

**ADULT EDUCATION CLASS** Sunday, December 11 at 9:00 AM in Armitage Hall will feature a discussion on Bill Moyer's DVD program on Faith and Reason. All are welcome to attend!

**ADULT/SENIOR CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON:** Plan to join the senior luncheon group, Wednesday, December 7 at noon, for a Christmas season kick-off gathering. For a mere \$5, you will enjoy a scrumptious holiday lunch, gorgeous decorations, and time to visit with friends, both old and new.

**THE GAMBLE LIBRARY BOOK GROUP** will meet at 10:00 AM, Friday, December 9 (a change of usual date). The group will discuss *The Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George.

**THE CHRISTMAS SING-ALONG** at Courtyard Village on December 17 has been cancelled due to a scheduling conflict.

**KIDZ MART:** Thank you for your donations! Kidz Mart will be open to children only on December 7, 4:00-7:00 PM and on December 10, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM, and open adults and children on December 11, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM

**END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS** must be postmarked by Saturday, December 31, 2016 in order to be credited towards 2016 giving.

**THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING** will be received during worship on Sunday, December 18. This offering helps provide opportunities for deserving students and assistance to former and current church workers and families.

**SALVATION ARMY GIVING TREES** are located in the office lobby and in the front entryway. Valley is hosting a single mother and three young children this Christmas. Take a tag and bring the unwrapped item (along with the tag) to be placed under the trees by Friday, December 16. Your generosity will ensure this family will have a very merry Christmas!



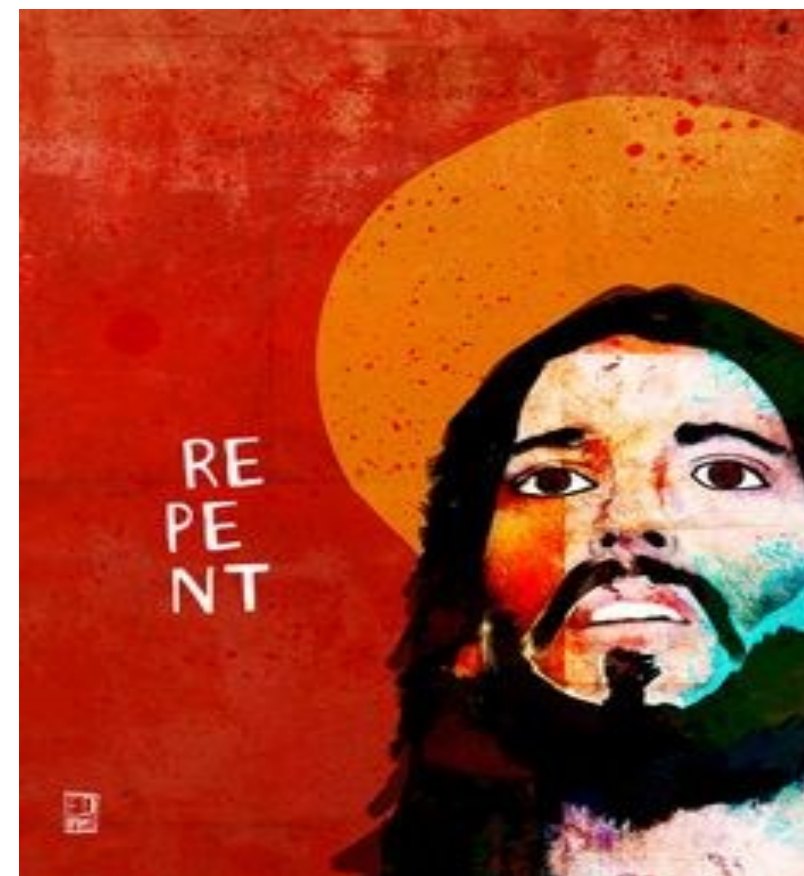
8060 SW Brentwood Street, Portland, Oregon 97225  
503.292.3537 www.valleycommunity.org

