

"Peacable Kingdom" John August Swanson

Service of Worship

Nov. 29, 2026 • 9 and 11 a.m.

Vol. 77

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

No. 48

Prelude — Dr. Elisa Bickers, organ

Words of Welcome — Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

Introit — *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*
arr. John A. Behnke; Village Voices (9 a.m.)

Sing We Noel!
arr. Vicki Tucker Courtney; More Love Chorale (11 a.m.)

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Today, we light the candle of hope. We hope in the coming of the Christ child. We hope in the arrival of the Light of the World.

We hope for a day that is more like God's vision for all people - one that chooses hope and abundance instead of fear and scarcity.

On this first Sunday of Advent, may this flame of hope be a prayer for the day when earth will be as it is in heaven.

Let heaven and nature sing!

*Hymn 144 — *In the Bleak Midwinter*

Prayer of Confession — Rev. Zach Walker

Faithful God, as we begin this season of Advent, we join the voices of generations who have prayed, "O come, O come, Emmanuel." We long for your presence among us, yet we confess that we do not always welcome you when you draw near.

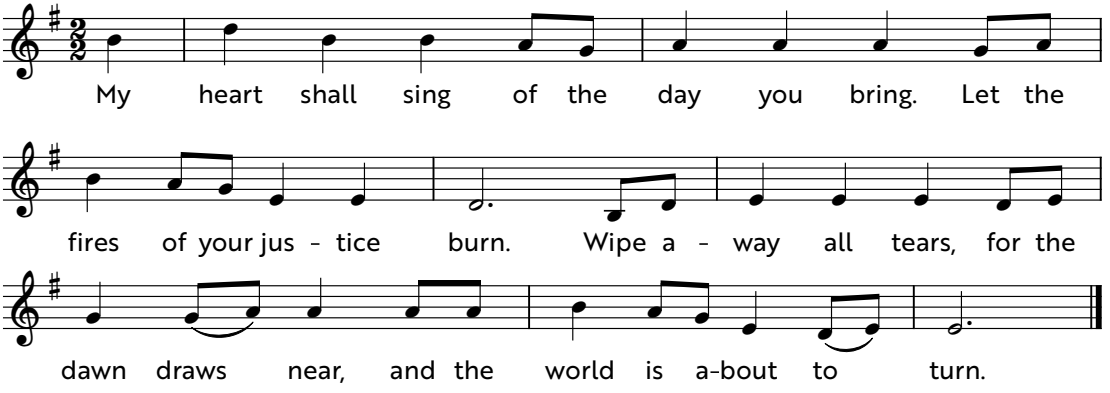
You come to bring wisdom, but we trust our own understanding. You come to establish justice, but we remain silent in the face of suffering. You come to set captives free, but we cling to the chains of fear, resentment, and sin. You come as the Dayspring from on high, yet we often choose the comfort of familiar shadows.

Forgive us, O God. When we are anxious, teach us to trust in your promises. When we are impatient, teach us to wait with hope. When we are distracted by the busyness of the season, turn our hearts toward your coming reign. When we are discouraged by the brokenness of the world, remind us that your light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Come, Emmanuel. Come to our homes and to our hearts. Come to your church and to your world. Come and renew us by your mercy. (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.)

Anthem (11 a.m.) — *How Far Is It to Bethlehem?* arr. David Cherwien; More Love Chorale

Prayer for Illumination — Barbara Jaekel (9 a.m.); Elizabeth McKell (11 a.m.)

Scripture — Isaiah 11:1-10 (p. 627)

