When John the Baptist sends his disciples to ask Jesus if he really is the Messiah, Jesus responds by saying, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight…” The gospels tell of four times when Jesus helps the blind to see. The Bible passage today is unique in that it seems to take two tries for Jesus to heal the blind man. It appears that Jesus really wants people to see. So, as we begin our sermon series titled “Why Can’t We Get Past This? Racism in American Culture and The Church,” we explore what it means to truly see one another as God created us…with all our beauty and brightness and with all our difference and diversity.
Prelude

Praeludium in G Major (8 a.m.)
by Nicholas Bruhns

Resurrexi (9:30, 11 a.m.)
by William Byrd; Village Brass

Words of Welcome
Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

Introit (11 a.m.)

Send Down the Fire
by Marty Haugen; Village Voices

Call to Worship

We come here today to worship as one in Christ.

How very good and pleasant it is
when brothers and sisters live together in unity.

We are confident and united in our love for God.

You, Lord, are a shield around us,
the one who lifts up our heads.

When we are united in You we find each another’s humanity.

It is God who sustains us,
and it is in God that we find our identity.

*Hymn, No. 33

Praise the Lord! God’s Glories Show

*Prayer of Confession

God of Grace and Glory,
We confess that we have many faults
and yet do not take action to correct them.

There are issues we can’t seem to get past
for reasons that feel complex and daunting.

We fall short of who You call us to be.
When we ignore Your call to honor the dignity of others,
forgive us.

When we deny the promises of Your grace to ourselves or others,
forgive us.

Help us to remember that all lives are precious.
Remind us that while our mistakes shape us,
they do not have to define us. (Silent prayer)

*Assurance of God’s Grace
**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

The Welcome of the Confirmation Class (11 a.m.)

Call to Prayer

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

*Response

*Passing of the Peace

**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.
Anthem

*The Music of Creation*

music: Shelton Ridge Love; The Village Choir

For the music of creation, for the song Your Spirit sings,
For Your sound’s divine expression, burst of joy in living things:
God, our God, the world’s composer, hear us, echoes of Your voice.
Music is Your art, Your glory; let the human heart rejoice! All creation will rejoice!

Psalms and symphonies exalt You, drum and trumpet, string and reed.
Simple melodies acclaim You, tunes that rise from deepest need,
Hymns of longing and belonging, carols in a cheerful voice,
Lilt of lullaby and love song catching heaven with a note.

All the voices of the ages in transcendent chorus meet;
Worship lifting up the senses; hands that praise and dancing feet.
Over discord and division music speaks Your peace.

Harmony of earth and heaven, song of God that cannot cease.
All creation joins to sing. Amen!

Prayer for Illumination

Jim Borthwick (8 a.m.)
Kevin Hennessy (9:30 a.m.)
Elizabeth McKell (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Mark 8:22-26 (pg. 918)

Sermon

"I Just See People"  
Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn, No. 759*

O God, We Bear the Imprint
TODOS LOS COLORES

Offertory

How Can I Keep from Singing (8 a.m.)
arr. Richard Walters; Roslinde Rivera & Karli Cabrera

Wade in the Water (9:30, 11 a.m.)
arr. Kenneth Abeling; Village Brass

*Response (from Hymn, No. 15)*

All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam,
Sing praises! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn, No. 339  
_Lift Every Voice and Sing_  
*LIFT EVERY VOICE*

*Benediction*

*Benediction Response  
_Amen_  
by John Rutter

*Postlude  
_Xacara (8 a.m.)_  
by Martin y Col

_Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho (9:30, 11 a.m.)_  
arr. Kenneth Abeling; Village Brass

*All who are able may stand  
© A-705103 for all hymns

CHECK OUT "THE VOICES WE KNOW" DISPLAY

Come spend some time in the Welcome Center to learn more about important voices in the race conversation. On the west wall, between the windows, are “The Voices We Know.” Their wise words have been painted on maps of Kansas City to remind us that our actions always have impact on our neighbors. On the east wall are “The Voices We Should Know,” biographical profiles of leaders in this community who have challenged the structures of society that support racial biases. These displays were created by the Liturgical Arts Committee.

