



**September 24, 2023**

**PRELUDE**    *Christians, We Have Met to Worship*    Arr. D.E. Wagner

**PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Pastor Craig

**RINGING THE BOWL, POURING OUT OF WATERS**

**INTROIT**                    *Surely the Presence*

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;  
I can feel His mighty power and His grace.  
I can hear the brush of angels' wings,  
I see glory on each face;  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor Diane

L: Cry out with joy to the LORD, all the earth!

**P: Worship the LORD with gladness!**

L: Come into GOD's presence with singing!

**P: Enter the Courts of the LORD with praise and thanksgiving!**

✠ **OPENING HYMN**    *God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand*    331

**CALL TO PRAYER**

Philippians 1: 9-10

It is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, so that you may approve what is excellent, and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ!

**THE UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Almighty GOD, you created the heavens, the earth and humankind in your image. Teach us to recognize your hand in all things, so to serve you with reverence and joy. You have willed that the last shall be first and made a little child the measure of your kingdom. Gift us that wisdom, which is from above, that we may understand how in your sight the one who serves is greatest of all. You are rich in love for your people, show us the treasure that endures. When we are tempted by greed, remind us of your lavish mercy. Call us back into your service, making us worthy to be entrusted with that which never fails. All this we pray through your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. (Silent prayer)    Amen**

### **THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

May we never boast of anything, except the love and sacrifice of our Lord. Brothers and Sisters 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:**                    *Just a Closer Walk with Thee*                    Arr. E. Lojeski

I am weak but Thou art strong.  
Jesus keep me from all wrong.  
I'll be satisfied as long as I walk close to thee.

Through this world of toil and snares,  
If I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden shares?  
None but Thee.

Just a closer walk with Thee.  
Jesus, grant my humble plea!  
Daily walking close to Thee,  
Let it be, Dear Lord, let it be.

### **PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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.**

## CHORAL AMEN

## CHILDREN'S TIME

### SCRIPTURE

Jonah 3:10—4:11

When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD, “Isn’t this what I said, LORD, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. Now, LORD, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

But the LORD replied, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

Jonah had gone out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. Then the LORD God provided a leafy plant and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant. But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered. When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah’s head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, “It would be better for me to die than to live.”

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?”

“It is,” he said. “And I’m so angry I wish I were dead.”

But the LORD said, “You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?”

Genesis 50: 16-21

So they sent word to Joseph, saying, “Your father left these instructions before he died: ‘This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.’ Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father.” When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. “We are your slaves,” they said.

But Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God? You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. So then, don’t be afraid. I will provide for you and your children.” And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

P: **Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

“DO YOU DO WELL TO BE ANGRY?”



**FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY PROVIDED BY:** Vic & Marie Valade, in memory of Dorothy Valade.

**FLOWER ON THE BAPTISMAL FONT IN HONOR OF:** Dave Appleton

**PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED OR IN REHABILITATION:**

**THIS WEEK:**

**PARKINSON'S CHAIR EXERCISES**—Meets 3 days a week, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday in the Charter Hall at 9:00 a.m.

**BIBLE REFLECTIONS** — Monday, at 1:00 p.m., in Classroom 5, studying Luke 15.

**VALLEY READERS**—Monday, at 2:00 p.m. in Classroom 1. Discussing *Memories in the Drift*, by Melissa Payne. The leader is Pastor Diane.

**THERE WILL BE A COLUMBARIUM SERVICE** for Mary Lee Haas on Monday, September 25, at 3:00 p.m. Church Members are invited.

**CARDIO DRUMMING** – Tuesdays, at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**PRAYER MINISTRY**— Tuesdays, at 9:30 a.m. in the Sweet Family Room.

**THE END TIMES— ACCORDING TO JESUS**—Selected Topics—Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. in Classroom 5. Your teacher is Bud Landry.



**JOYFUL SPIRIT ENSEMBLE** – Tuesdays, at 2:30 p.m. in the Sweet Family Room.

**MEN’S BIBLE STUDY**— Wednesdays, at 9:00 a.m. in Classroom 1. They are studying 1 Thessalonians. All are welcome.

**CHAIR EXERCISE CLASS**—Wednesdays, at 10:00 a.m. in Charter Hall.

**YOTO CARD MAKING**—Wednesday, at 1:00 p.m. Classroom 5.

**CHOIR REHEARSAL**— Wednesday, at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

**THE BOOK**—The Story of God Continues Thursday, at 1:00 p.m. in Classroom 5. They will be studying Romans.

**LINE DANCE REVIEW**—Thursday, at 3:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

**FALL PREVENTION DAY** - Friday, from 9:00—12:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall.

VPC Financial - Attendance / On-Line Viewing Metrics			
Monthly Giving Support Contributions		Weekly Attendance / Viewing	
August-2023		Through Week 38 (09/17/23)	
Monthly Giving Support	\$ 47,540	Weekly Attendance Sanctuary	154
Monthly Giving Budget	39,966	* YTD 2023 Attendance Sanctuary	10,169
*YTD Giving Support	538,145	** Weekly Viewing On-Line	97
*YTD Giving Budget	544,316	** YTD 2023 Viewing On-Line	5,130
		* YTD 2023 Attendance / On-Line	15,299
		* YTD 2022 Attendance Sanctuary	8,160
<p style="text-align: center;">* YTD = Year to Date      ** Number of on-line devices tuned into Sunday service</p> <p style="text-align: center;">S. Ginader - VPC treasurer - <a href="mailto:steveginader@gmail.com">steveginader@gmail.com</a> - 952-687-1879    2023 Per Capita is \$41.50 per member</p>			



**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**



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