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## SERVICE OF WORSHIP

July 16, 2017 • 9:30 and 11 a.m.

### ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

You may remember that Paul was not among Jesus' disciples during the time of Jesus' ministry. Paul met Christ on the Damascus Road. In our text today, Paul tells that story. It's the third time in the book of Acts that we read the story of Paul's rather dramatic conversion. In each telling, the details vary a bit. Were Paul interviewed by the officers on *Law and Order*, they would grow suspicious about the veracity of this story, because the details keep shifting. But this story serves a much larger purpose than simply telling us what happened. The most important stories in our lives always do.

# GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Prelude

*Morning*

from the *American Suite* by Bill Holcombe; Mission Brass Quintet

Call to Worship

Rev. Len Carrell

Let us remember the story:

He was born in manger straw as the world made no room for him.

**He spoke of seeds and weeds and surprisingly good Samaritans,  
teaching all who would listen of the Kingdom of God.**

He lifted up the lowly, treated the poor with dignity, and forgave the sinful.

**When his love threatened the ways of this world,  
he took up his own cross and he refused to let hatred change his heart.**

So, God raised him from the dead

and now Christ lives with God and at times he lives in us.

**This is the story of Jesus Christ,  
and this is our story.**

Let us remember again this story of good news.

\*Hymn, No. 401

*Here in This Place*  
GATHER US IN

\*Prayer of Confession

**Great and glorious God,  
we confess not only our sin, but also our fear:**

**for violence is strong,  
poverty is dehumanizing,  
so many are lonely,  
and too many are afraid.**

**Great and glorious God,  
let us not be content to complain,  
but let love cast out our fear,  
and inspire us to live toward your promised day.** (Silent prayer)

\*Assurance of God's Grace

\*Response

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

\*Passing of the Peace

Words of Welcome

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Time with Children

The Sacrament of Baptism

Hymn, No. 482

*Baptized in Water*

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, Marked with the sign of Christ, our King;  
Born of the Spirit, we are God's children, Joyfully now God's praises we sing.**

Prayer for Illumination

Sandy Wells (9:30 a.m.); Janice Gill (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading

Acts 26:9-18 (pg. 1020)

Sermon

*Have I Told You This Story Before?*

Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

# RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Affirmation of Faith

from The Confession of Belhar

**We believe in the triune God who gathers, protects, and cares for the church.**

**We believe the church is one worldwide communion of saints  
called from the entire human family.**

**We believe that through the working of God's Spirit, unity is a binding force,  
and that we must seek this unity and make it visible.**

**We believe that the sin of division, separation, and hatred  
between people and groups has been conquered by Christ  
and must be resisted by the church.**

**We believe that God wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people,  
and that for as long as the world is full of injustice and enmity,  
God will be, in a special way,  
the God of the destitute, the poor, and the wronged.**

**To the one and only God be all honor and glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

\*Hymn, No. 720

*Jesus Calls Us*  
GALILEE

Offertory

*Come Down, O Love Divine*  
David Ashley White; The Summer Choir; Wayne Bates, trumpet (9:30 a.m.)

*Christ Ist Erstanden*  
by Michael Praetorius; Mission Brass Quintet (11 a.m.)

\*Response

**Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,  
you are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.  
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start.  
Sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn, No. 182

*I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*  
KINGSFOLD

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Response

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;  
look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."  
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk till traveling days are done.**

\*Postlude

*Rise Up, O Saints of God*  
by Williams and W. Walter, arr. Paul Edwards; Mission Brass Quintet

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

**Thank you to the Mission Brass Quintet for joining us in worship:**

Wayne Bates and Stan Chappell, trumpet  
Matthew LaMar, horn  
Matt Fillingham, trombone  
John Porter, bass trombone

# THE CHURCH'S BOOK (Week of July 17, 2017)

The following daily Bible readings were written by Rev. Len Carrell and are offered for your own personal devotion. You are invited to read the text, think about the reflection and questions and allow these to lead you in a time of prayer. Pray for your own journey of faith. Pray for Village Church and our mission. Pray for God's world.

## Monday, July 17

**Luke 3:1-22**

In the Gospels, it is clear that the practice of baptism is the "repentance for the forgiveness of sins." Here the people ask John, "What then should we do?" He instructs the crowds to make sure everyone has food and clothing. He directs the tax collectors to take only what is expected and fair. And to the soldiers he says, "Do not use power to threaten and extort." Are we able to still hear this call for repentance today to be sure all have adequate food and clothing? To not take more than is expected? To refrain from using power to threaten others for our own benefit?

## Tuesday, July 18

**Genesis 1:1-2**

The second line of Genesis 1 reads: "the earth was a formless void...while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters." The Hebrew word *ruach* means "wind, breath or spirit." It is not so much the essence of the wind or breath itself, but more so the power displayed in it. The creation story illustrates God's power to move over the water in order to create space for new life to emerge. Through God's *ruach*, the water possesses more than just a cleansing quality. It holds a creative and transforming quality as well.

