

Welcome to all who enter this place. Drink deeply of the living waters of God's grace as we worship together. **Guests are invited to stop by our Guest Table in Fellowship Hall** to receive a small gift and pick up more information about our faith family. We welcome all who worship with us today as friends; you do not need to be a member to participate in the activities of this congregation.

Each of the Calls, Prayers and Assurances today were originally written by Rev. Dr. Thomas Troeger who is ordained as both a Presbyterian Pastor and Episcopal Priest and former President of the American Guild of Organists. A prolific hymn writer (composer and lyricist) and Professor of Homiletics at Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado.

Adult Sunday School: Adult Sunday School Class meets in Classroom 5 at 8:30 a.m. before worship. Each discussion topic will be the day's sermon scriptures. Coffee and cookies provided.

Children: Children up through 2nd grade are invited to "The Kids Room," Room #4, during the worship service. Children 3rd grade and up remain in the worship service.

Welcome Home Sunday on January 12: We want to recognize the return of all who have been sojourning elsewhere part of the year. We want to celebrate the annual migration part of our church family who, like sparrows returning to Capistrano, come home to Southern Arizona.

Mission Sunday on January 19: Pastor Craig will share his understanding of, and experiences in, Christian mission. Over a lifetime, he has been sent locally, nationally, and around the world to General Assembly, Appalachia, the Caucus Mountains of the USSR, Mexico, Guatemala, South Sudan, and in his local neighborhoods. There is an important responsibility for us in charitable giving as Jesus said, "The poor we always have with us," but mission is different, because through mission we attempt to live out our calling, we attempt to change the world.

New Classes in January, 2020

Turning the Gem Returns: Wednesdays, starting January 8 at 1:00 p.m. in Classroom 5. We will look at the Bible as one big beautiful story.

Emotionally Healthy Relationships: Tuesdays, starting January 7 at 10 a.m. in Classroom 5. Discover eight practical relationship skills to develop mature, loving relationships with others. Your teacher: Mark Horton

Being Mortal: Preparing for the End of Life: Tuesdays, beginning January 14 at 1 p.m. in Classroom 5. How do you want to live out the last years or months of your life? Your teacher: Eloise Fredrickson with Parish Nurse, Chris Erickson.

Thank you to our volunteers!

Coffee Fellowship
Gretchen & John Pyburn
Medical Team
Doug Clark
Guest Table
Mark & Sue Horton

Welcome Centers
Carol Peeler, Roy Romstad
La Posada Service of Worship
Linda Freeman, Freda Krauss
Dan Myers

Open House Next Sunday

January 5 at the Lindsey's from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at 4151 South Westcotta Drive. Please plan to bring cookies to share if you can.

Congregational Care Table: Please visit our table in Fellowship Hall after worship. There will be Grief Workshop information as well as sign-up sheets.

Noisy Offering: Please gather up your loose change and toss it into the buckets during our noisy offering today to help our mission programs. The recipient of this month is Hands of a Friend (domestic violence and sexual assault).

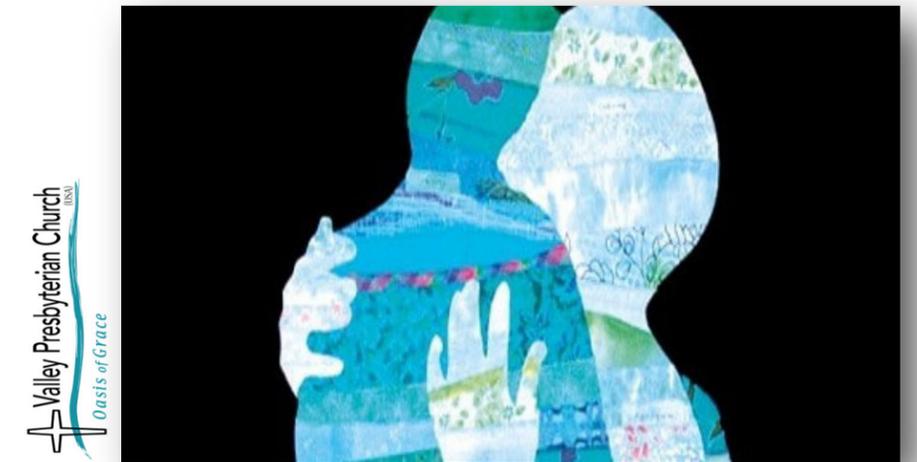
Mission Quilts will meet tomorrow from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please call Patti Bright at 520-305-3275 if you have any questions.

