



**December 31, 2023
1st Sunday of Christmas**

PRELUDE *Still, Still, Still* Arr. M. Hayes

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

NOISY OFFERING—Compañeros en Misión

RINGING THE BOWL/CHOIR PROCESSION Pastor Craig

INTROIT *O Come, All Ye Faithful* 133

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We have come here to celebrate; a child has been born for us.

P: His name is called Wonderful Counselor, Good Shepherd, Lamb of God.

L: He is the babe of Bethlehem and the mighty Lord.

P: His name is called Savior, author of life, bread of life.

L: He is called friend and guide,

P: and we call him Everlasting Life and Prince of Peace.

L: Let us worship with joyous and thankful praise, God is with us.

✠ **OPENING HYMN** *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!*

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CALL TO PRAYER

Scripture says if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Having heard these words, let us prayer together the Prayer of Confession:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess that we aren't always the best children. We don't always play nice, we don't always share our toys, we sometimes even punch our neighbor. We often put more food on our plate than we know we should or than we can even eat. For all these sins and for many more, we, your children, still run to you seeking your love and grace. (Silent prayer). Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Just as loving parents still love and spoil their children, even when they don't live up to their full potential, so too God, who loves and spoils us out of God's limitless grace. Brothers and sisters,

believe the Good News of the Gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

✠ **GLORIA PATRI**

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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

Once in Royal David's City
Valley Ringers and Chancel Choir

Arr. H. Helvey

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her Baby in a manger for His bed;
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little Child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and meek, and lowly lived on earth, our Savior holy.

Jesus is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us He grew;
He was little, weak and helpless, tears and smiles like us He knew;
And He feeleth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see Him, thro' His own redeeming love;
For that Child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above,
And He leads His children on to the place where He is gone.

PASTORAL PRAYER/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

FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY PROVIDED BY:
The Pastor Diane Celebration Committee.

PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE WHO ARE IN THE HOSPITAL OR REHABILITATION:
Norman Kwak, Kylene Joplin, A.J. Barrios, Linda Walter.

THE ROSE ON THE BAPTISMAL FONT IS IN HONOR OF: Mel Mounts.

| VPC Financial - Attendance / On-Line Viewing Metrics | | | |
|---|-----------|-------------------------------|--------|
| Monthly Giving Support Contributions | | Weekly Attendance / Viewing | |
| November-2023 | | Through Week 52 (12/24/23) | |
| Monthly Giving Support | \$ 60,807 | **Weekly Attendance Sanctuary | 614 |
| Monthly Giving Budget | 63,432 | YTD 2023 Attendance Sanctuary | 14,053 |
| YTD Giving Support | 700,059 | **Weekly Viewing On-Line | 278 |
| YTD Giving Budget | 711,419 | YTD 2023 Viewing On-Line | 7,144 |
| | | YTD 2023 Attendance / On-Line | 21,197 |
| | | YTD 2022 Attendance Sanctuary | 11,841 |
| <i>**Includes both services 12/24/23</i> | | | |
| <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 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*

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*