

**\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**CARRYING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD**

**\* HYMN** *Thine is the Glory* **238**

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Go into the world as Easter people. Live with courage. Love with generosity. Trust with confidence. Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. And resurrection continues. Amen.

**\*POSTLUDE** *Hallelujah Chorus from "Messiah"* G.F. Handel

Hallelujah!  
For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Hallelujah!

The kingdom of this world is become  
The kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ, and of His Christ;  
And He shall reign for ever and ever.

King of kings, forever and ever,  
And Lord of Lords, Hallelujah!

And He shall reign for ever and ever.

King of Kings! And Lord of Lords!  
Hallelujah!

*Triumphal Recession* R. S. Morris  
Larry Grove, Guest Organist

**\*- If able, please stand**

Today's service is available online at [valleypres.net](http://valleypres.net).

**EASTER LILIES IN THE SANCTUARY PROVIDED BY: IN MEMORY / HONOR OF:**

Marilyn and Dick Barney	Our family
Geri and Skip Berry	Family
Kristin Sells	Chuck
John and Barbara Bentley	Our Parents
Sarah Hennigar	Bill Hennigar
Nancy Collins	Mike Yoder
Wendy Schaefer	For Shut-ins
Pat and Rob Pearson	
Jeannie Cameron	Don Cameron, Jim, and Alama Wheaton
Sheila and Ken Frahm	Our Church!
Ellen and Bill Entwistle	To the Glory of God
Linda Kucera	Jannett Lary
Vic Kucera	Margaret Burreson
Betty Kiesle Yoder	Mikey Yoder
Cheryl Stepp	Loving Memory of Dave and Jenny
Jim and Cheryl Conner	Don & Lee Conner and Thom & Lillian Conway

Laurel Erickson	Tom Erickson
Wanita Marshall	Tom Marshall
Linda Jorn	Mrs. Morrison
Jean Hein	Marvin and Douglas
Steve and Nona Larson	Our parents
Dick and carolyn Hill	carolyn's parents Jane and Burt
Maria Ramirez	My parents Gil and Diana
Linda Dyck	Kent Doffing
Ron and Ann Erickson	Bob Erickson, brother of Ron
Betty Singleton	Richard Singleton
Bernie and Don Nicholson	Lois Nicholson and Aggie Wilkens
Liz Haynes	My parents
Mia Cooper	
Donaldina Joung	
Craig and Kris McFall	Our parents Dana & Dorothy McFall and John & Eleanor Norton
Roger Lee Fisher	
Kay and Mike Brouwer	Our parents

**PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE IN THE HOSPITAL OR IN REHAB:** Laura Penton-Williams.

**VIC VALADE MEMORIAL** – Saturday, April 11, at 1:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

VPC Financial - Attendance / On-Line Viewing Metrics			
Monthly Giving Support Contributions		Weekly Attendance / Viewing	
As of February 2026		Through Week 12 (03-22-2026)	
Monthly Giving Support	\$ 85,853	Weekly Attendance Sanctuary	308
Monthly Giving Budget	62,500	YTD 2026 Attendance Sanctuary	3,878
YTD Giving Support	202,180	Weekly Viewing On-Line	93
YTD Giving Budget	125,000	YTD 2026 Viewing On-Line	1,186

S. Ginader - VPC treasurer - steveginader@gmail.com - 952-687-1879 2026 Per Capita is \$43.90 per member

**WELCOME — PALM SUNDAY**  
*Welcome to Valley Presbyterian Church.*

**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! 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.

Let us worship God together.

**Valley Presbyterian Church**  
*Oasis of Grace*

2800 S. Camino del Sol  
Green Valley, AZ 85622  
Telephone: (520) 625-5023  
Web: [www.valleypresbyterian.net](http://www.valleypresbyterian.net)  
Email: [vpc-office@valleypres.net](mailto:vpc-office@valleypres.net)  
We are a Stephen Ministry Church

**REV. BLAIR BEAVER, Senior Pastor**  
**JAMIE REED, Director of Music**  
**JAN BRACHEL, Organist/Accompanist**  
**REV. DIANE CHRISTOPHER, Pastor Emerita**  
**REV. JOE HAWKINS, Pastor Emeritus**



**April 5, 2026 9:30 a.m. EASTER SUNDAY**

**GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

**PRELUDE** *Blessed Assurance* Arr. C.R. Brown  
Mike Finkelstein, Trumpet

**ANNOUNCEMENTS / PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE / OUTPOURING OF WATERS / TRINITY RINGING**

**CENTERING RITUAL (FONT & TRINITY BOWL)**

Breathe in slowly – **God is present.** Breathe out slowly – **We are here.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Bud Landry

