

WELCOME to all who enter this place. Drink deeply of the living waters of God's grace as we worship together.

Visitors: Consider yourself at home while you are here! Please pick up a Visitor's Information Packet while enjoying refreshments just for you at our Visitor's Table in Fellowship Hall after our worship.

**Blessed By Your Grace*, composed by contemporary composer Cindy Ovokaitys, is a wonderful new addition to our music library here at VPC. It reminds us that God supplies our every need and freely provides us with our daily bread. As Thanksgiving approaches, we are reminded of everything in our lives for which we give thanks: family, friends, church, good/improving health, beautiful weather, and so many other things! Remember to count your blessings this week. Happy Thanksgiving!

The Grapevine: The next Grapevine Open Forum is Monday, November 20th, at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. We will discuss the workings of the Presbyterian Church and differences between a Congregational/Anglican church.

Rev. Mark Medina is holding office hours on Wednesday mornings from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., at Coyote Grill at San Ignacio Golf Club. Feel free to drop in for coffee or iced tea.

It's Not Yo' Mama's Church Anymore - Part II! Do you think VPC is the only church with declining enrollment? Mainline Protestant churches across the country are having the same problem. What's happening? The church is going through a "sea change" - a major change that affects how we will "be church" from now on. We will discuss those changes and talk about what we need to do at the next "Forming Your Faith Adult Sunday School Class" today, November 19th in Classroom 5. We meet fifteen minutes after the worship service.

Turning the Gem: Mondays at 1:00 p.m. in Classroom 5. This Monday, November 20th, we study storytelling in the Bible. We tend to read the Bible seriously, but there is much enjoyment in the stories of scripture. Pastor Diane helps us discover the hidden "gems" in the stories of scripture through the application of literary techniques used by the Biblical authors. If you like to prepare ahead, read King David's story found in 2 Samuel 11.

The Wonder of Christmas: An Advent Study: This Advent rediscover the true wonder of Christmas. We will offer four classes per week for you to choose from to study the book "The Wonder of Christmas." Come to the Faith Formation Kiosk to sign up for a class and purchase a book for \$10. Classes begin the last week of November.

Advent Devotionals: Next Sunday, November 26th, look for our Advent Devotionals. People will be handing them out at the main doors, or you can pick one up at the Welcome Centers. We have plenty, so pick some up for friends.

Thank you to our volunteers!

Coffee Fellowship

Richard & Marilyn Barney
Barbara Dittmer

Information Center

Jim Bellotty, Dennis Grothaus

Owl Express

Richard Goetz

Medical Team

Marvin Clark

Welcome Centers

Carol Peeler, Roy Romstad

La Posada Service of Worship

Doug Clark, Sonya Larsen

Please remember those currently or recently hospitalized:

Mabel Acri
Flowers given by: Liz Haynes

In loving memory of my parents

Thanksgiving Dinner, with all the trimmings, will be served at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 23rd at 1:00 p.m. Sign-up in Fellowship Hall today! No charge for the meal but donations are appreciated.

Casa Vida Nueva: Sponsor an Orphan Child for Christmas and Visit on December 9th! November is your opportunity to sponsor a child for Christmas. VPC helps 28 children and one newborn who needs your support and love, plus three adult couples who live at the home. See Reed Olson in Fellowship Hall today, the 26th, and December 3rd, and select the child you want to sponsor. Reed will have Christmas cards for each child you can sign as their "sponsor." PLUS: Sign up for the next trip to the home on December 9th to witness the children opening their Christmas gifts.

Concert Tickets: Individual tickets for "HarpFusion" (December 1st at 6:00 p.m.), are available today in Fellowship Hall after the service.

Mission Quilts will meet tomorrow from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Bring a snack when staying the entire time.

The Mission Committee would like to say a huge THANK YOU to all of the Holiday Patio Sale Volunteers who recently raised \$3,955.30! The money goes to mission outreaches of VPC, and is greatly appreciated!

Wednesday, November 22nd

Thanksgiving Eve Old-time Hymn Sing

A fun service of singing old hymns, reading scripture, listening to a short message, and sharing in a few prayers.



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We are a Stephen Ministry Church



REV. MARK A. MEDINA, *Transitional Pastor*
REV. DIANE CHRISTOPHER, *Pastor of Discipleship*
REV. DR. LINDA LLOYD, *Interim Pastor of Care*

REV. JOE HAWKINS, *Pastor Emeritus*
STEVE RODINE, *Church Administrator*
JOEL PIERCE, *Director of Music*
CHRISTINE ERICKSON, RN, *Parish Nurse*



To know Christ and make him known through word and deed.