MUSIC NOTES

Today we give thanks for the time and talents of our Village Choir and Village Brass as they conclude a wonderful year of music ministry. The Village Brass rehearses weekly on Wednesday nights and, in addition to playing monthly in Sunday morning worship, played for this year’s Christmas Eve and Easter services. The Village Choir rehearses weekly on Thursday nights, and sings most Sundays from September through May. Highlights of the 2018-19 concert season included "The Peacemakers," which benefitted Frontera de Cristo, "Tidings Of Joy," which benefitted the Sherwood Center, as well as several special services for Advent and Lent.
Monday, May 20  
Romans 3:21-24; Romans 11:22
Christ’s love is for everyone and he calls all believers righteous. Christ came to destroy divisions, which is why the verse says there is no difference between Jews or Gentiles. God is kind to us and we should follow that example. How can you share kindness with all people?

Tuesday, May 21  
Isaiah 41:10-13
These verses assure us of God’s presence and encourage us to trust God. Isaiah promises that God will protect us from those who are against us. Though God will not remove our pain, God promises to always be with us. God tells us not to be afraid. This week think about how God will be there to help you face your fears.

Wednesday, May 22  
Mark 6:45-52
These verses once again discuss our fear and God’s presence. We are often afraid of the unknown. This story shows us that Christ is often in the unknown. Jesus tells us not to be afraid. When things are unknown and uncertain, trust God and look for where Christ is there to surprise you.

Thursday, May 23  
Genesis 1:1-2
The Trinity is an important part of Christian faith. In the very first chapter, first verse of the Bible, the spirit of God is depicted. As believers, it is comforting to know the Spirit of God lives inside of us.

Friday, May 24  
John 13:21-28
Jesus knows Judas will betray him, yet this knowledge did not alter his plan. He wasn’t fearful. He also forgave Judas. Jesus demonstrated his faith in God’s plan even in the most difficult of times.

Saturday, May 25  
Galatians 3:26-29
Our church welcomes all equally. All that is required is an interest in a relationship with God. We are accepting and welcoming to everyone, but what are some things you can do to show that this is true?

In addition to writing these daily devotions, the 2019 Confirmation Class also composed the Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession for today’s worship service.

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE DAILY BIBLE READINGS EMAILS  
Subscribe now at www.villagepres.org/subscribe. Emails arrive first thing in the morning Monday through Saturday.
Welcome Village Church Confirmands!

The Session welcomed 33 confirmands on Monday, May 6, as the newest members of Village Church.

Introducing the Confirmation Class of 2019:

Emily Attebery, Willa Battey, Alex Blickhan, Aiden Brown, Emma Brown, Sam Demetriou, Kate Early, Annie Elmore, Ella Hans, Jackson Jacobs, Sam Krenzel, Olivia Lischer, Ben Luetje, Barrett McKee, Lucas Mercer, Maggie Merckens, Lucy Minor, Josie Mitchell, Jack Muller, Spencer Newton, Sydney Newton, Margaret Nottberg, Blake Nunnelee, Katie Parks, James Schipfer, Blake Sowden, John Spencer, George Stallard, Finn Sullivan, Sienna Sun, Sophie Sun, Darwin Torrance, Rob White and Molly Wright.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND
“RESILIENCY OF THE CAREGIVER”

A Stephen Ministry Retreat
with Guest Speaker
Rev. Dr. Bill Harkins

9 a.m.-noon Saturday, June 1

Friendship Hall at Village on Mission

As a caregiver, how do you keep healthy and resilient? Rev. Dr. Bill Harkins of Columbia Theological Seminary in Atlanta will lead the seminar on “Resiliency of the Caregiver.” He is a licensed marriage and family therapist and nationally recognized pastoral counselor. The retreat is free.

Email linda.alley@villagepres.org to register.
TODAY AT VILLAGE

WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH! Please join us every week. Refreshments are available in Friendship Hall following the worship service.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL TODAY are given to the Glory of God in memory of Mary Ann Mook and Jerome B. Mook by Michelle Mook.

