

VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 22, 2023 ✠ 10:00 AM
Bold Text is spoken/sung by everyone

PASTOR: Rev. Robin Garvin

LITURGIST: Dean Bridges

MUSICIANS: Thomas Rheingans, Siena Hertafeld, Luke Smith

VIDEO/SOUND: Steve Rees, Dan Rueff, Jim Sandberg, Hayden Bach

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELEMENTS AND MUSICAL INTERLUDE

◆ CALL TO WORSHIP

We are called to follow—to walk in the way of justice and righteousness,
for we are children of God!

We are called to serve—to be Christ with and for one another,
for we are the salt of the earth!

We are called to shine—to be beacons of hope and witnesses to truth,
for we are the light of the world!

Come, you who are claimed as children of God, salt of the earth and light of the world.
Let us worship the Lord!

◆ OPENING HYMN No. 401 (Here in This Place)

Verse 1: *Here in this place the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away; see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.*

Verse 2: *We are the young, our lives are a mystery. We are the old who yearn for your face. We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.*

Verse 3: *Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.*

Verse 4: *Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away: here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, and now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own; gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, you placed us in the world to be its salt. We are afraid of committing ourselves, afraid of being stained by the world. We do not want to hear what 'they' might say and our salt dissolves as if in water. Lord, you placed us in the world to be its light. We are afraid of the shadows, afraid of the poverty and need in our world. We do not want to know 'difficult' people and our light slowly fades away. Forgive us, Lord. Remind us that you are at work in and through us. Free us from fear that we might be the salt and light you have called us to be. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

CONFESSIOAL RESPONSE No. 695 (Change My Heart, O God)

Refrain: ***Change my heart, O God; make it ever true. Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.***

Verse 1: ***You are the Potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.*** Refrain

◆ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Believe and now live the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new! Thanks be to God! The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

◆ RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 726 (Will You Come and Follow Me)

Verse 1: ***"Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known; will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"***

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING (Matthew 5:13-16)

ANTHEM ("Light of the World (Sing Hallelujah)" written and recorded by the band We the Kingdom; Siena Hertafeld, Luke Smith, vocalists)

MESSAGE ("Salt and Light" by Rev. Robin Garvin)

RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

◆ HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 314 (Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness)

Verse 1: ***Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.***

Refrain: ***Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.***

Verse 2: ***Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has power to save us. Make us your living voice.*** Refrain

Verse 3: ***Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst. Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed.*** Refrain

Verse 4: ***Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone.*** Refrain

Verse 5: ***Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come.*** Refrain

◆ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Nicene Creed)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (found on page 35 of the hymnal)

OFFERTORY ("10,000 Reasons" by Myrin and Redman; Siena Hertafeld, Luke Smith, vocalists)

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

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

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

◆ CLOSING HYMN No. 753 (Make Me a Channel of Your Peace)

Verse 1: *Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring your love. Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where there's doubt, true faith in you.*

Verse 2: *Make me a channel of your peace. Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope. Where there is darkness, only light, and where there's sadness, ever joy.*

Verse 3: *O, Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled, as to console, to be understood, as to understand, to be loved, as to love, with all my soul.*

Verse 4: *Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.*

◆ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SENDING MUSIC