

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

To make Christ known through reconciliation while communicating respect and love to all people.

☩ All those who are able, please stand.

9:30 a.m. December 2, 2018

PRAYER OF PREPARATION Christian Aid
Loving God of power and justice and peace. In our broken world, We seek a new order; Where there is courage to speak truth to power. We seek a new order; Where there is mutual support in church and community. We seek a new order; Where there is abundant time for healing. We seek a new order; Where there is peace and freedom for all. Amen.

WELCOME & NEWS OF THE CHURCH Rev. Medina
Please print your name in the Friendship Register provided in your pew.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

POURING OF THE WATER
L: *Jesus is the Living Water.* P: **Praise be to God.**

PRELUDE *Morning Has Broken* arr. Gary Lanier
Pam Coggins - oboe

INTROIT *Christ, Be Our Light* arr. Joel Raney
Choir: Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church
gathered today.

CALL TO WORSHIP Hope for Those Who Wait
Leona Aardema, Charlene Campbell

Leader: *Advent is a time for the human heart to wait, while trusting God's eternal time.*

People: How long, O Lord, how long?

Leader: *For those waiting for answered prayer:*

People: Grant your steadfast patience.

Leader: *For those waiting in the face of uncertainty:*

People: Grant unshakable confidence in your sovereign provision.

Leader: *For those waiting for justice and mercy to reign:*

People: Grant a glimpse of your glory in our wounded world.

Leader: *For all of us waiting for God's kingdom to come:*

All: Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.

Thank you to our volunteers!

Coffee Fellowship

Geri & Skip Berry
Roxane Blair, Barbara Dittmer

Information Center

Pat Bruner, Kathie Rusk

Medical Team

Marvin Clark

Visitor's Table

Mike & Kay Brouwer

Welcome Centers



Carol Peeler, Roy Romstad

La Posada Service of Worship

Rev. Christopher, Doug Clark

Please remember those currently or recently hospitalized:

John Agner, Jean Truitt

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

Carol Rude November 21

Friendship Kettle Dinner: Sunday, December 16 at 5 p.m. Join us for a pork tenderloin dinner, then at 6 p.m. a program by the Green Valley Saxophone Quartet. Tickets (\$13) will be available in Fellowship Hall today and December 9.

Christmas Poinsettias: Please sign up at the Information Table for Christmas poinsettias that beautify our Sanctuary and cheer up our shut-ins. Poinsettia plants are \$10 each and must be paid when you sign up. If you would like to announce your plant donation as a memorial, please be sure to let us know when you sign up.

Free Christmas Concert: by the Joyful Spirit Ensemble and Valley Ringers on Tuesday, December 4 at 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Holiday cookies and refreshments will be served after the concert in Fellowship Hall.

The Source

Wednesday, December 5 - Tazié, 5:00 p.m.

A candlelight service with silence, scripture, meditation and simple music followed by a Advent meal of soup and bread, and at 6:15 p.m., the class "Advent messages in Christmas Music" led by Linda Freeman.

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 service.

***HarpFusion and Flutefinity** will present a unique Christmas concert in our Sanctuary this Friday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are available in Fellowship Hall after worship this morning and during the week from the front office. Don't miss this special Christmas event! The Valley Galley will serve refreshments starting at 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Medina: Office hours at Posada Java have been concluded. I wish to thank all of you who participated in meeting with me for coffee and conversation.

Mission Quilts will meet tomorrow from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Bring a snack when staying the entire time. Please call Patti Bright at 520-305-3275 if you have any questions.

Staff Appreciation Gift: Over the years, the Valley Presbyterian Church members have given a special Christmas gift to staff members. Once again, we are providing envelopes in the pews on December 9 and December 16 for those who wish to express their additional appreciation for the church staff. Envelopes can be sent to Suzanne Mandeville at the church office. Wishing all of you a blessed Christmas!

Youth on Their Own (YOTO): We can share warmth and cheer this Christmas with a homeless student by contributing a \$25 gift card from Walmart or Target, and/or a plush throw. The Missions Table in Fellowship Hall will be ready for your donations today Sunday, December 9. The Mini Mall at YOTO is also in need of restocking. Canned Pasta, Chili, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Breakfast Bars, Jerky, Nuts, Shampoo/Conditioner are much needed items.

