SERVICE OF WORSHIP
October 9, 2016 • 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

ABOUT TODAY’S SERVICE
Bartimaeus was a blind man. He pleads with Jesus to “let me see again.” There is often a difference between those who suffer physical blindness and those who suffer spiritual blindness. The physically blind know that there is something they cannot see. The spiritually blind fail to see clearly but assume they have perfect vision.
Call to Worship

In the east and the west, the north and the south, we need to see Jesus.

In crowded cities and in unmapped villages, we need to see Jesus.

The young and the old and all ages in between, we need to see Jesus.

The oppressed and the oppressors, the troublemakers and the peacemakers, we need to see Jesus.

Those who need change and those who resist change, we need to see Jesus.

Every day and especially this day, we need to see Jesus.

*Hymn, No. 318

In Christ There Is No East or West

ST. PETER

*Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, forgive us
when we know not what we are doing:
when we are too distracted to notice someone in need,
when we repeat generalizations that have been passed down to us,
when we deny that prejudice and privilege are real.

Merciful God, forgive us
when we know exactly what we are doing:
when we judge our neighbor rather than love them,
when we exclude someone because they are not like us,
when we are too tired for the hard work of choosing love.

Loving God, forgive us
and make us better than we have proven ourselves to be. (Silent prayer)

*Assurance of God’s Grace
PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Call to Prayer

*Response

*Passing of the Peace
Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

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
Amazing Grace
words: John Newton; music: Ryan Main; Village Choir and String Quartet

Prayer for Illumination
Carol Tucker (8 a.m.); Sandy Wells (9:30 a.m.); Pam Hanson (11 a.m.)

Scripture Reading
Mark 10:46-52 (pg. 922)

Sermon
Blind Spots
Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith from the Confession of 1967

God’s sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of our minds.
God created us to be in relationship.
God created us male and female and gave us life.
Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage.
We are free to live our lives within the purpose of God:
    to develop and protect resources for common welfare
    and to work for justice and peace in society.
God’s redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of our lives:
    social and cultural, economic and political,
    scientific and technological, individual and corporate.
Already God’s reign is present in the world, stirring hope in us.
With an urgency born of this hope,
    we apply ourselves to present tasks and strive for a better world.
*Hymn, No. 372
O for a World
AZMON

Offertory
Be Still My Soul
arr. Jay Richards; Jee-Yeun Kim, soprano (8 a.m.)

Be Thou My Vision
arr. Kay Lovingood; Village Brass (9:30, 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

Musical Offering (9:30 a.m.)
Glorious
words and music: Stephanie Mabey; arr. Masa Fukada;
Village Voices, Morning Stars, Kids Kingdom Singers, String Quartet

*Hymn, No. 339
Lift Every Voice and Sing
LIFT EVERY VOICE

*Benediction

*Response

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.

*Postlude

My lady Carey's dompe
by Anonymous (8 a.m.)

American Spirituals Medley
arr. Jerry Nowak; Village Brass (9:30, 11 a.m.)

*All who are able may stand
© A-705103 for all hymns
The following daily Bible readings was written by Rev. Jenny McDevitt and is an offering 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, Oct. 10

Acts 26:24-29

This text makes me laugh out loud. Festus accuses Paul, “You are out of your mind! Too much learning is driving you insane!” Paul replies, “I am not out of my mind; I am speaking the sober truth.” We belong to a tradition that thinks critically about our scripture and theology; we bring our hearts, souls, and minds to worship. What elements of your faith do you think about? What elements of your faith do you feel? Do you notice any patterns in your answers?

Tuesday, Oct. 11

Ephesians 6:10-20

“Put on the armor of God,” this text instructs us, almost as if our faith requires us to march into battle. Perhaps that was a more apt metaphor back when it was first used. Is it helpful for you today? If so, how? If not, what other metaphors are more helpful? Whatever the images, we are reminded that God both protects us from ultimate harm and challenges us to live boldly.

Wednesday, Oct. 12

Matthew 10:5-15

These instructions from Jesus are difficult. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cast out demons, take nothing with you. But perhaps the hardest is this: if you are not welcomed, shake the dust from your feet and move along. It sounds little, but we are hard-wired to want people’s love and acceptance and approval. Have you ever had to shake the dust from your feet? Has your faith ever influenced that decision? How might it?

Thursday, Oct. 13

Jeremiah 9:1-16

In the midst of our community-oriented sermon series, we come across Jeremiah saying, “Beware of your neighbors.” What might cause Jeremiah to speak this way? How do we hold on to both his words and Jesus’ exhortation to love our neighbors?

Friday, Oct. 14

2 Timothy 3:10-17

“Now you have observed [the whole of my life],” Paul writes to Timothy. This is a terrifying thought to me. I have my good days and my bad days; some days worthy of being observed and other days I’d prefer no one know about. What about you? Consider the last 24 hours. What in your life would you want others to emulate?