Sermon — *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Hymn No. 88)*

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

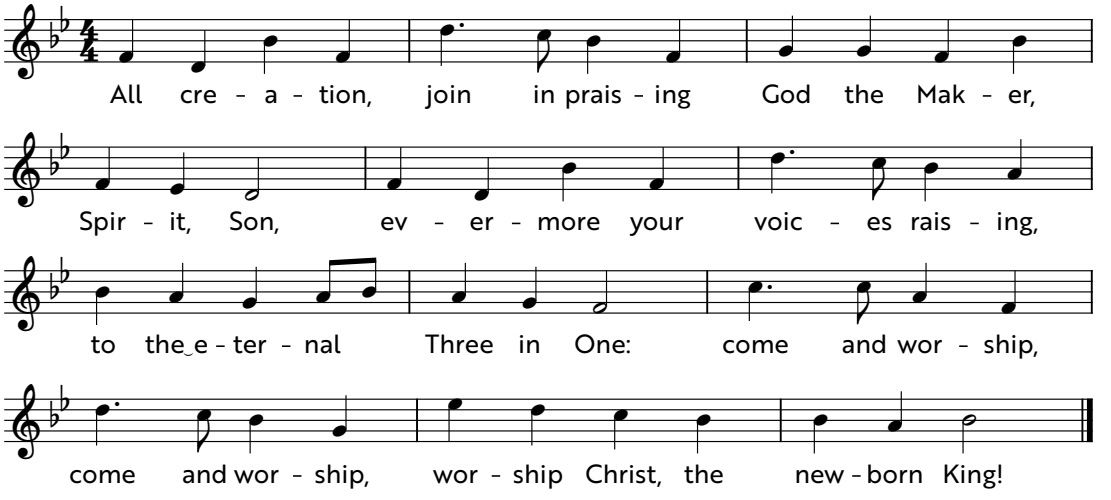
Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer — Rev. Maggie Johnson Phillips

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 — *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*
arr. Richard DeLong; Village Choir

*Sung Response



*Prayer of Dedication

GOD'S PEOPLE ARE SENT

*Hymn 105 — *People, Look East*

*Benediction

*Benediction Response (Hymn 88, st. 7)

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*Postlude — *Finale* on "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme"
(Sleepers come awake! A voice astounds us.)
by Emma Lou Diemer

**All who are able may stand*

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior pastor
Rev. Maggie Johnson Phillips, pastor for young adults and worship arts
Rev. Zach Walker, pastor for mission
Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist and co-director of music ministry
Dr. Joshua Maize, co-director of music ministry
Jan Cohick, accompanist
Helen Hofmeister, music associate

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.	Rooms 301-307
CHILDCARE			
NURSERY	Infants-23 mo	9 and 11 a.m.	Room 109
	24 mo-4 yrs	9 and 11 a.m.	Room 107

WEDNESDAYS@VILLAGE

Thank you for joining us this fall! We had a great time connecting and learning together. So grateful! We'll resume on Feb. 3—more details and menus will be available soon.



Lighthouse (Sunday School)

Preschool kids are learning that celebrating God isn't just for Sunday—we can praise God and share our joy wherever we are, every day of the week! Elementary kids are learning that God gives us hope and that we can trust God to be with us through all of life's ups and downs!

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 3rd floor classrooms (listed above). If your child changes their mind 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!

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 – The holiday season is in full swing. It's prime baking time! We'd love to be able to provide folks with shelf-stable baking essentials: cake and cookie mixes, flour, sugar, oil, flavorings, etc. would be greatly appreciated.

Purchase a poinsettia in memory of a loved one who has passed away by visiting villagepres.org/poinsettias. You may also send a check to the church if you wish (please include a note with memorial names). Poinsettias are $15. All proceeds help fund our ministry of giving poinsettias to homebound members during the holidays. The last day to donate and have your loved one's name(s) included in the Christmas Eve bulletin is Friday, Dec. 4.

Operation Breakthrough needs volunteers to help with year-round math and literacy tutoring program (one hour/week). Email zach.walker@villagepres.org to get connected.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pick up for Troops 91 and 91G holiday greenery – 8:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. and 3:30-5:30 p.m., Sundays, Nov. 29 and Dec. 6. Cash or check is accepted. Email childrens-family@villagepres.org with questions.

Just Show Up – 10 a.m., Dec. 1, Country Club Christian Church (6101 Ward Parkway, Kansas City) Room 205. That's the topic for this week's Faith and Grief gathering. Bridget Baker will share how her mother's example and the scripture's story of Ruth and Naomi can show us how showing up for one another becomes a healing act, especially in seasons of grief. Parking available behind the Chapel located on 61st Street.

Village U: WWJD: What Was Jesus Doing?* – 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesdays, Dec. 1-15, Rooms 132/133, Mission Campus. Join Dr. Bradley Chance as he explores WWJD from a different angle: What was Jesus doing then and what can we do now? Given the season, this course will also explore birth narratives to see how they provide "overtures" to the mission of Jesus.

Grief Support Group – 6 p.m., Tuesday Dec. 1, Room 232. All are welcome at the monthly Grief Support Group, facilitated by a Prairie Sky counselor. Find comfort, support and care with others who are also grieving.