Looking for Christmas Carolers: On Saturday, December 15, the Fellowship Committee, along with the Valley Galley crew, have planned a Caroling event at three locations in the Green Valley Community and we want to invite you to come along. The more voices, the merrier. To help us plan, please sign up at the "Christmas Caroling" table in Fellowship Hall today.

From the Disciples to the Dawn of the Reformation with Professor Luke Timothy Johnson. This class meets on Fridays from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Classroom 1. For more information, contact Grant Stitt at 396-3549.

Advent Devotionals are still available at the Welcome Centers and the Faith Formation Kiosk.

Valley Presbyterian Church
Oasis of Grace

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. JOE HAWKINS, *Pastor Emeritus*
JOEL PIERCE, *Director of Music*
CHRISTINE ERICKSON, RN, *Parish Nurse*

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE
CHOIR AND CONGREGATION SING

Christ, Be Our Light!
A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent

Words and Music by
 BERNADETTE FARRELL

Congregation:



ADVENT PRAYER

✦ **HYMN** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (vs. 1) Veni Emmanuel 9

INVITATION TO PRAISE AND ADORATION Rev. John Dunham

God of redeeming grace, you lead us in paths of righteousness and make your ways known through the birth of a child. We praise your goodness and rely on your wisdom. Accept the sounds of rejoicing we raise to you, and guide our hearing as we seek your instruction. Grant that we may not only worship you joyfully but follow you faithfully all the days of our lives.

AFFIRMATION OF PRAISE

MUSICAL RESPONSE TO PRAISE *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*
Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need Thy tender care;
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use Thy folds prepare:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

ANTHEM *Every Valley* John Ness Beck
 Sanctuary Choir

Ev'ry valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry mountain made low;
 and the crooked made straight, and the rough places plain.
 And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, revealed,
 and all flesh shall see it together;
 for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Ev'ry valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry mountain made low,
 and the crooked straight, and the rough places plain,
 and all flesh shall see it together.

For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, revealed,
 and all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the Lord
 hath spoken it. Amen.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Elder Judy Aguayo

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 13:24-37

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Watching for the Signs of the Times" Rev. Medina

✦ **HYMN**

One Bread, One Body John Michael Talbot

Refrain

One bread, one body,
 one Lord of all,
 one cup of blessing which we bless.
 And we, though many,
 throughout the earth,
 we are one body in this one Lord.

1. Gentile or Jew,
 servant or free,
 woman or man, no more. (refrain)
2. Many the gifts,
 many the works,
 one in the Lord of all. (refrain)
3. Grain for the fields,
 scattered and grown,
 gathered to one, for all. (refrain)

PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

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

OFFERTORY

Still, Still, Still arr. Michele McLaughlin
 Pam Coggins - oboe

✦ **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**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

MEANING OF THE SACRAMENT

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(The prayer continues...)

SINGING THE LORD'S PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BREAKING THE BREAD AND POURING THE CUP

Worshippers are invited to take the elements as each are passed
 and then hold until all can take together.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

✦ **HYMN**

People, Look East vs. 1-4 Besancon 12

✦ **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**

Postlude on "Picardy" arr. Joel Pierce

OUR WORSHIP NOW ENTERS THE WORLD!

Worship Aids/Sermon Notes

Scriptures: Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴The days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah. In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The LORD Our Righteous Savior.

Mark 13:24-37

²⁴But in those days, following that distress, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; ²⁵the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken. ²⁶At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens. ²⁸Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. ²⁹Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, right at the door. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. ³²But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. ³⁴It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch. ³⁵Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. ³⁶If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you

Week #47 (thru 11/25/18)			
Church Operations Weekly Finances		Weekly Church Attendance	
Weekly Giving Income	\$9,416	2018 Attendance	309
Weekly Giving Budget	\$13,874	2017 Attendance	374
*YTD Giving Income	\$612,647	*YTD 2018 Attendance	14,873
*YTD Giving Budget	\$650,750	*YTD 2017 Attendance	17,232
<small>*YTD: Year-to-Date</small>			
<small>D. Brooks - VPC Treasurer - dxb38@cox.net - 520-399-3959</small>			

sleeping. ³⁷What I say to you, I say to everyone: Watch!