Saturday, Oct. 15

Luke 1:46-55

Mary’s Magnificat. For a time, various countries in Central America declared it illegal for these words to be read aloud. Why, do you think? What threat looms in these words? What life looms in these words?
ABOUT TODAY’S MUSIC

Today’s string quartet (9:30, 11 a.m.) is Matt Schiach and Laurel Schiach, violin; Bruce Williams, viola; Jenny Hull, cello.

The text of *Amazing Grace* was written by John Newton, an English slave trader, after surviving a violent storm off the coast of Ireland in 1748. Newton went on to quit the slave trade and become a member of the clergy. The song remains one of the most well-known in the world to this day. The open harmonies throughout this arrangement call to mind the early American shape note style in which the song was first introduced to the United States.

The Kids Kingdom Singers are all 4-6th grade children in Kids Kingdom. They have met for the last 15 minutes of Sunday School since September with Morning Stars director Jenny Hull and interim director of music, Ryan Main, to prepare for today’s worship. They join with Village Voices and Morning Stars to sing *Glorious*, a song about finding a place where you belong.

*Lift Every Voice and Sing* was publicly performed first as a poem as part of a celebration of Abraham Lincoln’s birthday on Feb. 12, 1900, by 500 school children at the segregated Stanton School in Jacksonville, Fla. Its principal, James Weldon Johnson, wrote the words to introduce its honored guest Booker T. Washington. The song is often referred to as the Black American National Anthem.

 Reserve your seats through the Kauffman Center at kauffmancenter.org or call their box office at 816-994-7222.
TODAY AT VILLAGE

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

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.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 91 ANNUAL HOLIDAY WREATHS AND GARLAND SALE - The Boy Scouts of Troop 91 are selling beautiful holiday wreaths and garland from 8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. today and Sunday, Oct. 23. This annual event is the main fundraiser for the Troop. Stop by one of the tables and choose from freshly made, long-lasting evergreen garlands, pine cones, centerpieces and wreaths for yourself, or to send as a gift. Greenery will be delivered to the church on Nov. 20 and 27. Your support is greatly appreciated.

TAIZÉ IS TONIGHT - Join us at 6:30 p.m. tonight for the Taizé worship service at the Village Church Child and Family Development Center, 9900 Mission Road, Overland Park. Come and calmly prepare for the week ahead – this service has beautiful music, prayer, contemplative silence and communion.

KANSAS CITY WIND SYMPHONY CONCERT TONIGHT - The first concert of the season, entitled “A Night at the Opera,” is at 7 p.m. tonight in the Village Church Sanctuary. Admission is free. Internationally known guest contralto, Qiulin Zhang, along with tenor Jacob Sentgeorge and baritone Ron Witzke, will perform selections from Carmen and other opera favorites.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

PRESCHOOL CHURCH SCHOOL – Parents may 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.

KIDS’ KINGDOM – K–1st GRADE new curriculum! Kindergarten meets in Room 311. First Grade meets in Room 303. 9:30-10:30 a.m. 2nd–5th GRADES – Sign-in elementary (2nd-5th) aged students on the 3rd floor. Check the large bulletin boards located in the Children and Family wing for each grade’s class location. 9:30-10:30 a.m. CONNECT WITH 6TH GRADE – Relevant discussions for today’s ‘tweens. Room 302. 9:30-10:30 a.m.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

Upcoming Village U classes:

REAL LIFE ETHICS FOR THE WORKPLACE - This course will focus on real life ethical issues that occur in the business workplace. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays. Room 15.

Oct. 12: What level of client entertainment is acceptable? What product labeling is correct? What levels of cleanliness or safety procedures are required? What is equitable pay?

Oct. 19: How does the old adage, “When in Rome, do as the Romans do” play out in the business world?

BLESSING OF A SKINNED KNEE - Topics will include teaching respect for adults, the value of chores and ordinary work, keeping expectations in line with your child’s temperament and more. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11. Room 132.

LAST ACTS OF LOVE: CARING CONVERSATIONS: WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I CAN’T SPEAK FOR MYSELF? A class about healthcare directives. 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11. Room 230.

CHILDREN’S BRAIN DEVELOPMENT - We will talk about kids, their brains and answer some of your most pressing parenting questions. For parents of preschool and early elementary age children. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 12. Room 126.

A WILL AND A WAY: WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MY RESOURCES? A class about wills, trusts and the legal ways to provide for one’s family through an estate. 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 18. Room 230.
BEGINNING BIRDING - Learn about identification techniques, field guides, types of feeders, and online resources. In the second hour we will go outside and see what birds we can find in the area. Bring binoculars if you have them. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 18, in Room 132.