L: Christ is risen!  
**P: Christ is risen indeed!**  
L: The stone has been rolled away.  
**P: Death has lost its grip.**  
L: Hope awakens.  
**P: Life is made new.**  
L: This is the day the Lord has made.  
**P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

**\* HYMN** *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* **232**

**PRAYER OF ADORATION**  
Living God, on this morning of resurrection, the world feels different. Light breaks through shadows. Hope rises where fear once lived. Life speaks where silence tried to remain. You are the God who brings life out of death, hope out of despair, and new beginnings out of endings. We praise you for love stronger than the grave. We praise you for mercy

deeper than our fears. We praise you for the promise that nothing can separate us from your presence. Open our hearts this day. Let resurrection move within us. Let hope breathe again. Let joy take root. We worship you with gratitude and wonder. In Christ we pray. Amen.

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

Even on Easter morning, we carry worries, regrets, and burdens we struggle to release. Yet resurrection reminds us that God meets us with grace, not condemnation. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*silently – then together.*)

**God of new life, too often we live as though Good Friday were the end of the story. We allow fear to guide our decisions. We allow worry to shape our days. We allow discouragement to quiet our hope. Forgive us when we forget that resurrection is still unfolding. Forgive us when we act as though everything depends on us. Forgive us when we struggle to trust that you are already at work. Open our eyes to your presence. Renew our courage. Restore our joy. Help us live as Easter people. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Hear the good news: Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Nothing can separate us from the love of God. We are forgiven. We are restored. We are made new.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

#### \*GLORIA PATRI

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.

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

#### TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

#### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Living God, by your Spirit open the Scriptures to us this day. Let resurrection speak to our lives. Give us ears to hear hope. Give us hearts ready to trust. Give us courage to live what we hear. Amen.

#### OT READING

#### ISAIAH 65:17-25 NIV

#### New Heavens and a New Earth

<sup>17</sup> “See, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind.

<sup>18</sup> But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy.

<sup>19</sup> I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people; the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more.

<sup>20</sup> “Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years; the one who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere child; the one who fails to reach a hundred will be

considered accursed.

<sup>21</sup> They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

<sup>22</sup> No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat. For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people; my chosen ones will long enjoy the work of their hands.

<sup>23</sup> They will not labor in vain, nor will they bear children doomed to misfortune; for they will be a people blessed by the Lord, they and their descendants with them.

<sup>24</sup> Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear.

<sup>25</sup> The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, and dust will be the serpent's food. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain,” says the Lord.

#### ANTHEM

*How Great Thou Art and Majesty*

Choral Setting: J. Raney

*O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
How great thou art, how great thou art!*

*When through the woods and forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.  
And when I think that God, his Son and sparing,  
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
Jesus, who died, now glorified; His name be praised.*

*Majesty, worship his majesty;  
Unto Jesus be all glory, honor, and praise.  
Majesty, kingdom authority  
Jesus, who died, now glorified; His name be praised.*

*When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
And there proclaim, "My God! How great thou art!"*

#### NT READING

#### LUKE 24:1-12 NIV

**24** On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. <sup>2</sup> They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. <sup>5</sup> In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup> He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: <sup>7</sup> ‘The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.’ ” <sup>8</sup> Then they remembered his words.

<sup>9</sup> When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. <sup>10</sup> It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. <sup>11</sup> But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. <sup>12</sup> Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

L: The words of God, for the people of God.

P: **Thanks be to God**

#### SERMON

Resurrection Begins in the Dark

Rev. Beaver

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

#### \* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**This is the good news we believe: God brings life where the world expects death. God brings hope where fear once lived. God brings forgiveness where guilt once remained. We believe resurrection is not only something that happened long ago. Resurrection is God's ongoing work in the world.**

**We believe Christ is alive. We believe love is stronger than fear. We believe grace is stronger than failure. We believe hope is stronger than despair. We believe nothing can separate us from the love of God.**

**This is our faith. This is our hope. This is our joy. Amen.**

#### \* HYMN

*Be Thou My Vision*

450

#### COMMUNION

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / 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 have sinned 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.**

#### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Resurrection reminds us that life is a gift meant to be shared. We give with gratitude, trusting that God continues to bring life through generosity.

#### OFFERTORY

*The Holy City*

S. Adams/Arr. S. DeCesare

Mike Finkelstein, Trumpet

#### \* DOXOLOGY

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.