

VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 1, 2023 † 10:00 AM

Bold Text is spoken/sung by everyone

PASTOR: Rev. Robin Garvin

LITURGIST: Stuart Young

MUSICIANS: Thomas Rheingans, Kimi Davies, Kayla Ray, Luke Smith, Sanctuary Choir

VIDEO/SOUND: Roger Rees, Jim Sandberg, Dean Bridges, Hayden Bach

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELEMENTS AND MUSICAL INTERLUDE

♦ CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 8)

What are human beings that you, O God, are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

We gather as your children, connected in Christ, seeking your kingdom.

You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet.

We gather as your children, ready to be your hands and feet in the world.

Our Sovereign God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

We gather as your children, all over the world, to worship you, O God!

Let us worship God!

♦ OPENING HYMN No. 756 (O God of Every Nation)

Verse 1: ***O God of every nation, of every race and land, redeem the whole creation with your almighty hand. Where hate and fear divide us and bitter threats are hurled, in love and mercy guide us and heal our strife-torn world.***

Verse 2: ***From search for wealth and power and scorn of truth and right, from trust in bombs that shower destruction through the night, from pride of race and station and blindness to your way, deliver every nation, eternal God, we pray.***

Verse 3: ***Lord, strengthen those who labor that all may find release from fear of rattling saber, from dread of war's increase; when hope and courage falter, your still small voice be heard; with faith that none can alter, your servants undergird.***

Verse 4: ***Keep bright in us the vision of days when war shall cease, when hatred and division give way to love and peace, till dawns the morning glorious when truth and justice reign and Christ shall rule victorious o'er all the world's domain.***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, we confess that we have not loved you with all our being. We have done things which we ought not to have done, and we have left undone things which we ought to have done. We have built walls between neighbors and between countries, and we have ignored the cries of those in need. Forgive us and set us free, that we may live into the hope of your calling, that your reign may come on earth as it is in heaven. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

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

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true. Change my heart, O God; may I be like you. You are the Potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

◆ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! Through Christ we are forgiven and freed; In Christ we are reconciled and renewed. Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen! The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

◆ RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 729 (Lord, I Want to Be a Christian)

Verse 1: ***Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart. In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.***

Verse 2: ***Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart. In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.***

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP (Stuart and Sandy Young)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

CHORAL ANTHEM ("Let Us Break Bread Together" arr. Jay Althouse)

MESSAGE ("Visible Words" by the Rev. Robin Garvin)

RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

◆ HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 530 (One Bread, One Body)

Refrain: ***One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless. And we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.***

Verse 1: ***Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more.*** Refrain

Verse 2: ***Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all.*** Refrain

Verse 3: ***Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one, for all.*** 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 on 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 (“Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken” Kayla Ray, vocalist)

◆ 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 (Luke Smith, cantor) (traditional version found on page 35 of the hymnal)

SHARING OF THE GIFTS OF BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

CELEBRATION OF ANGELA GRAHAM’S 25TH ANNIVERSARY AT VALLEY

◆ CLOSING HYMN No. 300 (We Are One in the Spirit)

Verse 1: ***We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord; we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord, and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:***

Refrain: ***And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love; yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.***

Verse 2: ***We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand; we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand, and together we’ll spread the news that God is in our land:*** Refrain

Verse 3: ***We will work with each other; we will work side by side; we will work with each other; we will work side by side, and we’ll guard human dignity and save human pride:*** Refrain

Verse 4: ***All praise to the Father, from whom all things come, and all praise to Christ Jesus, God’s only Son, and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:*** Refrain

◆ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE