

WELCOME to all who enter this place. Drink deeply of the living waters of God's grace as we worship together.

Visitors: Consider yourself at home while you are here! Please pick up a Visitor's Information Packet while enjoying refreshments just for you at our Visitor's Table in Fellowship Hall after our worship.

*We welcome the Green ValleyAires to our worship service this morning and appreciate their musical contribution that glorifies God. We also welcome back Les Roberts and Lanny Webb, both of whom played at our recent Music in the Valley concerts in February. Thank you all for sharing your musical gifts with Valley Presbyterian!

Adult Sunday School: Adult Sunday School Class meets in Classroom 5 at 8:30 a.m. before worship.

Turning the Gem: On Mondays at 1:00 p.m. in Classroom 5. Have you ever wondered why the 4 Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John) are so different from one another? Doesn't this make the Bible unreliable? They can't even agree with each other! On Monday, April 16, Pastor Diane will lead us in a discussion to answer these questions.

Rev. Mark Medina will **NOT** be holding office hours this Wednesday morning from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., at Coyote Grill at San Ignacio Golf Club.

Cookbooks: We still have some 40th Anniversary Cookbooks available. Get yours at the Women's Ministries table every Sunday after worship. \$18.00 each or 2 for \$35.00.

Tickets for Music In The Valley: Tickets for the Fred Fox Graduate Wind Quintet (April 20, 6:00 p.m.) are available at the Music in the Valley table in Fellowship Hall, the church office, or at the GV Chamber of Commerce. Tickets are \$10.00 in advance and \$15.00 at the door. The proceeds go to support the music ministry and the performers of the music series.

Changing the Conversation: is changing to a new day and time. The class will no longer meet on Mondays. The new day is Thursdays beginning May 3, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Classroom 5. Based on the book *Changing the Conversation*, this class discusses the issues facing mainline Protestant churches today.

Noisy Offering: The April 29 Noisy offering will help support the summer programs of Crossroads Nogales Mission. Become an important part of this "Ministry of Rescue" with your financial gifts.

Flowers: If you would like to reserve flowers (one or both arrangements) in your name for any future Service of Worship, please call the church office (625-5023) or sign up at our Information Center on Sunday mornings. The cost is \$34 for each arrangement.

Thank you to our volunteers!

Coffee Fellowship

Barbara Dittmer, Gail Gesell
Jean Messelt
Jessie & Steve Setterlund

Information Center

Pat Bruner
Medical Team
Doug Clark

Owl Express

Joyce Lambert, Dave Stepp
Visitors Table
Rick & Pat Nau
Welcome Centers
Carol Peeler
La Posada Service of Worship
Marti Long, Sonya Larsen

Please remember those currently or recently hospitalized:

Margie McBride

Flowers given by: Jean Hein
In loving memory of Marvin Hein

The Rose on the Baptismal Font Celebrates these Witnesses to the Resurrection in Jesus Christ

	Fred Wolfe Rev. Gene Hovee Richard Lyon	November 29 April 3 April 4	
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Women's Ministries is hosting the Spring Gathering of the Presbytery de Cristo's Presbyterian Women on Saturday, April 21, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. It will be a special time of fellowship with our sisters throughout the Presbytery, and of inspired teaching from Rev. Amy Poling-Sutherlun, author of 2018-2019 Horizons Bible Study, *God's Promise: I Am with You*. The cost is \$11, and registration forms are available at the Women's Ministries table today. The free will offering is designated for Sister Connection, a ministry to women coming out of prison. Rev. Poling-Sutherlun will bring the sermon next Sunday.

Sound Board Operators Needed! We are looking for 2-3 volunteers willing to learn how to run the sound board for our Sunday services. We will provide training, and once trained, we would hope to have a volunteer help out one Sunday each month. If you are interested, please contact Wendy (wendyk@valleypres.net) or Pastor Diane (625-5023).

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2800 S. Camino del Sol
Green Valley, AZ 85622
Telephone: (520) 625-5023

Web: www.valleypresbyterian.net
Email: vpc-office@valleypres.net

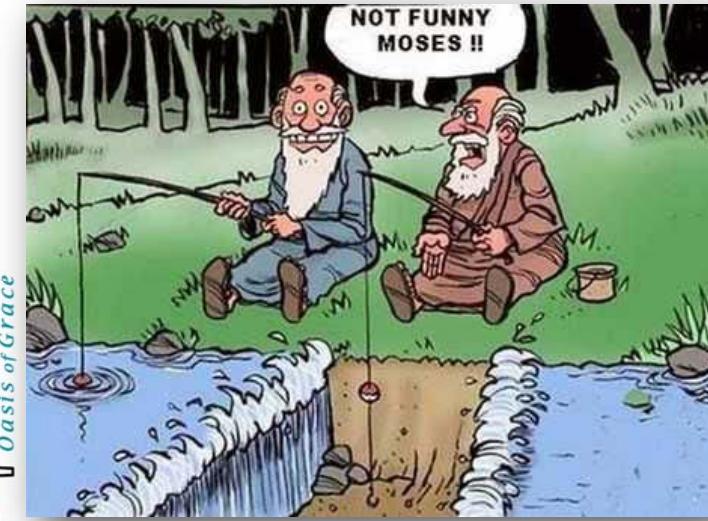
We are a Stephen Ministry Church

REV. MARK A. MEDINA, Transitional Pastor

REV. DIANE CHRISTOPHER, Pastor of Discipleship

REV. DR. LINDA LLOYD, Interim Pastor of Care

REV. JOE HAWKINS, Pastor Emeritus
STEVE RODINE, Church Administrator
JOEL PIERCE, Director of Music
CHRISTINE ERICKSON, RN, Parish Nurse



To know Christ and make him known through word and deed.

