



CHRISTMAS I

December 27, 2020

GREETING

Pastor Craig

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PASSING OF PEACE, OUTPOURING OF THE WATER

PRELUDE

For Unto Us a Child Is Born G.F. Handel, arr. Mark Hayes

CALL TO WORSHIP (A Litany)

L: Eternal Spirit, Father of goodness and grace, we thank Thee for the child in all of us, and at this Christmas time, we bless Thee for Christ's revelation of the value and beauty of childhood,

P: Alleluia! Blessed be God, Eternal Father of all children.

L: For Christ's tender compassion for children; for his burning indignation against all who do them wrong; for his deep and overflowing love; for his message of their nearness to the Father of us all,

P: Blessed be God.

L: For the beauty of children, their mirth and laughter, for the gladness and light they bring into the world,

P: Blessed be God.

L: For their enthusiasms, their abounding energy, their love of the adventurous and heroic, for their candid generous trust in those around them, and their immediate response to calls of love and service,

P: Blessed be God.

L: For the infancy of our Lord, for his birth, helplessness and innocence; for his mother's gentle care and nurture; for all the souls who nursed, tended and affirmed him,

P: Blessed be God.

L: For Jesus' joyful, eager obedient childhood; for the grace and love of God which in Jesus were revealed to give us the joy of knowing the Father,

P: Thanks be to Thee.

L: As we give thanks for the boundless value of childhood, so we pray for father and mothers, aunts and uncles, grandparents, through whom children receive their first thoughts of God and their early ideal of character. May we have a deepened sense of the nature of God's love, and may we so practice God's presence that other innocent helpless souls may welcome the beauty and goodness of life. Heavenly Father, make our hearts burn within us for all children who go neglected, hungry, or unloved. Empower Thy Spirit to breathe into us a living renewal that with wise leadership and generous philanthropy we may make of this earth a more decent and kindly place for children to be born.

P: Lord, have mercy upon us and grant us this blessing. Amen

OPENING HYMN *Angels, From the Realms of Glory* (verses 1 and 4) 143

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
you, who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship Christ, the newborn king!

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!

CALL TO PRAYER

This 3rd Christmas morning we join our hearts and minds and spirits to praise the Lord. We give thanks to God for not leaving us to our own devices, but for entering in with the gift of God's own child of love. May this be the missing ingredient in our lives, in all creation, to bring hope, to nurture love, to foster joy and expound peace through all Creation.

THE UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Psalm 148

Praise the LORD from the heavens, praise him in the heights above. Praise him all his angels, praise him all ye heavenly hosts. Praise him, sun and moon, praise him all you shining stars. Praise God, you highest heavens and waters above the skies. Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created. He set them in place for ever and ever; he gave a decree that will never pass away. Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all ocean depths, lightning and hail, snow and clouds, storming winds that do God's bidding, you mountains and hills, fruit trees and cedars, wild animals and cattle, small creatures and flying birds, rulers of the earth and all nations, young men and maidens, elders and children. Let them praise the name of the LORD, for God's name alone is exalted; his splendor is above the earth and the heavens. The LORD has raised up for God's people a King, the praise of all his saints, all those close to God's heart. Praise the LORD. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

When the time had fully come, God sent God's son, born of a woman, born under the Law, to redeem those under the Law, that we might receive the full rights of children of God. Because you are sons and daughters of God, God sent the spirit of his own son into our hearts, the spirit who calls our "ABBA, Father." So we are no longer slaves, but daughters and sons, and since children of God, you are also heirs.

GLORI PATRI

Greatorex

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

Lovely Child, Holy Child

David N. Johnson

Eloise Fredrickson - solosit

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. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:21-40

²¹ On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived. ²² When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons." ²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: ²⁹ "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. ³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel." ³³ The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too." ³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and

praying. ³⁸ Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹ When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

SERMON

Presentation at the Temple

ORDINATION/INSTALLATION

HYMN

What Child Is This

145

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all to own him.
The King of king's salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, you, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Carol of the Bells

M. Leontovich, arr. M. Hayes

***DOXOLOGY**

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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.

THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

136

Refrain

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

Refrain

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our Creator, children all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry breath I take, let this be my solemn vow,
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

POSTLUDE

“Once in Royal David’s City”

Arr. D. Willcocks

HYMN SINGER

Eloise Fredrickson

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

The Rose on the Baptismal Font Celebrates this Witness to the Resurrection in Jesus Christ:

Donna Frisch – December 17 Dorothy Barker – December 18

Announcements

Advent Taizé

Advent is a time that prepares us for Christmas. To walk the journey of Advent, we are offering Taizé’ worship services on Wednesdays in the month of December. Taizé’ is a beautiful worship service in candlelight with scripture, prayer and music. Join us on

December 30. The service can be viewed on our church website by 5 p.m.:
<https://www.valleypresbyterian.net/special-video-worship.html>

Flowers: We are accepting 2021 Flower Sign-Ups. The cost is \$45.00. Please call Laurie at 625-5023 or email her at laurie@valleypres.net

VPC Financial - Attendance / On-Line Viewing Metrics			
Monthly Giving Support Contributions		Weekly Attendance / Viewing	
November-2020		Through Week # 51 (12/20/20)	
Monthly Giving Support	\$ 57,315	Weekly Attendance Sanctuary	65
Monthly Giving Budget	\$ 70,823	* YTD 2020 Attendance Sanctuary/Carport	6103/185
*YTD Giving Support	\$ 610,553	** Weekly Viewing On-Line	185
*YTD Giving Budget	\$ 638,387	** YTD 2020 Viewing On-Line	8957
		* YTD 2020 Attendance / On-Line/Carport	15245
		* YTD 2019 Attendance	16795
<p style="text-align: center;">* YTD = Year to Date ** Number of on-line devices tuned into Sunday service</p> <p style="text-align: center;">D. Brooks - VPC treasurer - dx38@cox.net - 520-399-3959 2020 Per Capita is \$46.00 per member</p>			