



this the Word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: “Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your reward shall be great!”

✦ **OPENING HYMN**

*Eternal Father, Strong to Save*  
(verses 1, 2 and 3)

8

**CALL TO PRAYER**

Abram said, “O Sovereign Lord, what can you give me since I continue childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eleazar of Damascus, the servant in my household?” Then the Word of the Lord came to Abram” A child from your own body will be your heir. Look up at the heaven and count the stars, if indeed you can. So shall your offspring be.” Abraham believed the Lord and it was credited to him as righteousness. God also said to him, “I Am the Lord, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land, to take possession of it.”

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of mercy, full of tenderness and mercy, always ready to forgive. Grant us grace to renounce all evil and cling to Christ, that in every way we may prove to be your loving children. God of our ancestors, as your chosen servant Abraham was given faith to obey your Call going out into the unknown, so may your church be granted such faith that we may follow you with courage for the sake of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. (Silent Prayer) Amen**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Abraham inquired of the Lord, “How can I know that I will be granted all these things?” The Lord said, “Bring me a Heifer, a Goat and a Ram, each three years old, as well as a Young Pigeon and Dove.” As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep and a thick dreadful darkness came over him. Then the Lord said “Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a strange land, they will be enslaved and mistreated for 400 years. Afterward they will come out with great possessions. You however, will go to your fathers in peace and be buried at a good old age.” Brothers and sisters, repent and believe the good news: 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**

*God So Loved the World*

J. Stainer

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,  
that who so believeth, believeth in Him  
should not perish but have everlasting life.

For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world;  
but that the world through Him might be saved.

God so loved the world.

### **CHILDREN’S TIME**

**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**

**SCRIPTURE**

Luke 9: 28-43

About eight days after Jesus fed the seed, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." (He did not know what he was saying.)

While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. A voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him." When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

The next day, when they came down from the mountain, a large crowd met him. A man in the crowd called out, “Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child. A spirit seizes him and he suddenly screams; it throws him into convulsions so that he foams at the mouth. It scarcely ever leaves him and is destroying him. I begged your disciples to drive it out, but they could not.”

“You unbelieving and perverse generation,” Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you and put up with you? Bring your son here.”

Even while the boy was coming, the demon threw him to the ground in a convulsion. But Jesus rebuked the impure spirit, healed the boy and gave him back to his father. And they were all amazed at the greatness of God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

**P: Thanks be to God**

**SERMON: “COUNTED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS”**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**      *The 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, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.



**BENEDICTION**

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**      *God Be with You Till We Meet Again*

God be with you till we meet again;  
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
With a shepherd's care enfold you:  
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;  
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
With a shepherd's care enfold you:  
God be with you till we meet again.

◆ **POSTLUDE**      *They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love*  
Arr. M. Hayes/M. Gaspard

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

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**All Worship Services are available for replay on our website.**  
[www.valleypres.net](http://www.valleypres.net)

**FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY PROVIDED BY:** Lois Macfarlane, thanking  
God for all our blessings.

**PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE IN THE HOSPITAL OR IN REHAB:** Tom Macfarlane,  
and Bob Puttock.

**MISSION QUILTERS** – Monday, March 17, 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in the  
Fellowship Hall. We welcome anyone interested in helping us  
produce the many quilts we donate. All skill levels useful! Bring a  
snack. Come tomorrow and speak with Patti Bright or Susan Rand.



**BIBLE REFLECTION'S** - Mondays at 1:00 p.m. in classroom 5. This week they will be starting Judges.

**CARDIO DRUMMING** – Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This 30-minute exercise program is for health, stress and balance.

**YOGA WITH JOSIE** – Join Josie in the Charter Hall for a meditative YOGA class for \$5.00.

**JESUS: LAMB OF GOD**—Tuesday, March 18 –April 8. at 10:00 a.m. in classroom 5. Facilitated by Bud Landry.

**LENTEN WORSHIP**—Wednesdays, through April 9, 5:00 p.m. in the Spiritual Life Center. Join Pastor Craig for a 30-minute devotional worship that has been created using Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow's reflections *40 Days, 40 Prayers, 40 Words*. Soup will be served afterwards. Books will be available at the Lenten worship while supplies last.

**LINE DANCING WITH STEVE HART** – Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. for beginners and 2:00 p.m. for not so beginners.

**NO ACT OF LOVE IS EVER WASTED** – Book discussion group starts Thursday March 20 at 2:00 p.m. in classroom 5. Participants should have received some pre-class reading by email. Books are being provided by the Faith Formation Committee.

**MUSIC IN THE VALLEY PRESENTS** – University of Arizona's Graduating class of 2025 will be performing "Songs to Live By" March 22 at 2:00 p.m.





**VPC FOUNDATION GIVING FORUM** – March 23, 11:00 a.m. Spiritual Life Center. The VPC Foundation provides long-term resources for the care and growth of our church facilities. To help explore meaningful and tax-smart ways to give, we invite you to come and talk to the experts. A light lunch will be provided, please contact the office to reserve your spot. (520) 625-5023 [office@valleypres.net](mailto:office@valleypres.net).

**MISSION BREAKFAST**—Saturday, March 29, at 8:30 a.m. Pick up your tickets today in the Fellowship Hall.

**DAILY DEVOTIONALS FOR LENT**—The Daily Devotionals for the Season of Lent are now available at the Welcome Centers. Feel free to take enough to share with your family, friends and neighbors. There is no charge.

**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](http://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.

We are glad you have joined us today.



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We are a Stephen Ministry Church



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JAMIE REED, *Director of Music*  
JAN BRACHEL, *Organist/Accompanist*  
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REV. JOE HAWKINS, *Pastor Emeritus*