



February 25, 2024
2nd Sunday Following the 9th day of Lent

PRELUDE *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* Mason/Wagner

POURING OUT OF WATERS, PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST Pastor Craig

TRINITY RINGING, CHOIR PROCESSIONAL

CALL TO WORSHIP Marcia MacDonald

God of all times and places, in Jesus Christ you opened for us the path to eternal life. Grant that we, taking up the cross to serve others, baptized in water and Spirit, may joyfully serve You in newness of life and faithfully walk in Your way.

✠ **OPENING HYMN** *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind* 169

CALL TO PRAYER

GOD of our ancestors, as your chosen servant Abraham was given faith to obey the Call, going out into the unknown for decades, trusting in the impossible; so may your church be granted such faith, that we may follow you with perseverance, for the sake of our LORD.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

GOD Almighty, GOD of mercy, you are full of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in mercy, always ready to forgive. Grant us grace to renounce evil and cling to Christ our Savior, that in every way we may demonstrate to others what it means to be children of God. This we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Silent Prayer) Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

If any wish to become my followers, let them deny themselves, take up the cross daily and follow me. Brothers and sisters, believe the Good News of the Gospel, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

✠ GLORIA PATRI

581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen, Amen.

ANTHEM

I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

Trad. Spiritual/Arr. M. Hayes

I want Jesus to walk with me.
All along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord, comfort me.
When my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to comfort me.

When I'm in trouble, Lord, stay with me.
When my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to stay with me.

I want Jesus to walk with me.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

35

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.

CHORAL AMEN

CHILDREN TIME

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 17: 1-10, 14-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, “I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers.”

Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. The whole land of Caanan, where you now reside as a foreigner, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God.”

Then God said to Abraham, “As for you, you must keep my covenant, you and your descendants after you for the generations to come. This is my covenant with you and your descendants after you, the covenant you are to keep: Every male among you shall be circumcised.

Any uncircumcised male, who has not been circumcised in the flesh, will be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant.”

God also said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her.”

Mark 8: 31-37

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?"

L: This is the Word of the Lord

M: **Thanks be to God**

SERMON: "UNCONDITIONAL TRUST"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Apostles' Creed* 35

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 at 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,

Refrain:

*Because he lives, I can face tomorrow,
Because he lies, all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because He lives.*

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,
And feel the pride, and joy he gives;
But sweeter still the calm assurance,
This child can face uncertain days because He lives

Refrain

And then one day I'll cross the river,
I'll fight life's final war with pain;
And then as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives

Refrain

✦ **POSTLUDE**

All Hail the Power

Forrest/Wagner

✦ **All those who are able, please stand**

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All Worship Services are available for replay on our website.

www.valleypres.net

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY PROVIDED BY: Liane Graessle, honoring John Graessle.

PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE RECENTLY IN THE HOSPITAL OR IN REHAB:
Martha Ashton

PATIO SALE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The Cashiers and Trucking team need volunteers for the Patio Sale on Thursday, March 14, Friday, March 15 and March 16.

THIS WEEK:

MONDAY 26:

9:00 a.m. Parkinson's Chair Exercise – Charter Hall

9:00 p.m. Patio Sale Coordinating Team—Sweet Family Room

1:00 p.m. Bible Reflections Bible study, Acts 12 – Classroom 5

2:00 p.m. Valley Readers— Classroom 1

TUESDAY 27:

9:00 a.m. Cardio Drumming – Charter Hall

9:30 a.m. Prayer Ministry – Sweet Family Room

10:00 a.m. YOGA with Josie – Charter Hall

10:00 a.m. Patio Sale All Volunteer Meeting—Sanctuary

2:30 p.m. Joyful Spirit Ensemble Rehearsal – Sweet Family Room

WEDNESDAY 28:

9:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study – Classroom 1

9:00 a.m. Parkinson's Chair Exercises – Charter Hall

10:00 a.m. Chair Exercise – Charter Hall

1:00 p.m. Nominating Committee— Classroom 3

1:00 p.m. YOTO Card Making—Classroom 5

2:00 p.m. Valley Ringers Rehearsal – Sweet Family Room

3:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary

THURSDAY 29:

8:00 a.m. Blood Drive—Charter Hall, Fellowship Hall, Overflow

1:00 p.m. The Book—The Story of God—Classroom 5

3:00 p.m. Line Dancing – Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY MARCH 1:

9:00 a.m. Parkinson’s Chair Exercises – Charter Hall

SATURDAY 2:

8:00 a.m. Communion Prep—Kitchen

VPC Financial - Attendance / On-Line Viewing Metrics			
Monthly Giving Support Contributions		Weekly Attendance / Viewing	
January-2024		Through Week 7 (2/18/24)	
Monthly Giving Support	\$ 85,651	Weekly Attendance Sanctuary	318
Monthly Giving Budget	86,250	YTD 2024 Attendance Sanctuary	2,292
YTD Giving Support	85,651	Weekly Viewing On-Line	95
YTD Giving Budget	86,250	YTD 2024 Viewing On-Line	939
<i>S. Ginader - VPC treasurer - steveginader@gmail.com - 952-687-1879 2024 Per Capita is \$41.50 per member</i>			

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

VISITORS: Consider yourself at home while you are here! Please enjoy a cup of coffee, lemonade and a cookie while visiting the Visitor’s Table in Fellowship Hall after the church worship service. You can pick up a Visitor’s Information Packet at the Visitor’s Table or the Welcome Centers. If you would like to receive more information about us, visit us at valleypres.net where you can sign up for our daily email blasts and monthly newsletter.

Children are invited to worship in the sanctuary then attend Sunday School after Children’s Time.



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We are a Stephen Ministry Church



REV. DR. CRAIG LINDSEY, *Head of Staff*
CHRISTINE ERICKSON, RN, *Parish Nurse*
JAMIE REED, *Director of Music*
JAN BRACHEL, *Organist/Accompanist*
REV. JOE HAWKINS, *Pastor Emeritus*