

VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY 12, 2024 † 10:00 AM

Bold Text is spoken/sung by everyone

PASTOR: Rev. Robin Garvin

LITURGIST: Turner Sanderman, Marcia Sanderman

MUSICIANS: Thomas Rheingans, Kimi Davies, Luke Smith

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

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELEMENTS AND MUSICAL INTERLUDE

◆ CALL TO WORSHIP

We have gathered from our different places to worship here.

How good it is to worship together in unity!

We come from different occupations and diverse activities.

How good it is to worship together in unity!

We come as unique individuals, bound together in the love of Christ.

How good it is to worship together in unity!

Let us worship God!

◆ OPENING HYMN No. 641 (When in Our Music God Is Glorified)

Verse 1: ***When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride, it is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!***

Verse 2: ***How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound, as worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!***

Verse 3: ***So has the church, in liturgy and song, in faith and love, through centuries of wrong, as worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!***

Verse 4: ***And did not Jesus sing a psalm that might when utmost evil strove against the light? Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Alleluia!***

Verse 5: ***Let every instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise! And may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, forgive us. Our unity is not always visible to the world. Sometimes we allow threats to unity to enter the church, making it hard to see that we are your community. We act as though we do not need each other. We do not always love one another. We do not bear one another's burdens. We fail to build each other up. We do not always give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another. Forgive us, and strengthen us so that we may live in the unity that you grant us. We pray in the name of the risen Christ., the Head of the Church. Amen.

CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE No. 250 (In the Bulb There Is a Flower)

Verse 3: ***In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity; in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity. In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.***

◆ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God's Spirit is upon us: the Spirit of forgiveness, the Spirit of grace, the Spirit of oneness. Today, and in all the days to come, God's Spirit is with us. Thanks be to the One who is our joy and our strength. Amen.
The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

◆ RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 591 (Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!)

***Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!***

MOMENT FOR MISSION ("Pentecost Offering" by the Rev. Dr. Jenny Pratt Hale)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING (1 Corinthians 12:12-27)

ANTHEM ("Because He Lives" by Sally DeFord; Kimi Davies, Luke Smith, vocalists)

MESSAGE ("Unity" by Rev. Robin Garvin)

RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

◆ HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 306 (Blest Be the Tie That Binds)

Verse 1: ***Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love. The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.***

Verse 2: ***Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.***

Verse 3: ***We share our mutual woes; our mutual burdens bear. And often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.***

Verse 4: ***When we are called to part, it gives us inward pain; but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.***

Verse 5: ***From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free; and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.***

◆ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (based on *The Belhar Confession*) (Marcia Sanderman, liturgist)

We share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one Name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope. Together we come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ; are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity; know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ that we need one another and up build one another, admonishing and comforting one another; that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness. Together we pray; together we serve God in this world.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

OFFERTORY (“Joy of the Lord” by Twila Paris)

◆ 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. 761 (Called as Partners in Christ’s Service)

Verse 1: *Called as partners in Christ’s service, called to ministries of grace, we respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace. May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend, equal partners in our caring to fulfill God’s chosen end.*

Verse 2: *Christ’s example, Christ’s inspiring, Christ’s clear call to work and worth, let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth. Men and women, richer, poorer, all God’s people, young and old, blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.*

Verse 3: *Thus new patterns for Christ’s mission, in a small or global sense, help us bear each other’s burdens, breaking down each wall or fence. Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care, bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.*

Verse 4: *So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life that surround each person’s sorrow with a calm that conquers strife. Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase, messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.*

◆ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION HYMN No. 546 (Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing)

Verse 1: *Lord, dismiss us with your blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace; let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace. O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.*

POSTLUDE