

VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 29, 2023 † 10:00 AM
Bold Text is spoken/sung by everyone

PASTOR: Rev. Robin Garvin

LITURGIST: Barbara King

MUSICIANS: Thomas Rheingans, Siena Hertafeld, Luke Smith, Sanctuary Choir

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

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELEMENTS AND MUSICAL INTERLUDE

◆ CALL TO WORSHIP

Love surrounds us this day; a love that never ceases.

Love for those who love us, love for those who don't.

Let God's love permeate our lives;

From birth to death, we belong to this God who loved us first.

God's love always points to reconciliation, no matter the cost.

And so, as His beloved people, let us worship God.

◆ OPENING HYMN No. 744 (Arise, Your Light Is Come!)

Verse 1: ***Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey; show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.***

Verse 2: ***Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door; proclaim the captives' liberty, good tidings to the poor.***

Verse 3: ***Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born, bind up the brokenhearted ones and comfort those who mourn.***

Verse 4: ***Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song! Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you have shown us how to live in right relationship with one another, but we frequently choose to go our own way. You call us to participate in your life of peace and justice, but we too often build impenetrable fortresses out of fear and prejudice. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have injured others and ourselves through harsh judgments. Forgive us our sins and by the power of your Holy Spirit, set us free to live as your holy people through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSIONAL 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** (Psalm 103:17)

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. Friends, 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 5:43-48)

CHORAL ANTHEM (“The Dream Keeper” by Rollo Dilworth)

MESSAGE (“Perfect?” by Rev. Robin Garvin)

RESPOND TO GOD’S GRACE

HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 749 (Come! Live in the Light!)

Verse 1: ***Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord! We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God.***

Refrain: ***We are called to act with justice; we are called to love tenderly; we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.***

Verse 2: ***Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear! We are called to be hope for the hopeless so hatred and violence will be no more.*** Refrain

Verse 3: ***Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one! God will reign, and we’ll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love.*** Refrain

♦ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*, 10.4)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

OFFERTORY

("Live Like That" written and performed by the Sidewalk Prophets; 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. 547 (Go, My Children, with My Blessing)

Verse 1: *"Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own. In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever. Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own."*

Verse 2: *"Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure. Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure. Here you heard my dear Son's story; here you touched him, saw his glory. Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure."*

Verse 3: *"Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me. Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free. Here my Spirit's power filled you; here my tender comfort stilled you. Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free."*

◆ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SENDING MUSIC