BEGINNING PHOTOGRAPHY - Photographer Ashley Spaulding will help beginners learn the basics of photography. Bring your DSLR camera and manual. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19. Room 206.

GROWING YOUR FAMILY TREE WITH FAMILY SEARCH.ORG - Learn how to navigate the basic features of this wonderful free resource. Search for your ancestors, edit information, connect families together and search for records. 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19, Room 230.

INTERMEDIATE COMPUTER CLASS - The class allows students with basic knowledge of computers to improve their skills in Microsoft Word, the internet and email. Completion of the Very Basic Computer Class is not required. Class limit: 12. 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 25-Nov. 15. Room 316. Daytime: 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 25-Nov. 15. Room 316. Evening: 6:30-8 p.m. Oct. 26-Nov. 16, in Room 316.

VILLAGE FORUM SUNDAY MORNING CLASS - Beginning Oct. 16, the Social Witness and Advocacy Task Force will offer 4 classes focusing on “Faith in Action at the Ballot Box,” highlighting considerations for Christians on current important social issues:

Oct. 16 – How can people of faith use their vote to advance the “Kingdom of God” here on earth? What are the Presbyterian General Assembly “stands” on pertinent election issues?, led by Dr. Rodger Nishioka.

Oct. 23 – Guns on Kansas College Campuses, led by Megan Jones, president of Kansans against Campus Carry.

FALL ADULT SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES - Check villagepres.org for details.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER OCT. 12 – Salmon fillets with cream sauce, lemon horseradish roasted new potatoes (V & GF), zucchini herb casserole (V & GF). Each Wednesday, price is $7 for full buffet, $6 for salad bar and dessert. $3-children ages 3-10. Children under 3 are free. Reservations are required by noon every Monday. Just call Liz at 913-671-2359, email liz.middleton@villagepres.org or go to villagepres.org/wednesday-dinners.html.

FLU SHOTS - from 5-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 12, and 9-11 a.m. next Sunday, Oct. 16, in Friendship Hall.

EVENT FOR 60s – 5:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21, Manny’s Mexican Restaurant. Village Church is offering a fun dinner opportunity for people in their 60s (couples and singles)! We have reservations at Manny’s Mexican Restaurant at 207 Southwest Blvd. The reservation is under “Village Church Group, Liz Middleton.” Space is limited. RSVP to cindy.wilcox@villagepres.org or call 913-671-2331.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT OCT. 22 - The Environmental Action Committee of Village Church is partnering with the Sustainable Sanctuary Coalition (SSC) to host a Recycling/Reuse Event from 9 a.m.-noon on Saturday, Oct. 22, in the south parking lot of Village Church. There is a suggested $20 tax deductible donation per car. Drop-off your old computers, components, printers, copiers, cell phones, A/V equipment and small appliances (NO TV’s). Contact Jerry Rees at 913-568-4250 or reesveenstra@aol.com for more info.

CLIMATE MOBILIZATION PRESENTATION - The Sustainable Sanctuary Coalition of KC and the Environmental Action Committee of Village Church are co-sponsoring the presentation “Climate Mobilization: The Case for Immediate Action,” at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 25, in Room 127. Guest speakers Josh King, Craig Wolfe and John Fish Kurmann will discuss the science, impact and mitigation strategies of the climate crisis. The event is free and open to the community.
MISSION

THE FOOD PANTRY – The Clothes Closet is now accepting fall and winter clothing and coats. As you pull out your winter clothing, please donate those that your family will no longer be wearing this year to the Clothes Closet. The Food Pantry is requesting HEARTY soups. Each family group gets at least two cans of soup with each visit. Please bring several cans with you to church each Sunday. Thank you!

TOUR NEW MATHEMATICS LAB - You are invited to an open house for Operation Breakthrough’s new Science Technology Engineering Mathematics Lab from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20. Tour the new program that Village Church helped fund through our Signature Mission grant. Parking is available north of Operation Breakthrough at 3039 Troost Ave.

MUSIC MINISTRY

SECOND THURSDAY RECITAL OCT. 13 - Join us at 12:15 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13, in the Village Chapel for a 30-minute recital with guest harpist Tabitha Reist Steiner. The program will include works for solo harp and accompanied works, with music by Ravel. The concert is free and open to the community.

TE DEUM ANTIQUA CONCERT OCT. 16 - Te Deum Antiqua Choir presents “Sacred Shapes,” a faithful celebration of America’s earliest choral music at 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16, at the Rainbow Mennonite Church in KCK. Matthew C. Shephard is conducting. Te Deum is a member of the Village Church Arts Alliance. A $15 donation is suggested. Visit www.te-deum.org to learn more.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

CENTERING PRAYER is held at 11-11:30 a.m. every Monday in the chapel. Come rest in the presence of God and deepen your relationship with Christ. Contact Katherine at katherinebestcaputo@hotmail.com for more information.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

MISSION SEWING is busy filling year-end requests from our agencies. Knitters: pick up your red and green yarn for the Christmas baby hats. For more information, call Edie Hultman at 913-432-3515.

