



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 29, 2020

GREETING

Pastor Diane

PASSING OF PEACE, OUTPOURING OF THE WATER

L: The Peace of Christ be with you all

P: And also with you

PRELUDE *Wachet auf (Wake, Awake, For Night Is Flying)* Arr: J. G. Walther

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: **Candle of Hope** Pastor Craig

L: If ever there was a year we needed Advent, this is the year. We hardly know how to describe the year we have lived through. All we know is that nothing seems right, nothing seems like it used to be. We need Advent! The prophet Isaiah cried out for us, "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down ... To make your name known ... so that nations might tremble at your presence."

P: Come down to us again, O Lord. We long to be your people, a people of hope.

RESPONSE OF THANKSGIVING *Have Thine Own Way, Lord*

Have Thine own way, Lord, Have Thine own way;
Thou art the Potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me After Thy will,
While I am waiting, Yielded and still.

ANTHEM

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Arr: H. Hopson

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 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 64:1-9

64 Oh, that you would burst from the heavens and come down! How the mountains would quake in your presence! ²As fire causes wood to burn and water to boil, your coming would make the nations tremble. Then your enemies would learn the reason for your fame! ³When you came down long ago, you did awesome deeds beyond our highest expectations. And oh, how the mountains quaked! ⁴For since the world began, no ear has heard and no eye has seen a God like you, who works for those who wait for him! ⁵You welcome those who gladly do good, who follow godly ways. But you have been very angry with us for we are not godly. We are constant sinners; how can people like us be saved? ⁶We are all infected and impure with sin. When we display our righteous deeds, they are nothing but filthy rags. Like autumn leaves, we wither and fall, and our sins sweep us away like the wind. ⁷Yet no one calls on your name or pleads with you for mercy. Therefore, you have turned away from us and turned us over to our sins. ⁸And yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, and you are the potter. We all are formed by your hand. ⁹Don't be so angry with us, LORD. Please don't remember our sins forever. Look at us, we pray, and see that we are all your people.

Matthew 3:13-17

¹³ Then Jesus went from Galilee to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. ¹⁴ But John tried to talk him out of it. "I am the one who needs to be baptized by you," he said, "so why are you coming to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus said, "It should be done, for we must carry out all that God requires." So John agreed to baptize him. ¹⁶ After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy."

SERMON

The God Who Visits

Pastor Diane

HYMN

While We Are Waiting, Come (v. 1-3)

92

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

With power and glory, come; with power and glory, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

Come, Savior, quickly come; come, Savior, quickly come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Neo-Classique

M. Hayes

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

(vs. 1 and 2)

104

O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you aright?
Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord most holly, a lamp within my breast,
to do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.

Love caused your incarnation; love brought you down to me;
your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.
O love beyond all telling, that led you to embrace in love,
all loves excelling, our lost and fallen race.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Wonderful Words of Life

P.P. Bliss/Arr. C. Berry

**All taped Worship Services are available for replay on the
[Special Video Worship Page.](#)**

Flowers given by: Eloise Fredrickson
In honor of all November Birthdays

Announcements

An Advent Study: Incarnation (based on the book by Adam Hamilton)

It seems appropriate, in this time of pandemic, to come together in the month of December and rediscover the significance of Christmas by studying the names of Jesus.

We are offering 4 classes each week from which to choose:

Mondays, 1:00 p.m. beginning November 30 (by Zoom)

Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. beginning December 1 in Classroom 5 (limited to 8 people)

Wednesdays, 2:00 p.m. beginning December 2 (by Zoom)

Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. beginning December 3 in Classroom 5 (limited to 8 people)

Books (\$15) can be purchased from Pastor Diane in the office (Sunday mornings or during the week).

To sign up for a class, contact Pastor Diane (pastordiane@valleypres.net; 625-5023)

Stephen Ministry training classes will be held in person, January 8 through March 26 providing COVID does not worsen! It is not too late to sign up for the 2021 class. Who cares? God cares. "We love because He first loved us." (1 John 4:19) When have you been cared for in a special way? When did you care for someone and were surprised at how you were blessed? When you are hurting who do you go to? What can you do? We have many in our midst who need a listening ear and encouragement, but we need more Stephen Ministers. Please pray to discern if this is where you are being called to care. Contact Patti Bright, Recruiting Coordinator to schedule an interview at 305-3275 or ross.pattibright@gmail.com

Jamie Reed, Music Director: 2020 has definitely been a year like no other! In such uncertain times, and for very serious reasons, we have had to postpone, adjust, or cancel opportunities to come together. After much discussion, Wes and I have decided to postpone "Welcome Home for the Holidays" that was scheduled for Dec. 6. As of now, we will bring you a concert filled with classics, mid-week favorites, and holiday music on Dec. 20 at 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. For those that have made reservations, I will be contacting you all personally via email. Please continue to email me at jamie@valleypres.net if you would like to make a reservation for December 20.

Christmas Shoeboxes - Operation Christmas Child - Year 2020

Joan Bolin has reported this project came to a close Sunday, November 15, 2020. It is truly amazing, in this year of the coronavirus, 81 shoeboxes were filled and returned to Valley Presbyterian Church. On Monday, November 16, 2020, the shoeboxes were taken to Calvary Chapel of Sahuarita, the collection point in our area. A big "THANK YOU" goes to each individual who participated in this project.

Women's Ministries

Women's Ministries is collecting items to donate to Valley Assistance Services for their Christmas gift bags. Items includes puzzle books, notebooks, pens and/or pencils, individual snack items, personal hygiene items, socks, small Kleenex packets. Please call Liz Haynes at 601-606-1738 to have your items picked up. We need to receive them by December 6th.

VPC Financial / Attendance Metrics			
Monthly Giving Support Contributions		Weekly Attendance	
October-2020		Through Week # 47 (11/22/20)	
Monthly Giving Support	\$ 43,270	2020 Attendance	0
Monthly Giving Budget	\$ 42,008	2019 Attendance	361
*YTD Giving Support	\$ 553,238	*YTD 2020 Attendance	5915
*YTD Giving Budget	\$ 567,565	*YTD 2019 Attendance	15122
<i>*YTD = Year to Date **as of noon 6/2/20 number of on line devices tuned into Sunday service = 280</i> <i>D. Brooks - VPC treasurer - dxb38@cox.net - 520-399-3959 2020 Per Capita is \$46.00 per member</i>			

VPC Financial - Attendance / On-Line Viewing Metrics			
Monthly Giving Support Contributions		Weekly Attendance / Viewing	
October-2020		Through Week # 47 (11/22/20)	
Monthly Giving Support	\$ 43,270	Weekly Attendance Sanctuary	0
Monthly Giving Budget	\$ 42,008	* YTD 2020 Attendance Sanctuary/Carport	5818/185
*YTD Giving Support	\$ 553,238	** Weekly Viewing On-Line	173
*YTD Giving Budget	\$ 567,565	** YTD 2020 Viewing On-Line	8259
		* YTD 2020 Attendance / On-Line/Carport	14359
		* YTD 2019 Attendance	15122
<i>* YTD = Year to Date ** Number of on-line devices tuned into Sunday service</i> <i>D. Brooks - VPC treasurer - dxb38@cox.net - 520-399-3959 2020 Per Capita is \$46.00 per member</i>			