✠ All those who are able, please stand.

9:30 a.m.

November 19, 2017

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God of the covenant, even when we fall into sin, your Spirit invites us to remember that you chose us to be your servant people. Awaken us to the power and gifts you pour into us for the good of creation, and grant that we may be trustworthy in all things, producing abundantly for your realm. Amen.

WELCOME & NEWS OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Christopher

Please print your name in the Friendship Register provided in your pew.

MINUTE FOR GENEROSITY

Vic Valade

POURING OF THE WATER

L: *Jesus is the Living Water.*

P: **Praise be to God.**

PRELUDE

Give Thanks

arr. Anthony Berger

INTROIT

Morning Has Broken (v. 1)

Bunessan

469

**Morning has broken Like the first morning,
Black-bird has spoken Like the first bird.**

**Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing Fresh from the Word.**

✠ **CALL TO WORSHIP** (Inspired by John 6. Ministry Matters) Rev. Medina

L: *Rejoice, folks, Jesus is in our midst.*

P: **Feed us, Jesus, and fill us with hope.**

L: *Be glad, friends, Jesus has bread and fish to spare.*

P: **Free us, Jesus, from the pursuit of food that does not satisfy.**

L: *Sing for joy, people of God; God gathers up the pieces of our lives, that nothing may be lost.*

All: **Thanks be to God!**

✠ **HYMN**

We Gather Together

Kremser

559

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Lloyd

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, You have shown us mercy time and again because we have failed to live up to the law of love. But we have not always shown the same mercy to others. We expect forgiveness without extending forgiveness to others. We demand unconditional love while placing conditions on others. Forgive us, O God. Call us into Your ways of justice and mercy because the world needs it. Love us, because without it, we are nothing. In the name of Christ, who went to the cross, through death and life for us, we pray. We now bring our silent prayers of confession to you, O God.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: God's mercy endures forever. God's forgiveness endures forever. God's love endures forever.

All: There is no limit to God's faithfulness. Go, and show mercy. Go, and forgive. Go, and love. Serve God in these ways. Amen.

RESPONSE TO ASSURANCE Great is Thy Faithfulness (v. 1) Faithfulness 276

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

ANTHEM

Blessed By Your Grace*
Sanctuary Choir

Cindy Ovokaitys

Thank you, Lord, for daily grace you freely give to me.
Ev'ry day I see your hand supply my ev'ry need.
Blessings you pour over me, I cherish in my heart.
I rejoice in all you do, my bright and morning star!
Your faithful love inspires my praise, O holy King of kings.
Forever let me worship you. Forever let me sing.

Refrain:

Lord, you're worthy of my song of thanks, my worship and
praise! Alleluia, I bow down to you. I'm blessed by your grace.

You are always here for me and promise to provide.
What is there for me to fear when you are by my side?
You are God and I am yours. Yes, I am yours alone!
You have kindly chosen me to be your very own.
(refrain)

Alleluia, I bow down to you. I'm blessed by your grace.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

YOUTH CHAT (September-May)

Following the message, youth in grades 1-6 will go to Classroom 3 for Sunday School.

BLESSING OF THE PRAYER SHAWLS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Deacon Sam Eidson

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalms 100:1-5 (Pew Bible p. 937)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL LESSON

John 6:1-14 (Pew Bible p. 1655)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Living a Life of Gratitude"

Rev. Medina

MOMENTS OF SILENT REFLECTION

✦HYMN

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

Quebec 510

PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

*If you haven't already done so, please print your name in the Fellowship Register.

OFFERTORY

Thank You
Marie Valade - soloist

Ray Boltz

✦DOXOLOGY

Old One Hundredth 592

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him,
all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

✦PRAYER OF DEDICATION

✦HYMN

Let All Things Now Living

Ash Grove 554

✦BENEDICTION

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our Creator, children all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry breath I take, let this be my solemn vow,
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally,
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

✦POSTLUDE

Num danket alle Gott

Georg Kaufmann

OUR WORSHIP NOW ENTERS THE WORLD!

Worship Aids/Sermon Notes

Sermon Title: "Living a Life of Gratitude"

Psalm 100:1-5 (NIV)

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his, we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

John 6:1-14 (NIV)

Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the miraculous signs he had performed on the sick. Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. The Jewish Passover Feast was near.

When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

Philip answered him, "Eight months' wages would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"

Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and the men sat down, about five thousand of them. Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

After the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus did, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world." Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.