

We do not know how to  
*pray* as we ought, but that  
very *Spirit*  
intercedes ....

Romans 8:26



# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Valley Community Presbyterian Church  
8060 SW Brentwood, Portland, Oregon 97225

July 26, 2009 at 10:00 AM

- ❖ *Please stand if you choose*  
**Bold Text is spoken by everyone**

## GATHER IN G\_D'S NAME

### HYMN SING

### WELCOME AND COMMON CONCERNS

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT                      *Cry of My Heart*                      No. 2165

#### ❖ CALL TO WORSHIP

As a shepherd seeks a lost sheep,  
**So God seeks and saves the lost.**

Like a woman who searches for a lost coin until it is found.  
**So God rejoices over one soul restored to wholeness.**

As a father receives a returning wayward son,  
**So God welcomes us, and lets the past be the past.**

Therefore let us praise God in thanksgiving that we are received.

**Let us receive and welcome and rejoice over one another in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

❖ HYMN OF PRAISE                      *Shine, Jesus, Shine*                      No. 2173

#### ❖ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rootless and groundless, O God of all people, we wander through life. Our wild thoughts and foolish deeds drag us further and further from you. We catch a glimpse of temptation from the rooftops of our souls, and will not let anything keep us from grasping it. Our words can scrape raw the life of someone dear to us. Our lives can become so hollow even we cannot recognize ourselves.

Forgive us, O God who shelters us from the storm. You love us more than we can ever know. You lavish grace upon us, your joy longs to be our constant companion, your hope is the gift which sustains us through our days. With all the saints, we give you glory for Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

❖ **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Do not be afraid! In Christ, God comes near to us, bringing hope, joy and forgiveness into our lives.

**God gathers up the fragments of our lives and shapes us into new people. For this reason, we lift our thanks to God. Amen.**

❖ **RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

*Gloria Patri*

No. 579

❖ **THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you!**

**A TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH**

**PROCLAIM G\_D'S WORD**

**ANTHEM**

*I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

Carter

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE LESSONS**

*Genesis 32:22-31 and Romans 8:26-39*

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

*When it is Difficult to Pray*

Pastor Minshew

**PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER (p.16)**

**RESPOND TO THE WORD**

**OFFERING** (Please sign and pass the friendship folder)

Call for the Offering

Offertory

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

arr. Hart

Adam Steele, baritone

❖ Doxology

❖ Prayer of Dedication

**We hope, O God, that you enjoy gifts as much as we do. We thank you for all the gifts you have given us and bring these gifts now as a sign of our love and good will toward you. Grant, as with all our gifts, that they may be used wisely and well, and that your name may be glorified, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## GO IN G\_D'S NAME

❖ **HYMN**                      *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*                      No. 417

❖ **BENEDICTION**

❖ **CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION RESPONSE**  
*Fight the Good Fight* (verses 1 and 4 only)                      No. 307

*\* From René: I learned from my Rabbi friends that the name of G\_d is so holy that it is not to be written, only pointed to. I have adopted that tradition in my own writing*