

VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 26, 2020 † 10:00 AM
Bold Text is spoken by everyone

PASTOR: Rev. Jeff Binder
MUSICIANS: Bob Hinson, Aaron Lange, Lars Hoffbeck, Greg Russell
LITURGIST: Katie Craig
VIDEO/SOUND: Bob Rasmussen, Steve Rees, Greg Russell

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE AND ELEMENTS

WORDS OF PRAISE (Psalm 116 selected verses)

I love the LORD,

Because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

Because he inclined his ear to me,

Therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

What shall I return to the LORD for all his bounty to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.

OPENING HYMN No. 267 (Come, Christians, Join to Sing)

Verse 1: ***Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen! Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen! Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice; praise is his gracious choice: Alleluia! Amen!***

Verse 2: ***Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen! Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen! He is our guide and friend; to us he'll condescend; his love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!***

Verse 3: ***Praise yet our Christ again: Alleluia! Amen! Life shall nor end the strain: Alleluia! Amen! On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore, singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!***

OPENING PRAYER

Hear these words from the prophet Jeremiah: "This is the covenant I will make with you, says the Lord: I will put my law within you, and I will write it upon your hearts; and I will be your God, and you will be my people. I will forgive your evil deeds, and I will remember your sin no more." In penitence and faith, let us open our hearts to almighty God.

O God Most High, you have made the font of baptism to be the womb from which we are reborn in the waters of life. Grant that all who have been born of water and the Spirit may live in Christ as the first fruits of the new humanity, leading others to hope in the rebirth of your whole creation, and to serve you with joy. Speak to us words of new life as we listen for your voice this morning.

CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE No. 600 (Amen) (Sung three times)

Amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS AND PEACE

Hear the good news! Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 589 (Alleluia) (Sung two times)

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. Now the Lord is risen indeed.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE (Acts 2:36-41)

ANTHEM (Lord of the Dance, a Shaker Melody adapted by Sydney Carter; Lars Hoffbeck, soloist; Greg Russell, piano)

MESSAGE (Church Without Walls: Baptism by Rev. Jeff Binder)

RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 250 (In the Bulb There Is a Flower)

Verse 1: ***In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.***

Verse 2: ***There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody; there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me. From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.***

Verse 3: ***In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity; in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity. In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.***

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from The Book of Common Worship)

Obeying the word of our Lord Jesus, and confident of his promises, we baptize those whom God has called. In baptism God claims us, and seals us to show that we belong to God. God frees us from sin and death, uniting us with Jesus Christ in his death and resurrection. By water and the Holy Spirit, we are made members of the church, the body of Christ, and joined to Christ's ministry of love, peace, and justice.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY (I've Found a Friend by Douglas Wagner; Aaron Lange, tenor)

(Offerings can be mailed into the church office or made online by visiting our website:

www.valleycommunity.org)

DOXOLOGY

*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.*

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

CLOSING HYMN No. 14 (For the Beauty of the Earth)

Verse 1: *For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:*

Refrain: *Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

Verse 2: *For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:* Refrain

Verse 3: *For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight, for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:* Refrain

Verse 4: *For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thought and mild:* Refrain

Verse 5: *For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given; for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:* Refrain

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (from The Book of Common Worship)

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

I will, with God's help.

Will you devote yourself to the church's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

With God's help, may we go out into the world to love and serve the Lord.

Alleluia! Amen.

POSTLUDE