NEW TO US? Village Presbyterian Church is a family of faith actively shaped by the life of Christ to love one another, providing leadership for the transformation of our communities and serving the world. We are a Presbyterian (USA) family of faith that is inclusive, generous and welcoming of all people. Village is one church worshiping at two campuses: Village on Mission (6641 Mission Road in Prairie Village) and Village on Antioch (14895 Antioch Road in Overland Park). If you would like a tour of Village on Mission, contact Cindy Wilcox at cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org or 913-671-2331.

JOINING VILLAGE CHURCH – Village welcomes new members every other month at a special Sunday luncheon. Join us June 2, Aug. 4, Sept. 29 and Dec. 8. Contact cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org for info.

WORSHIP BAGS are available for children to enjoy during worship. Please return the bags to the baskets located in the Narthex at the end of the worship service.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

PLAYWRIGHTS CIRCLE OF GREATER KANSAS CITY – 6:30-8 p.m. on the first and third Wednesday of each month in Room 133. Do you ever ponder writing a screenplay? Why not try? We can help you. Learn along with us, your local writers. Playwrights Circle meets to share and contribute to our works in progress: plays, screenplays, short stories and other prose. Contact Vivian Wilkerson at vivian@wilkwest.com or 913-432-2295 for more information.

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday classes include:

FAITH JOURNEY – We’re discussing “Unbelievable: Why Neither Ancient Creeds Nor the Reformation Can Produce a Living Faith Today” by John Shelby Spong. Today is our last class before summer break. Facilitated by Kathy Ray. Room 230.

GROWING TOGETHER – Each week, we are growing together in faith by digging into the stories behind the Apostle Paul’s letters. You are invited to drop in for a mixture of video content and group discussion as we bring alive the stories of the New Testament. Facilitated by Lawrence Andre. Room 124.

VILLAGE FORUM – Today, we continue the series, “From Evil to Grace” led by Rev. Dr. John P. Borden. The series looks at our understanding of and beliefs about evil and how God’s grace embraces us in spite of evil. The time will be spent exploring the scope of grace. Please join us for our annual wrap-up potluck/brunch and planning session next Sunday, May 26. Rooms 126 and 127.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

ALL SERVICES–CHILD CARE – Infants to 4-year-olds are welcome in Rooms 114, 111 and/or 107.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:25-10:30 a.m. – 2 to 4-year-olds/Pre-K—Preschool Sunday School meets on the first floor. Registration and age specific room assignments are posted outside Room 107. K-6th grade—Kids’ Kingdom Sunday school meets on the third floor. Registration and grade specific room assignments are posted outside Room 307. Room information is also posted outside Room 207.
SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL "SUNDAY FUNDAYS" – Join us this summer during the 9:30 a.m. service as kids in elementary school explore how to be good neighbors. We will complete service projects, participate in fun and applicable art projects, play games and figure out ways to live out our faith with those around us. Our service efforts will focus on three local non-profits, one for each month: Operation Breakthrough, the Healing Chair (a wonderful resource for breast cancer surgery recovery) and the Ronald McDonald House. It's summer... so wear your shorts, t-shirts and flip flops... we are going to do our best to get messy! Sunday Funday starts June 2 and runs through Aug. 11.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER APPRECIATION – We appreciate everyone who spends time with the children of Village! We are celebrating you! Come by the third floor Sunday school hallway for breakfast treats, coffee and a little gift at 8:45 a.m. today.

JOIN OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHING TEAM FOR THIS FALL! Will you consider joining our team of amazing volunteers who teach Sunday school? Whether you are young or old, married or single, new to Village or you’ve been here for many years, we are confident we have a spot that is uniquely perfect for YOU. Contact Brooke Latas at brooke.latas@villagepres.org or 913-671-2355.

BAPTISMS and NEW BABIES – The next baptism dates are July 21 and Sept. 15. An education class is offered for members who are new to Village baptism. Share news of your new baby so we can welcome your new arrival with a gift. Call 913-671-2350 or email kate.ruecker@villagepres.org.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

LET’S GO ROYALS – You’re invited to join the Village Church group to watch the Kansas City Royals take on the Minnesota Twins at 7:10 p.m. Tuesday, June 11. The charter bus leaves the Village Church on Mission south parking lot at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are $40 each and include the cost of the bus ride to and from the stadium. To reserve your seat, contact Liz Middleton at 913-671-2359 or liz.middleton@villagepres.org.