♦All those who are able please stand

April 15, 2018

Inspired by John 3:14 - 21

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Holy God, as you have taken what we call an absurdity and turned it into possibility as you have coaxed us to sing springtime alleluias where once there was a gray dawn, as you have called us out of the tombs we inhabit into an undreamed of tomorrow, we praise you for this day! Come, Risen Christ, in newness and hope on this Eastertide day. Amen.

9:20 A.M. WELCOME & NEWS OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Christopher

Please print your name in the Friendship Register provided in your pew.

POURING OF THE WATER

L: Jesus is the Living Water. P: Praise be to God.

PRELUDE

Precious Lord
Amazing Grace
The Green ValleyAires*

arr. W.J. "Buzz" Haeger
arr. Tom Gentry

INTROIT

The First Song of Isaiah
Surely, it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold
And my sure defense,
And he will be my Savior.

♦CALL TO WORSHIP

Worship Ways

Rev. Medina

L: Sing a new song!

P: A joyful melody of springtime glory and rebirth.

L: Sing praise to our Still-Laughing Easter God

P: Who has rolled away the bindings of yesterday.

L: Immerse your anxiety and despair in the fountain of new birth.

P: We place our visions and hopes on the table of wine and wheat.

L: For God has taken ordinary things.

All: And made them extraordinary. Sing a new song! Let us joyfully worship God.

HYMN*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Hymn to Joy 464

INVITATION TO CONFESSION**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of joy, we know that you have blessed us richly, yet so often we are down in the dumps over silly little disappointments. You have given us Jesus Christ, and raised him from the dead, and promised us eternal life. But we act like we don't know it! Forgive us, God! Keep us mindful that you always have the last laugh, and that your promise is for true joy in every circumstance, and life forever. Come, Risen Christ, in newness and hope on this Eastertide day. Hear us now, O God, as we bring our silent prayers of confession to you.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON**RESPONSE TO ASSURANCE** *Life in His Favor*

Life in His favor! Cleansed from my sin,
Sunshine around me, comfort within.
Sov'reign most holy, Savior and friend,
Thee will I follow, serve to the end.
This is my story, this is my song!
Praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song!
Praising my Savior all the day long.

ANTHEM*A Joyful Noise*
Sanctuary Choir

John Ness Beck

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness, come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord he is God, it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise, be thankful unto him and bless his name, his holy name. For the Lord is good, his mercy is everlasting, and his truth endureth to all generations, amen! Amen! Amen!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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. Amen.

Please join the Choir in singing the Great Amen.

**YOUTH CHAT** (September - May)

Following the message, grades 1-6 will go to Classroom 3 for Sunday School.

RECOGNITION OF SERVICE

Sam Eidson

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Elder Tom Dierken

OLD TESTAMENT LESSONS

Genesis 18:1-15 & 21:1-6

Reader: *This is the Word of the Lord.*
People: **Thanks be to God!**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 126:1-6

Reader: *This is the Word of the Lord.*
People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON*"Holy Humor is Good for the Soul"*

Rev. Medina

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Apostles' Creed (Traditional) p. 14***HYMN** *O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing!* O Filii et Filiae 116**PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS**

**If you haven't already done so, please print your name in the Fellowship Register.*

OFFERTORY *Old Time Religion/Swing Low, Sweet Chariot* arr. Mark Hayes

Joel Pierce - piano; Les Roberts* - drums; Lanny Webb* - bass

***DOXOLOGY**

Old One Hundredth 592

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.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION**HYMN** *Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!* Gelobt Sei Gott 111***BENEDICTION*****CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *Because He Lives*

Because he lives, I can face tomorrow,
Because he lives all fear is gone;
Because I know he holds the future,
And life is worth the living, just because he lives.

***POSTLUDE**

This Little Light of Mine arr. Mark Hayes
Joel Pierce - piano; Les Roberts - drums; Lanny Webb - bass

OUR WORSHIP NOW ENTERS THE WORLD!**Worship Aids/Sermon Notes**

Sermon Title: "Holy Humor is Good for the Soul"

Genesis 18:1-15

The Lord appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground. He said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, my Lord, do not pass your servant by. Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree. Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant." "Very well," they answered, "do as you say." So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. "Quick," he said, "get three seahs of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread." Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it. He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree. "Where is your wife Sarah?" they asked him. "There, in the tent," he said. Then one of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son." Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, "After I am worn out and my Lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?" Then the Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son." Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, "I did not laugh." But he said, "Yes, you did laugh."

Genesis 21:1-6

Now the Lord was gracious to Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah what he had promised. Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the very time God had promised him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to the son Sarah bore him. When his son Isaac was eight days old, Abraham circumcised him, as God commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Sarah said, "God has brought me laughter, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me."

Psalm 126:1-6

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them." The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. Restore our fortunes, Lord, like streams in the Negev. Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.