WOMEN WITH SPIRIT’S FALL FAMILY HAYRIDE - Join us from 4-6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16, at Shawnee Mission Park to enjoy a family hayride, roasting marshmallows over a campfire and sipping on apple cider. $7 per person, children; 2 & under are free.

PAGE TURNERS - On Oct. 25, Page Turners will discuss Kate Alcott’s book, The Dressmaker. The main character of this story is a survivor of the sinking of the Titanic. Coincidentally, for our Nov. 22 meeting we have chosen the book, Dead Wake, by Eric Larsen, which tells the story of the sinking of the Lusitania. All meetings are at 9:30 a.m. in Room 127 on the fourth Tuesday of the month, and visitors or prospective new members are always welcome. Having read the book is not a prerequisite to enjoying the discussion.

SEEKING PW HONORARY LIFE MEMBER NOMINATIONS - On April 8, 2017, Presbyterian Women of Village Church will celebrate and honor the gifts and talents of women in our church at the Celebration of Faithful Women Event. If you would like to nominate a woman you know who: • Supports the mission of the church • Nurtures your faith • Works for peace and justice • Promotes an inclusive community through service and leadership, contact Jennifer Sawyer at jrsawyer1947@gmail.com or 913-488-6370. Names will be accepted through Oct. 31, 2016.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

BIER AND BIBLE - Every Wednesday night, 7 p.m., KC Bier Co. – Every week this fall we'll learn to read the Bible together, while continuing to grow in all that it means to be community. All 20s and 30s welcome!

MMPM – Midweek Morning Prayer for Mamas! Wednesday mornings, 9:30 a.m., Village Church Chapel. Every Wednesday morning this fall we’ll pray for each other, then join for coffee and convo. in the Cup! All 20s and 30s Moms welcome!
FALL FEST – 5-8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 29. Let’s celebrate fall together! We’ll join new friends from Second Presbyterian Church for a kickball game (a rematch from our softball game), then celebrate our victory with food and your favorite fall beverages. Child care is available if you reserve in advance! Bring friends. Make friends. Allow yourself some time to play!

YOUTH MINISTRY

HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES – Will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Youth Loft Room 333/332.

CHEER – High school youth group tonight from 6:30-8 p.m. All are welcome for a night of discussion, amazing people and a great time!

GPS – Middle school youth group, meets Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Join us for a great night of people, games and conversation. We hope to see you there!

TWOSDAYS – All 7th and 8th graders are invited to join us from 4-5:30 p.m. on Tuesday afternoons in the Youth Loft for fun and food!

HIGH SCHOOL SERVICE DAY – From 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 21. High Schoolers are invited to join us at Harvesters KC, to give back to the community that has given us so much!

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS OCT. 23

Please bring your pets to the front lawn of Village Church at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 23, for the Blessing of the Animals led by Rev. Jenny McDevitt and Rev. Hallie Hottle. We’ll also include a blessing for veterinary staff. All animals welcome, leashed or otherwise safely restrained.
CURRENT SERMON SERIES

Love Your Neighbor and Other Spiritual Truths

When Europe was falling apart in the 1940’s, Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote a little book called *Life Together*. It was an exploration of the fundamental “neighborly” or communal aspect of Christian faith. Sometimes we say that the love of Christ shows up in our hearts. A better way to say that is the love of Christ shows up in our relationships. We are part of many communities: family, church family, national community… the list goes on. Paying attention to this fundamental truth of Christian faith is what gives our faith energy and hope. But, because people are people, it is also why we need to time and again remind ourselves that Jesus calls us to love our neighbor.

Sept. 11     It is Not Good That the Human is Alone
Sept. 18     We Keep Bumping Into All Those Other Followers of Jesus
Sept. 25     Don't Be A Goat!
Oct. 2       For Once, It’s All About You
Oct. 9       Blind Spots
Oct. 16      A More Perfect Union

MINISTERS
All members of the congregation

MINISTRY TEAM
Rev. Thomas L. Are, Jr., senior pastor   Dr. Elisa Bickers, principal organist   Rev. Len Carrell, pastor of pastoral care
Cheryl Couch-Thomas, director of children and family ministry   Rev. Hallie Hottle, pastor of young adult ministry
Marjean Lindquist, director of child care   Kathy Lueckert, director of finance and administration
Ryan Main, interim director of music   Rev. Jenny McDevitt, pastor of pastoral care
Dr. Rodger Nishioka, director of adult educational ministry   Matthew C. Shepard, associate director of music
Molly Sirridge, 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

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 8 a.m. Sanctuary worship service is broadcast live 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.