



## *Celebrating 26 Years*

**October 22, 2023**

**PRELUDE**      *More Love to Thee, O Christ*

Arr. M. Hayes, M. Gaspard

**POURING OUT OF WATERS/PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**      Pastor Craig

**RINGING THE BOWL/CHORAL PROCESSION**      Pastor Diane

**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**

Mark Nepo

I have thought great thoughts and sung great songs – all of it as rehearsal for the majesty of being held. The dream is awakened when thinking I love you and life begins when saying I love you and joy moves like blood when embracing others with love. My efforts have turned from trying to outrun suffering to accepting love wherever I find it. Stripped of causes and plans and things to strive for, I have discovered everything I could need or ask for is right here, in flawed abundance. We cannot eliminate hunger, but we can feed each other. We cannot eliminate loneliness, but we can hold each other. We cannot eliminate pain, but we can live a life of compassion. Ultimately, we are small living things awakened in the stream, not gods who carve out rivers. Like human fish, we are asked to experience meaning in the life that moves through the gills of our being. There is nothing to do and nowhere to go. Accepting this, we can do everything and go anywhere.

✠ **OPENING HYMN** *When in Our Music God Is Glorified* 641

**CALL TO PRAYER**

Hebrews 4: 12

The Word of God is living and active, able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

**THE UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**LORD GOD, when you fashioned the world the morning stars sang together and the host of heaven shouted for joy. Open our eyes to see the wonders of creation and teach us to use all things for good, to the honor of your glorious name. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Support our prayer lest we grow weary. Drive us to seek your enduring justice and your ever-present help. Grant us this through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. (Silent prayer) Amen**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Mark 10: 45

The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as ransom for many. 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**

*I Am Not Afraid*

L. Larson

In the emptiness of silence when the world has turned away;  
Beneath the weight of sorrow when I can no longer pray;  
In the wilderness of worry, in the desert of despair;  
In the neverending darkness when it seems that no one cares,

I am not afraid, I am not alone.

You hold me in Your hands and will not let me go.

Though the waters rise and though the winds may blow,

I will not be afraid, I am not alone.

When there are no words comfort that can stem the flow of tears;

When I'm stranded at the center of a rising tide of fear;

When there is no path before me, when my feet have lost their way;

I remember You are with me and I am not afraid!

## **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**

Exodus 33: 12-23

Moses said to the LORD, "You have been telling me, 'Lead these people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, 'I know you by name and you have found favor with me.' If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people."

The LORD replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

Then Moses said to God, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?"

And the LORD said to Moses, “I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.” Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory.”

And the LORD said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.”

Then the LORD said, “There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen.”

Matthew 22:15-22

Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. “Teacher,” they said, “we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren’t swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not?”

But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, “You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? Show me the coin used for paying the tax.” They brought him a denarius, and he asked them, “Whose image is this? And whose inscription?”

“Caesar’s,” they replied.

Then he said to them, “So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.”

When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

P: **Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

“I SEE YOU”

**STATEMENT 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.

✠ **HYMN**

*Take My Life*

697

**CALL FOR OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

*My Tribute*

A. Crouch/Arr. J. Wilson

**\*Please print your name in the fellowship register: Friendship Pads in the pews are a great way to meet your neighbor.**

**\*\* If you have a special prayer request, please fill out the blue card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. There is also a box in the Narthex you may place it in. Our Pastors and the Prayer Ministry Team will pray for your request.**

⌄ **DOXOLOGY** 606

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.

⌄ **HYMN** *God of Our Life* 686

⌄ **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

⌄ **POSTLUDE** *Recessional in C* D. 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](http://www.valleypres.net)

**FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY PROVIDED BY: Fred & Carol Roeming, honoring their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.**

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

**THIS WEEK:**

**PARKINSON'S CHAIR EXERCISES**—Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays at 9:00 a.m. in the Charter Hall.

**OVERCOMING DEPRESSION**— Monday, at 9:00 a.m. in Classroom 5. Taught by Tom Lobb.

**FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE**— Monday, at 10:00 a.m. in Classroom 3.

**BIBLE REFLECTIONS** — Monday, at 1:00 p.m., in Classroom 5, studying Luke 18:31.

**VALLEY READERS** —Monday, at 2:00 p.m. in Classroom 1.

**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.

**YOGA WITH JOSIE**—Tuesdays, at 10:00 a.m. in the Charter Hall.

**THE END OF TIME— 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 WITH MIA COOPER**— Wednesdays, at 10:00



a.m. in the Charter Hall.

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

**BELLS REHEARSAL**—Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. in the Sweet Family Room.

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

**FAITH OF A MOCKINGBIRD** - Thursday at 10:00 a.m. in the Spiritual Life Center. Your teacher is Eloise Fredrickson.

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

**STEPHEN MINISTRY MEETING**—Friday, at 9:30 a.m. in Classroom 5.

**SIGNUP FOR SUPPER CLUSTERS**—Starting this Sunday through November in the Fellowship Hall after Worship.

**OPERATION SHOEBOX**— Disbursement and filled collection begins

today. Come see us and pick up an assembled box to take home with all instructions included for filling or return your filled box at the tables in the Fellowship Hall. This will be ongoing through November 12 on Sundays before and after worship.

VPC Financial - Attendance / On-Line Viewing Metrics			
Monthly Giving Support Contributions		Weekly Attendance / Viewing	
September-2023		Through Week 42 (10/15/23)	
Monthly Giving Support	\$ 53,897	Weekly Attendance Sanctuary	219
Monthly Giving Budget	42,472	* YTD 2023 Attendance Sanctuary	10,988
*YTD Giving Support	592,097	** Weekly Viewing On-Line	109
*YTD Giving Budget	586,788	** YTD 2023 Viewing On-Line	5,524
		* YTD 2023 Attendance / On-Line	16,512
		* YTD 2022 Attendance Sanctuary	8,979
+			
<i>S. Ginader - VPC treasurer - steveginader@gmail.com - 952-687-1879 2023 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](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.



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. 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*