Service of Comfort and Hope – 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 2, Chapel. The holidays can be heavy with the griefs we carry: for empty seats at the table, for loved ones far away, and loved ones long gone. In this evening service, we will reflect,

pray, and hold space for the Light of the World to shine in our darkness. Childcare will be available.

Village Voices and Village Youth Christmas Caroling* – 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5. Participants will travel around the surrounding neighborhoods, with a lunch break at Minsky's halfway through. Register online; no payment is required!

Advent Family Workshop* – 2-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, Friendship Hall. Don't miss our traditional family activity to prepare for the birth of Jesus. There will be crafts for all ages, cookie decorating, and more. Register by Nov. 29.

Young Adults Christmas Party – 7-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, SERV (9051 Metcalf). Wear your favorite seasonal outfit and join us for fellowship and holiday merriment. We'll have food, games, and a pickleball court, so come join the fun!

Village U: The Faith Journey – 10:10-10:50 a.m. Sundays in December, Room 124, Mission Campus. We will examine lessons of peace, love, patience, and kindness from the book "Jesus & Buddha: The Parallel Sayings" by Marcus J. Borg (2022), looking for similarities demonstrating that we are more alike than different.

Star Family Drop Off Next Week – If you sponsored a family through Operation Breakthrough, bring donations to the south lot next Sunday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m. There's also time to sponsor a holiday meal for a family of four for $50. Write checks to Village Church with "Star Family" in the memo.

New Member Luncheon* – noon Sunday, Dec. 6, Room 232/233. If you're interested in becoming a member of Village Church, you're invited to join us. Childcare is available.

Women's Advent Celebration* – 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9. Begin the Advent season with "Seasons for Simple Songs" keynoted by Dr. Elisa Bickers. Reception: 6-7 p.m., Welcome Center. Program: 7 p.m., Sanctuary. Event is free. Childcare is available when you register by Dec. 1.

2nd Thursday Recital: Trio Fontana – 12:15 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 10, Chapel. Please join us for a noontime recital with a short reception afterward in the Welcome Center to meet the artists. Free admission.

Seniors Afternoon – 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Room 230. Enjoy games and social time with other seniors. Bring your own board games, learn to play canasta, and spread the word! Questions: carol.solenberger@villagepres.org

Children's Christmas Musical: *Angels, Lambs, Ladybugs and Fireflies* – during morning worship, Sunday, Dec. 13, Sanctuary. We all know the nativity story, but have you ever heard it from the perspective of God's littlest creatures? Hear the story as told by the animals, insects, and birds that did their part to help spread the good news of Jesus' birth!

26th Annual Tidings of Joy Christmas Concert – 3 and 6 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13, Sanctuary. Featuring Village Choirs and Kansas City Wind Symphony. Free admission; a free-will offering will be collected to benefit our 2026/2027 Signature Mission, Center of Grace. Childcare is available for ages 6 weeks through 6 years.

CURRENT SERMON SERIES

Advent: Songs in a Time of Waiting (Nov. 29- Dec. 20). The season of Advent is a time of waiting, preparation, and transformation. As we anticipate the birth of Jesus Christ, we get ready by engaging in the spiritual disciplines of waiting and rejoicing, reflection and preparation, and conversion and turning. We will explore these disciplines through the gifts of three Advent hymns.

Nov. 29	**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**
Dec. 6	For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits
Dec. 13	Children's Musical and Tidings of Joy
Dec. 20	My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

ABOUT VILLAGE CHURCH

Village Church is a Presbyterian (USA) family of faith committed to thoughtful worship, Christian formation of children and adults, and caring for another, our community, and the world. We are one church worshiping each Sunday at two locations: the Antioch Campus in Overland Park and the Mission Campus in Prairie Village. Our third campus, the Meneilly Center for Mission at 99th & Mission Rd. in Overland Park, includes the Food Pantry & Clothes Closet and the Child & Family Development Center that serve the surrounding community.

Add someone to the prayer list – congregational-care@villagepres.org

Register for classes and events – villagepres.churchcenter.com/registrations

Find volunteer and service opportunities – villagepres.org/serve

Interested in joining Village Church? – villagepres.org/membership

Get Village Church news and updates – villagepres.org/news

Facebook **@villagepres** • Instagram **@villagepreschurch**

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).

Village Presbyterian Church (USA) • villagepres.org
Mission Campus: 6641 Mission Rd. Prairie Village, KS 66208 • 913-262-4200
Antioch Campus: 14895 Antioch Rd. Overland Park, KS 66221 • 913-681-8180