

VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020 ✠ 10:00 AM

Bold Text is spoken/sung by everyone

PASTORS: Rev. Jeff Binder, Rev. Chuck Falconer

LITURGIST: Andrea Murdoch

MUSICIANS: Bob Hinson, Luke Smith

VIDEO/SOUND: Dan Rueff, Donna Russell, Greg Russell, Bob Rasmussen

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE AND ELEMENTS

WORDS OF PRAISE (Psalm 149)

Praise the Lord!

Sing to the Lord a new song, God's praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Let Israel be glad in its Maker;

let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

Let them praise his name with dancing,

making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.

For the Lord takes pleasure in his people;

he adorns the humble with victory.

Let the faithful exult in glory;

let them sing for joy on their couches.

OPENING HYMN No. 321 (The Church's One Foundation)

Verse 1: ***The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord. She is his new creation by water and the word. From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride. With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.***

Verse 2: ***Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth, her charter of salvation; one Lord, one faith, one birth. One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food, and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.***

Verse 3: ***Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed, by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed, yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?" And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.***

Verse 4: ***Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war, she waits the consummation of peace forevermore: till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest, and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.***

Verse 5: ***Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One, and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won: O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we, like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.***

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, your mercy and goodness have sustained us through sorrow, pain, and distress. You have healed and restored us, you have preserved and guided us. On this day, as we celebrate the fruits of our labor, and the tireless efforts of those surrounding us, may we be thankful for your ever-present love and support, encouragement and nourishment. Enable us, by your Spirit, to live in a way that demonstrates our gratitude for all the blessings you have lavished upon us.

CONFESSIONAL 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

Friends, the good news is that our labor is not in vain, as imperfect as it may be. God continues to receive and redeem us, flaws and all. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, and given rest.

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 (Revelation 21:1-7)

MESSAGE (A New Normal: God's Kingdom by Rev. Jeff Binder)

RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

CELEBRATION OF PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR TRANSITIONS

THANKSGIVING FOR FAITHFUL SERVICE - Anne Searce

COMMISSIONING FOR SERVICE - Kylie Cole

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP (from the Book of Order, F-1.0304)

We are called by God to be the church of Jesus Christ, a sign in the world today of what God intends for all humankind.

The great ends of the Church are the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God; the maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the truth; the promotion of social righteousness; and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.

WELCOME AND PRAYER

RESPONSE OF CELEBRATION No. 175 (Seek Ye First) (verse 3)

Verse 3: ***You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. Alleluia, alleluia!***

OFFERTORY (I Stand Amazed by Jan Sanborn; Luke Smith, 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.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SANCTUS No. 559 (Holy, Holy, Holy)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Cantor, Luke Smith) Malotte

Please join in singing as you are able

SHARING OF THE GIFTS OF BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

CLOSING HYMN No. 805 (Come Sing to God)

Verse 1: ***Come sing to God, O living saints; sing praises to God's name. God's anger is not permanent; God's love will never wane. Though tears may tarry for the night with sighs of deepest pain, yet joy comes with the morning sun, a peace that is not vain.***

Verse 2: ***In my success I felt secure; how good you've been to me. I said that this is my own work, ascribing all to me. But when you turned aside your face, my life was filled with fears. I begged for help; to you I cried with loud and bitter tears.***

Verse 3: ***What good is gained by my disgrace, what profit in defeat? My grave cannot confess your name, nor praise for you repeat. Now hear, O Lord, my plaintive cry; be merciful to me. Accept my longing heart's request and from death set me free.***

Verse 4: ***You change my grief to joy-filled dance; my sorrows you destroy. In faithfulness you hear my cry and fill my life with joy. And so to you my heart shall sing; my voice your goodness raise. You are my God, forevermore. My life shall sing your praise.***

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (based on *Revelation 21:3-4*)

See, the home of God is among mortals.

God will dwell with us;

We will be God's peoples, and God himself will be with us.

God will wipe every tear from our eyes.

Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

For the first things have passed away.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Alleluia! Amen.

POSTLUDE

