

# VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 8, 2023 † 10:00 AM

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

*Bold Text is spoken/sung by everyone*

PASTORS: Rev. Robin Garvin, Rev. Jenny Pratt Hale

LITURGIST: Jim Sandberg

MUSICIANS: Thomas Rheingans, Siena Hertafeld

VIDEO/SOUND: Steve Rees, Dan Rueff, Dean Bridges, Hayden Bach

## GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ELEMENTS AND MUSICAL INTERLUDE

#### ♦ CALL TO WORSHIP

We are marked as God's beloved ones.

**What have we done to deserve God's love?**

God's love is God's free gift to us, always and forever.

**Even when we are difficult and turn away from God,**

God's love never vanishes from us.

**Thanks be to God who is ever faithful to us!**

Let us worship God.

#### ♦ OPENING HYMN No. 475 (Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing)

Verse 1: *Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above; praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!*

Verse 2: *Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.*

Verse 3: *O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, in baptism you grafted us into the body of Christ, promising us forgiveness of sin and new life. But we fail to live as forgiven people. We keep destructive habits and hold grudges. We allow our past to hold us hostage and are reluctant to welcome holiness. In your loving-kindness have mercy on us and free us from sin. Remind us of promises you have made to us in baptism so that we may live as your people, claimed in the waters of promise. Amen.

## CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE No. 114 (Away in a Manger)

Verse 1: *Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

Verse 2: *The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.*

Verse 3: *Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.*

## ♦ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news: Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ lives in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is of the New Creation. The old life is finished, gone. Behold, new life has begun. Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

## ♦ RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 136 (Go, Tell It on the Mountain)

Refrain: *Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

Verse 1: *While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.* Refrain

Verse 2: *The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! Above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.* Refrain

Verse 3: *Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.* Refrain

## SCRIPTURE READING (Matthew 3:13-17)

ANTHEM ("Baptized" by Zach Williams; Siena Hertafeld, vocalist)

MESSAGE ("Watermark" by Rev. Robin Garvin)

## ♦ HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 377 (I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light)

Verse 1: *I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.*

Refrain: *In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

Verse 2: *I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus. Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.* Refrain

Verse 3: *I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus. When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.* Refrain

♦ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (The Apostles Creed)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY ("All Who Are Thirsty" by Brenton Brown) (Offerings can be mailed to the church office or made online by visiting our website: [www.valleycommunity.org](http://www.valleycommunity.org))

♦ **DOXOLOGY**

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

**PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

## **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** (traditional version found on page 35 of the hymnal) (Siena Hertafeld, cantor)

**SHARING OF THE GIFTS OF BREAD AND CUP**

**PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION**

## **SHARE THE GOOD NEWS**

♦ **CLOSING HYMN** No. 526 (Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ)

Verse 1: *Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy: bread is broken; the wine is poured; Christ is spoken and seen and heard.*

Refrain: *Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!*

Verse 2: *Christ is able to make us one; at the table he sets the tone, teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.* Refrain

Verse 3: *Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!* Refrain

♦ **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

**SENDING MUSIC**