Nancy and Marc Cantril
Lana and Mark Peterson
Charlotte Davis
Alice Haseltine and Matt Baker
Rebecca and David Enslow
Sheree Murphy

Large print bulletins are available in the Narthex.

Streaming video of Sunday services is available at villagepres.org/online.

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).