**Valley Staff**

Ben Paroulek..... Pastor, ext. 134  
 Chuck Falconer and Jenny Pratt..... Pastoral Associates  
 Laurel Cluthe..... Children's and Youth Minister, ext. 135  
 Angela Kirby..... Nursery Coordinator, ext. 135  
 David Jimerson ..... Minister of Music, ext. 139  
 Bob Hinson ..... Organist/Pianist, ext. 139  
 Amy Rheingans ..... Director of Youth & Children's Music, ext. 145  
 Anne Searce ..... Preschool Director, ext. 146  
 Angela Graham ..... Publication & Office Administrator, ext. 126  
 AmyAnn Green ..... Business Manager, ext. 128  
 Connor Campbell ..... Building Superintendent, ext. 143

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE COMING WEEK		
December 4-11, 2016		
<b>SUNDAY, December 4</b> <b>The Second Sunday of Advent</b> 8:50 AM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Adult Education Class 9:30 AM Early Coffee 10:00 AM Confirmation Class 10:00 AM Worship 10:20 AM Sunday Funday 10:20 AM Youth Bible Study 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:30 AM Advent Fair 11:30 AM Foundation Comm. 4:15 PM New Spirit Ringers 5:00 PM Valley Youth Choir  <b>MONDAY, December 5</b> 8:00 AM Women's Aerobics 6:00 PM Girl Scout Leaders Meeting 7:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 7:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 7:30 PM Scout Pack 592	<b>TUESDAY, December 6</b> 10:00 AM Tai Chi Class 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Mission Committee 5:00 PM Membership Comm. 6:00 PM Wolf Den Meeting 6:45 PM Christian Nurture for Youth Meeting 7:00 PM Facilities Committee  <b>WEDNESDAY, December 7</b> 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 8:00 AM Women's Aerobics 12:00 PM Senior Adult Luncheon 4:00 PM Kidz Mart 5:00 PM Cherub Choir 5:00 PM King's Kids Choir 6:00 PM Royal Ringers Bell Choir 6:30 PM Scout Pack 592  <b>THURSDAY, December 8</b> 10:00 AM Tai Chi Class 12:00 PM Mariner's Get-together 5:00 PM Worship and Music 6:30 PM Cub Scouts Pack 592 6:30 PM Youth Group Night 7:15 PM Sanctuary Choir	<b>FRIDAY, December 9</b> 8:00 AM Women's Aerobics 10:00 AM Gamble Library Book Group 6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop  <b>FRIDAY, December 10</b> 9:00 AM Kidz Mart 9:00 AM Pageant Dress Rehearsal 12:00 PM Youth Assemble Cookie Trays  <b>SUNDAY, December 11</b> <b>The Third Sunday of Advent</b> 8:50 AM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Adult Education Class 9:30 AM Early Coffee 10:00 AM Worship-Pageant of the Holy Nativity 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:30 AM Kidz Mart 11:30 AM Prayer Shawl Knitting Social 4:15 PM New Spirit Ringers 5:00 PM Valley Youth Choir

# SERVICE OF WORSHIP



**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**DECEMBER 4, 2016 ✠ 10:00 AM**  
*❖ Please stand as you are able*  
**Bold Text is spoken by everyone**

## GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

**SCRIPTURE FOR GATHERING** *Isaiah 9:2*  
 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
**Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.**

**PRELUDE** *What Child Is This* arr. Mark Thewes

**ACOLYTES** Elise Jenkins and Aaron Jenkins

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
*Please pass and sign the friendship folders.*

❖ **CALL TO WORSHIP**  
 Blessed be our God who lights our way in the darkness.  
**Blessed be the God who gathers us here in this place.**  
 From the wilderness, from our busy lives,  
 God brings us home to the heart of peace.  
**Blessed be the God who remembers us and leads us into light.**

❖ **OPENING HYMN** *Prepare the Way* No 13

## LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE: PEACE

Rheingans Family

## ADVENT SONG

*Advent Song*

Nº 2090, v.2

**Light the Advent candle, two: Think of humble shepherds who  
Filled with wonder at the sight, of the child on Christmas night.  
Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;  
Candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.**

## INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Alex and Dylan Blair, Liturgists

☪ *Silence is kept* ☪

### ❖ ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*Gloria Patri*

Nº 579

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen, Amen.**

### ❖ THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you!**

*Please greet those around you with words of peace.*

### ❖ RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Nº 2091

**The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices.  
Open the gates before him, lift up your voices.  
Who is the King of glory; how shall we call him?  
He is Emmanuel the promised of ages.  
The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices.  
Open the gates before him, lift up your voices!**

## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

### TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Laurel Cluthe

### SCRIPTURE

*Matthew 3:1-12*

New Testament, p. 2

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**Thanks be to God!**

### SERMON

*John the Baptizer*

Ben Paroulek

## RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

### CHORAL OFFERTORY

*Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether*

Friedell

❖ *Congregation rising, row by row, as ushers pass* ❖

### ❖ DOXOLOGY

Nº 592

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## EUCCHARIST

### INVITATION

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

People of faith, let us offer our prayers of joy and thanksgiving to God.

**Let us gladly remember the presence of Christ.**

Let us pray.

### GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Please join in singing as you are able)* Malotte

### BREAKING THE BREAD & FILLING THE CUP

### COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

### PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

## SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

### ❖ SENDING HYMN

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

Nº 8

### ❖ CHARGE & BLESSING

from *Isaiah 60*

Arise, shine, for your light has come. So lift up your eyes and look around.

May you see and be radiant.

**May our hearts thrill and rejoice at the abundance of peace  
poured upon us through God's gift of Jesus.**

Amen. Go in peace.

### POSTLUDE

*Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying*

A. W. Leupold

*You are invited to remain seated to conclude worship with the postlude  
or exit quietly after the benediction.*

### May God bless you as you worship here today:

Touch you, Challenge you, Heal you, Inspire you, Direct you to new paths  
in your unfolding journey. Valley Community Presbyterian Church is a place for

***Awakening Souls, Sharing Joy, Serving God in Christ,  
TRANSFORMING LIVES!***

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

**A SPECIAL WELCOME TO ALL NEWCOMERS:** we greet you in the name of Jesus Christ! A special gift will be offered to you during worship today.

**A STAFFED NURSERY** for infants-3 year olds is available in room 7 behind the sanctuary on Sundays, 9:45-11:15 AM.

**IN ANTICIPATION OF THE NEW YEAR**, it is time to sign up for front entry flowers. Please share your bounty by signing the flower calendar, available in the lobby.

**VALLEY'S ANNUAL ADVENT FAIR IS TODAY!** Join us after worship until 1:30 PM. There will be fresh greens for making wreaths and swags. There will be many tables set up for crafts and holiday creations. There will be music in the air. There will be pizza and cider to give you energy for the event, plus a few sweet treats! Advent Fair at Valley is always a joy-filled time of fellowship and creativity. Please plan to be part of this special annual event!

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER** will be celebrated today. Please come forward, as you are able, directed by the ushers. Take the bread, dip it in the cup and consume it. If you choose not to dip, you may eat the bread, take a small cup and drink. Please leave the cup in the basket provided. Return to your pew via the outside aisles. If you are unable to come forward, a server will offer the elements to you in your pew. Gluten-free bread is available in a red cup. **POINSETTIAS** will enhance the sanctuary chancel on the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas in memory and honor of loved ones. If you wish to participate, please offer a donation of \$15 in a pew envelope with the name of the honoree. Write "Flower Fund" on the envelope or check and place it in the offering plate or deliver it to the church office by December 12.

**THE SOUP KITCHEN** is in need of volunteers for 2017. Please contact Jini De Vries, Valley Soup Kitchen Coordinator, at [virginiadevries@comcast.net](mailto:virginiadevries@comcast.net) if you, your group, or your family would like to participate in this mission to feed local homeless people.

**VALLEY CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL** is holding a stuffed animal drive to benefit the Ronald McDonald House this holiday season. Please consider donating a new, unwrapped stuffed animal for the children who stay at the Ronald McDonald House while receiving medical treatment. Donation bins will be located outside Valley Christian Preschool classrooms through December 12. There will also be a donation bin in Davis Hall during the Advent Fair today.

**DEACON'S RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE** will be Thursday, December 15 from 2:00-7:00 PM. Up to three people may be helped with each pint of blood collected. Please help if you can. Contact Gaylen Uecker for more information!