VILLAGE GOLF OUTING – Do you like a casual golf outing? Then, these outings are for you. The monthly outings are a four-person scramble format that run through October. All are invited. You do not need to be a member of Village Church. The next outing is at Prairie Highlands on Tuesday, June 11, with 8 a.m. Tee Time. RSVP by June 1 to Brad Steil at 913-469-5683 or bradsteil@everestkc.net.

MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY – The Food Pantry continues to ask for a variety of canned vegetables - spinach, beets, diced tomatoes, assorted beans, etc. Each family selects a minimum of six cans each month, your generosity provides them with the variety they like. The Clothes Closet is asking for children's Bibles, Bible story books and inspirational books for children. And, of course, they continue to ask for spring clothing in all sizes-clean and gently used.

MUSIC MINISTRY

TE DEUM CHAMBER CHOIR CONCERT – “Cathedral Classics” at 3 p.m. next Sunday, May 26, in the Village on Mission Sanctuary. Focusing on familiar music designed for the warm of acoustics of the world's greatest cathedrals, the audience will experience a cappella classics by Barber, Gorecki, Britten, Schnittke, Pärt, Walton and more. Tickets are $15 a person (available at the door or at te-deum.org) Child care will be provided with a reservation by today. Te Deum is a member of the Village Church Arts Alliance.

NEEDING A VOLUNTEER ACCOMPANIST – The Hallelujah Chorus, grades 3-6, is looking for a volunteer accompanist for the 2019-20 school year. The chorus rehearses from 10:30-11 a.m. Sundays between the second and third morning services on the second floor of the education building. The Hallelujah Chorus sings monthly in worship. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please contact Will Breytspraak at william.breytspraak@villagepres.org.
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

WOMEN WITH SPIRIT (WWS) – 5-7 p.m. Sunday, June 2. Chicken N Pickle Family Event at Chicken N Pickle (1761 Burlington St., Kansas City, Missouri). Email shelbykrumm@yahoo.com for additional details and to RSVP for the event. It is $10 per family to cover the cost for the reserved pickle ball courts.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Young Adult Ministry is for all people in their 20’s and 30’s.

THEOLOGY THURSDAYS – 7 p.m. this Thursday with the series “Let’s Talk About Race.” We’re reading the book “White Fragility” together, and discussing the sin we can’t seem to shake. We meet on the 3rd floor (Upper Room). Sign up required for this series at VillagePresYA.org/thursdays.

YOUTH MINISTRY

STUDY BREAK TONIGHT – High schoolers, join us in the youth loft for snacks and pizza at 6:30-8 p.m. tonight. Stay for a little bit or for a while! Take a break from studying, grab some grub and see some friendly faces before you get back to the grind. And good luck in the last week of school!

YOUTH WEEK – All youth who have completed grades 6-12 are invited to join us for any of the following events: T-Bones game, Worlds of Fun, volunteering at the Village Food Pantry, hammocking at Loose Park, Powerplay and Chicken N Pickle. Forms and details are available outside the youth offices and at villagepresyouth.org.

WEEKLY SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMS BEGIN JUNE 9

Sunday School – Youth Sunday school is on Summer break now. Youth are invited to attend worship with their families or assist with children’s Sunday Funday (Sunday School) beginning June 2.

HS Gathersaurus – 5 p.m. Sundays – Join us Sunday evenings at the Gathering worship service and then walk down to the Village shops with us to talk about what we just heard. Can’t make the Gathering? That’s okay! Meet us at the Village and we’ll catch you up. Dinosaur accessories encouraged.

MS Evenings – 7-9 p.m. Mondays – Middle school adventure night. Sometimes we’ll play games at the church, sometimes we’ll go places. Always meet in the Youth Loft.

HS Late Nite – 8-10 p.m. Tuesdays – High school fellowship night. Different activities each week, sometimes at Village and sometimes out. Always meet in the Youth Loft.