## Wednesday, July 19

**Genesis 9:8-17**

In baptism, God claims us with a promise...to always remember us. Baptism is a covenant made by God that gives us our identity and our vocation. It is also a promise made to each other to live into our baptismal call to follow Jesus. After Noah and his family and all creatures survive the flood, God makes a covenant with all of creation. God promises to "never again" cut us off from relationship to God. The sign of that promise is the rainbow in the sky so that God "will see it and remember."

## Thursday, July 20

**Exodus 30:17-21**

God instructs Moses to make a bronze basin intended for washing in the tabernacle. Our baptismal font is a part of our weekly worship, even when there is no baptism. The font, or basin, has a particular place between the tent of meetings (where people gather), and the altar to bring offerings to God. It is the place where Aaron and his sons would wash before coming before God in worship. This text suggests that the font will be a "perpetual ordinance," a constant reminder of who we are and whose we are and the God whom we worship.

## Friday, July 21

**2 Kings 5:1-19**

Naaman was a "mighty warrior," but he suffered from leprosy. A young Israelite girl held as his captive tells him that a prophet in Samaria could cure him. Naaman goes to the house of Elisha to be healed, but Elisha sends a messenger to him saying, "Go wash in the river Jordan seven times." At first, Naaman becomes angry that Elisha did not come and "wave his hand" over him and cure him. After some persuasion, Naaman goes and washes and is healed. The power of healing is not in the prophet's touch. It is in God's power to heal, and our ability to trust God to be our healing power.

## Saturday, July 22

**Mark 1:4-8**

Through exploring the use of water and baptism in these readings this week, we learn something obviously true: that the practice of ritual cleansing, or baptism, has existed long before Christianity, even well before Jesus' life on earth. When we witness the baptism of the newest and smallest members of our community, let us remember our own baptism and God's promises -- that we are loved and beloved by the God of the universe and belong to God forever!

CELEBRATING OPUS 22

# *Pipe Organ*<sup>Village</sup> *Dedication*

**9:30 and 11 a.m. Worship Services  
Sunday, Aug. 6**

Please join us for Organ Dedication Sunday as we walk through the church year with congregational singing accompanied by Dr. Elisa Bickers on our completed pipe organ, Richards, Fowkes & Co. Opus 22.



## 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 loving memory of Mary Higdon by Ken Higdon and family.

**CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM TODAY** – Please welcome these newest members into our faith community as we celebrate the baptisms of the following children. **9:30 a.m.:** Gunnar Jacob Fox (Kelly and Preston Fox, parents); James Kenneth Harwell (Emille and Ryan Harwell, parents); Matilda Clare Chonko McInerney (Julie and Kieran McInerney, parents); and Oscar Robert Zeller (Stephanie and Kyle Zeller, parents). **11 a.m.:** Isla Annabel Pattison (Sally and Joe Pattison, parents).

**THE ROSES ARE ON THE COMMUNION TABLE** remind us to celebrate and welcome the birth of our newest little ones among the Village Community: Piper Erin Brune (Erica and Mike Brune, parents), Jack Pearce (John and Lindsay Pearce, parents) and Silas Boyd Walker (Rev. Zach Walker and Rev. Dr. Meredith Holladay, parents).

**WORSHIP BAGS** are available for children to use as tools in worship. Please return the bags to the baskets located in the Narthex at the end of the worship service.

## CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

**CHILDREN IN WORSHIP** – This summer, all children are welcomed and encouraged to sit with their families for the first 10 minutes of the worship service. During the 9:30 a.m. service, after Time with Children, elementary-age children are invited to meet teachers at the back of the Sanctuary to continue on in Sunday School, or to stay and keep worshipping with their families. **Parents of preschool-age children must check their child in on the 1st floor in the Preschool wing.**

**PRESCHOOL CHURCH SCHOOL** – Parents should check in their preschool-age child on the first floor in the Preschool wing. Church school classes are available at 9:30 and 11 a.m.

**BROADLY GRADED SUNDAY SCHOOL** – Children who have completed grades K-5th grade meet from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Room 203 (Creation Station) for a totally fun way to look at favorite Old Testament stories.

## ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

### Summer Adult Sunday Morning Class

**FAITH SEEKING UNDERSTANDING. CONVERSATIONS ON THE SERMON TEXT FOR ALL ADULTS** – Today and continuing each Sunday through Aug. 20, all adults are invited to study and discuss the Bible text for the day's sermon. The class welcomes persons who are new to the Bible as well as those who are more familiar with the Bible. Dr. Rodger Nishioka leads the class today and July 23. 10:45-11:45 a.m. in Rooms 126 & 127.

