

VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 23, 2020 † 10:00 AM
Bold Text is spoken/sung by everyone

PASTOR: Rev. Jeff Binder
LITURGIST: Sophie Vermillion
MUSICIANS: Bob Hinson, Eoghan McDowell, Macy Vermillion, Sophie Vermillion, Amy Rheingans
VIDEO/SOUND: Steve Rees, Dan Rueff, Yvonne Rees

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE AND ELEMENTS

WORDS OF PRAISE (Psalm 118 selected verses)

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

God's steadfast love endures forever!

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

OPENING HYMN No. 37 (Let All Things Now Living)

Verse 1: *Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God our Creator triumphantly raise; who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, by guiding us on to the end of our days. God's banners are o'er us; pure light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night: till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished, as forward we travel from light into light.*

Verse 2: *By law God enforces, the stars in their courses, the sun in its orbit obediently shine; the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine. We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing; with glad adoration, a song let us raise, till all things now living unite in thanksgiving: to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!*

OPENING PRAYER (from The Church of Scotland)

Come, Jesus Christ, come my way; showing me your way, through these disorientating days, and opening my eyes to your accompanying presence.

Come, Jesus Christ, come my way; teaching me your truth, through these confounding days and opening my mind to your living Word.

Come Jesus Christ, come my way; revealing to me your life, through these bewildering days, and opening my heart to the fullness of your being.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

CONFESSIOAL RESPONSE No. 288 (Spirit of the Living God)

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS AND PEACE

By grace we have been saved through faith, and this is not our own doing; it is nothing less than God's gift for God's people! We have been saved. We have been redeemed. We have been forgiven.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 175 (Seek Ye First) (verse one)

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE (Luke 2:41-52)

ANTHEM (How Sweet the Name of Jesus Is by Fred Bock; Eoghan McDowell, tenor)

MESSAGE (Children by Rev. Jeff Binder)

RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 834 (Precious Lord, Take My Hand)

Verse 1: *Precious Lord, take my hand; lead me on, help me stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn. Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light; take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.*

Verse 2: *When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near; when my life is almost gone, hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall; take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Jesus says, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." As God's own children, and as brothers and sisters of Christ, we affirm the inherent value of each and every child—no exceptions. We are called as the church to love, to nurture, and to empower all of God's children, as we realize God's kingdom together.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY (These Are Our Gifts by Janet Vogt; Macy Vermillion and Sophie Vermillion, vocalists; Amy Rheingans, piano)

(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. 295 (Go to the World!)

Verse 1: *Go to the world! Go into all the earth. Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth, baptizing as the sign of our rebirth. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

Verse 2: *Go to the world! Go into every place. Go live the word of God's redeeming grace. Go seek God's presence in each time and space. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

Verse 3: *Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray; the nights of tears give way to joyous day. As servant church, you follow Christ's own way. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

Verse 4: *Go to the world! Go as the ones I send, for I am with you till the age shall end, when all the hosts of glory cry "Amen!" Alleluia. Alleluia.*

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

God says, "I will be with you."

Waters won't overwhelm you.

Fire will not burn you.

So go now;

walk forward in faith, not fear.

Know and believe that you are called by name.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Alleluia! Amen.

POSTLUDE