MS Service Day – 12:30-4:30 p.m. Wednesdays – Come serve our city in a different way each week.

HS Run Club – 8-9 a.m. Thursdays – Come get a morning run in. Any level of experience is welcome with longer and shorter runs (and walks) each week.

Discover Village Information Center

A place for you to connect, ask questions and share conversation about your life in the Village Church community. We now offer two locations with hosts available every Sunday morning between worship services to share friendship and a cookie.

North location – Welcome Center reception desk at north entrance
South location – south end of Friendship Hall
Summer Worship Schedule Begins Next Sunday, May 26

Sunday Worship Services at Village on Mission
  9:30 and 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary
  5 p.m. The Gathering in Friendship Hall

Sunday Worship at Village on Antioch
  10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Our radio broadcast on 1660 AM, KMBZ the Business Channel, will be a recorded broadcast of the previous Sunday's service starting Sunday, June 2.

The Village Cup starts its summer schedule Sunday, May 26.

Summer hours are:
  8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Sunday
  8 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Thursday
  8 a.m.-noon Friday

Your Endowment Trust is at Work

Here are some highlights of special ministries and programs that were made possible through the Endowment Trust Legacy Funds so far in 2019:

- Facilities Legacy Fund - Village on Antioch Narthex redo
- Food Pantry Legacy Fund - Purchasing of food for the Village Food Pantry
- Adult Program Legacy Fund - The Feast Spirituality Project, Liz Longley Concert, Discover Your Calling Leadership
- Seminars Legacy Fund - Stephen Ministry Continuing Education, Meneilly Visiting Scholar
- Mission Legacy Fund – Village on Antioch operating expenses
CURRENT SERMON SERIES

Why Can’t We Get Past This?
Racism in American Culture and The Church

From the first days of the American experiment racism has been woven into the fabric of our nation. Over the years, so much has changed. Yet, racism remains a burden in our culture. We tend to think of racism in very personal terms, like language or insults or belittling attitudes that result from bias. It is that. But racism is dangerous when such bias is empowered by the structures of society. Some have called racism “America’s original sin.” Rev. Tom Are and Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka will share a sermon series to lift up what they see about this important social and spiritual struggle.

May 19  Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka Preaching:  "I Just See People"
      May 26  Rev. Tom Are Preaching:  It’s Not About You. It’s About Us.
      June 2  Revs. Tom Are and Rodger Nishioka:  It’s Not Just About Us. It’s About Me.

Following the conclusion of the sermon series, both Revs. Are and Nishioka invite the congregation to a “sermon talk-back” conversation from 7-8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 4, at Village on Antioch, and from 7-8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 5, in Friendship Hall at Village on Mission. The two will field questions and welcome insights and concerns.

MINISTERS
All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Tom Are, Jr., senior pastor  Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist
Will Breytspraak, director of music  Rev. Becky Chamberlain, interim pastor of pastoral care
Rev. Dr. Brandon Frick, site pastor of Village on Antioch  Rev. Hallie Hottle, pastor of young adult ministry
Brooke Latas, director of children and family ministry  Marjean Lindquist, director of child care
Kathy Lueckert, director of finance and administration  Rev. Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate pastor
Matthew C. Shepard, associate director of music  Molly Sirridge, director of stewardship and endowments
Rev. Zach Walker, pastor of youth ministries  Deborah White, director of mission
Cindy A. Wilcox, director of connectional ministries  Rev. Sally Wright, interim pastor of pastoral care
Rev. Dr. Robert H. Meneilly, pastor emeritus

Large print bulletins are available in the Narthex. Ask an usher to bring you one.

Streaming video of all the Sunday morning Sanctuary services is available at villagepres.org.
Click the home page link “Live Sermon and Sermon Archives.”
The Sanctuary worship service is broadcast live at 8 a.m. on 1660 AM KMBZ, The Business Channel.
We kindly request that cell phones be turned off during worship.
Please note that additional parking is available across Mission Road in the Prairie School parking lots.
If you are not taking your bulletin with you, please hand it to an usher so it may be recycled.

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