**NOW THAT YOU HAVE YOUR GOOGLE ID, WHAT DO YOU DO WITH IT?** – The Village Church Computer Ministry is hosting "water cooler sessions" on the first Wednesday of the month. Remaining sessions will be held on Aug. 2 and Sept. 6. Learn how the Google suite of products can be used to collaborate with others while doing God's work in the church and the community. Topics will include Gmail and InBox, Google Calendar, Google Docs, Google Spreadsheets, Google Drive and Google Keep. 6:30-8 p.m. in Room 316.

**WATCH FOR THE FALL 2017 VILLAGE U CATALOG ... COMING SOON!** Village Church is a learning community with a long commitment to providing opportunities for adults – young and older – to grow in knowledge and faith together. Registration for Village U 2017 fall term: Village Church members' registration begins at 9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 14. Community registration begins at 9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 21. You will be able to register online, by telephone, by fax or by email. Child care will be available for most classes for a one-time \$40 fee per child for the term; reservations required in advance. Some classes will have a small fee for materials and resources; the fees will be noted in the class listing.

## MISSION

**THE FOOD PANTRY** – From those of you who have "green thumbs" and an abundance of fresh produce, the Food Pantry's clients so appreciate your donations to the Pantry. 1-2 lb. bags of all varieties of rice or beans are also requested. Standard size brown paper grocery sacks are always needed. The Clothes Closet cannot get enough summer clothing this time of year - all sizes, cleaned and gently used. Thank you!

## PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

**IS YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE AS HIGH AS THE SUMMER TEMPERATURE?** – Come by the Bride's Room (Room 216) in between services and let the Village Nurses check your blood pressure.

**FAMILIES FOR MENTAL HEALTH MEETS THIS THURSDAY** – Join us for our annual "Christmas in July Celebration" at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 20, in Rooms 126 and 127. Dinner will be served and there will be fun for all!

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

**WOW LUNCH AT AIXOIS** – Women of Wisdom (WOW) invites all women to lunch at noon on Wednesday, July 19, at Aixois, a casual French restaurant at 251 East 55th St. in Kansas City, Mo, just north of the Brookside area. Parking is on the street or in a church parking lot directly across the street. Enjoy warm fellowship and pleasant dining at our last summer lunch before WOW's next event in September. RSVP by Tuesday, July 18, to Diane Lee at [dianelee@att.net](mailto:dianelee@att.net) or 913-432-4321.

## YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

**BIER AND BIBLE** – 7 p.m. Thursday night, KC Bier Company. We're talking about the gospel of Mark. With a short attention span, no need for "fluff," and a knack for political critique, this gospel was written for young adults (not really, but kind of). Let's read it together. Bring a Bible (Rev. Hallie would love to give you one if you ask!). Pizza provided.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES** – Meet us in the Youth Loft at 9:30 a.m. for Sunday School.

**CHAT AND CHILL** – High schoolers come hang out up in the youth offices each Monday from 10 a.m.-noon. It's relaxed, it's chill, and if you want to grab lunch afterward, that's cool, too!

**MIDDLE SCHOOL SERVICE DAY** – Every Tuesday this summer we will be hosting a middle school service day! Join us each week from 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. as we venture into the community to help where we can.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL MOVIES N' FOODIES** – Calling all middle schoolers! Come hang out with us Wednesdays 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Youth Loft. Movie, lunch and fun provided each week.

**HIGH SCHOOL LATE NITE** – Take a break from the week and join us from 8-10 p.m. Wednesdays for an evening of summer fellowship. New adventures planned each week!

## Guest Preacher Next Sunday, July 23

### Rev. Chris Henry, senior pastor of Shallowford Presbyterian Church in Atlanta

Chris grew up in North Carolina and has lived in Atlanta since 2004. He began his ministry at Shallowford Presbyterian Church in January of 2011. Chris is a graduate of Duke University and Columbia Theological Seminary. Upon graduation from seminary, Chris received five honors including the Wilds Book Prize, Columbia's highest academic honor; and the Harvard A. Anderson Graduate Fellowship. Chris' work has been published in the *Christian Century*, *Feasting on the Gospels*, *Journal for Preachers* and *Covenant Connection*. Chris is a member of Columbia Seminary's Board of Trustees and the NEXT Church Advisory Team.



His interest in learning from and serving others has taken him on spiritual pilgrimages and ministry partnership trips to Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Peru and the Iona Community in Scotland.

Chris is married to the Rev. Sara Hayden, who works as a national associate for the Presbyterian Mission Agency's 1001 New Worshiping Communities initiative ([onethousandone.org](http://onethousandone.org)). Sara and Chris are the parents of two sons: Samuel (three years old) and Benjamin (four months old).

## An Ordination Invitation



Mark your calendars for a special event taking place at The Gathering on Sunday, July 30. Owen Gray, a former youth and pastoral intern at Village, will be ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament during the 5 p.m. service. All are invited to attend the service of worship in Friendship Hall.

Owen grew up a child of Village. At Village he was baptized, attended preschool and Sunday School, was confirmed, preached his first sermons, served as pastoral intern after graduating from college, married his wife, Grace, and baptized their daughter, Ruth. Village was also Owen's congregation of care while he attended Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Va., from 2014 to spring 2017. "Village will always be home in a way," says Owen, "and I'm grateful that the congregation that has loved me my whole life can ordain me and send me out to do the work of the Church."

Owen has been called to serve at Second Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis as a Lake Fellowship resident. This residency lasts two years and blends a traditional associate pastor role with specific educational elements.

Village on Antioch

HOSTS

## Heartland Traveling Day Camp

**8:30 a.m - 4:30 p.m. | July 31 – Aug. 4**

For Kids K-6th Grade

Register at

**[villageantioch.org/summer-programs](http://villageantioch.org/summer-programs)**

Call 913-671-2355 for more information. For those wanting daily transportation to this camp from Village on Mission, we will provide a school bus, leaving promptly at 8 a.m. The bus will return to Village on Mission by 5 p.m. daily. Advance bus reservation required.

The Village Commitment committee wants to say "thank you" to those who faithfully support Village Church during the summer months! Some of you generously give each week through your envelopes and some of you go online to keep your gifts coming while you are enjoying your vacation – all of you are our faithful partners and we thank you! God's work continues through the summer here at Village! We have over 202 children attending summer camps. These camps offer a variety of classes including "Mission is Possible" where children do many various outreach projects such as cleaning a neighborhood park, delivering meals to shut-ins, work in the community garden and food drives for the Village Church Food Pantry. Every year, children who otherwise would not be able to afford to participate in a camp, receive scholarships to attend. Your generosity is at work! Thank you!

—Village Commitment Committee



VILLAGE  
COMMITMENT

## SERMON SERIES

### Living Unafraid In a Frightening World

When Easter was over and the world got back to normal, some recognized there was a new normal now. The world today is a place of crosses. Bodies fail and hearts break, systems and structures crush the powerless. There is enough in this world to scare you to death. But Jesus is alive now—there is a new normal. Jesus is alive now, so we can live, even in this world, as a people who are living unafraid in a frightening world.

April 30	Act 1:6-11	You Shall Be My Witnesses
May 7	Acts: 7	Carry This Story With You
May 14	Acts 9:36-43	We All Need Dorcas in Our Lives
May 21	Acts 9:1-19	Being Converted to Christ Every Day
May 28	Acts 6:1-7	Now Hiring
June 4	Acts 2:1-13	Who Needs To Be There?
June 11	Acts 10	The Last Person I Thought I Would Need
June 18	Act 15	When God Shows Up At Your Meeting
June 25	Acts 20:7-12	A Lesson From Eutychus
July 2	Acts 15:36-41	Barnabas: Son of Encouragement
July 9	Acts 17:16-34	An Unknown God
<b>July 16</b>	<b>Acts 26:12-18</b>	<b>Have I Told You This Story Before?</b>
July 23	Genesis 28:10-19a	Dreaming in the Age of Anxiety; Rev. Chris Henry
July 30	Acts 28:23-30	It Doesn't Get Any Better Than This?

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## MINISTERS

All members of the congregation

## MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Thomas L. Are, Jr., senior pastor ❖ Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist ❖ Will Breytspraak, director of music  
Rev. Len Carrell, pastor of pastoral care ❖ Cheryl Couch-Thomas, director of children and family ministry  
Rev. Hallie Hottle, pastor of young adult ministry and bridge site pastor of Village on Antioch  
Marjean Lindquist, director of child care ❖ Kathy Lueckert, director of finance and administration  
Rev. Jenny McDevitt, pastor of pastoral care ❖ Dr. Rodger Nishioka, senior associate  
Matthew C. Shepard, associate director of music ❖ Molly Serridge, director of stewardship & endowments  
Rev. Zach Walker, pastor of youth ministries ❖ Deborah White, director of mission  
Cindy A. Wilcox, director of connectional ministries ❖ Rev. Dr. Robert H. Meneilly, pastor emeritus

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*Streaming video of all the Sunday morning Sanctuary services is available at [villagepres.org](http://villagepres.org).*

*Click the home page link "Live Sermon and Sermon Archives."*

*The Sanctuary worship service is rebroadcast the following Sunday at 8 a.m. on 1660 AM KMBZ, The Business Channel.*

*We kindly request that cell phones be turned off during worship.*

*Large-print Bibles and hymnals are available for worship. Ask an usher if you need these items.  
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.*