In Need of Cookies: Please consider donating cookies for our Sunday Fellowship. Thank you.

Join the Inquisitors as we watch and discuss "*Early Christianity: The Experience of the Divine.*" Join us for this fascinating course which meets on Fridays at 1:30 p.m. in Classroom 1.

Grief Recovery Workshop: A Grief Recovery Workshop will be offered for five Monday's beginning January 6, 2020. It will be in the Sweet Family Room from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Call the church office at 625-5023 to reserve a spot.

TO MAKE RECONCILIATION FOR THE SINS OF THE PEOPLE



Valley Presbyterian Church
Oasis of Grace

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

✠ All those who are able, please stand December 29, 2019

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

With holy anger, Christ, disrupt the power that feeds upon the cruel sacrifice of others' rights and needs. As you turned over tables, sending coins spinning and jangling across the floor; disrupt the unholy commerce in our hearts. By that same anger start what evil cannot defeat: A stubborn passion in the heart to see God's will complete. Baptize us with fire hotter than Herod's wrath, until we no longer mute the fury in our hearts at the slaughter of innocents. Baptize us with fire, but do not let our rage grow bitter as the din of fierce mean minds that fail to gauge when anger turns to sin. Let anger be the first note in love's ascending scale, a starting tone of heaven's dove: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, if only you knew the things that make for peace..." Let anger be compassion's kindling fire that lights in us the energy to live as you desire.

9:20 A.M. WELCOME & NEWS OF THE CHURCH Pastor Craig
Please print your name in the Friendship Register provided in your pew.

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

PASSING OF THE PEACE

POURING OF THE WATER

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

PRELUDE

What Child Is This arr. R. Purvis

INTROIT

Love Has Come

Love has come: a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;
Hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

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. DR. CRAIG LINDSEY, *Pastor*
REV. DIANE CHRISTOPHER, *Associate Pastor of Discipleship*
CHRISTINE ERICKSON, RN, *Parish Nurse*
JAMIE REED, *Director of Music*
WES MOULTON, *Organist/Accompanist*
REV. JOE HAWKINS, *Pastor Emeritus*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come in silence, named but nameless. Come in silence living flame. Quiet all our pious babble and through silence speak your name. By your silence set our hearts to weeping for the sin and harm of facile preaching that misused your word and teaching to suppress the dreams you stirred, in slaves who sought their freedom, in the women who rebelled, in the mind's incessant, restless sounding of elusive truths, complex, confounding, in new theories whose propounding threatened ancient rules and laws. We confess our own swift judgments and the harm and wrong we do when our fears and hates projected claim to be a word from you. Let us rightly use your name in speaking to affirm that all are in your keeping, while we never cease from seeking ways to welcome your new light.

✠HYMN *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* 129

INVITATION TO CONFESSION Pastor Diane

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God weeps with us who weep and mourn, God's tears flow down with ours, and God's own heart is bruised and worn from all the heavy hours of watching while the soul's bright fire burned lower day by day, and pulse and breath and love's desire dimmed down to ash and clay. Through tears and sorrow, God, we share a sense of your vast grief: the weight of bearing every prayer for healing and relief, the burden of our questions why, the doubts that they engage, and as our friends and lovers die our hopelessness and rage. Yet, because like us, you weep, we trust you will receive and in our tender hearts will taste the deep dear core of things from which both life and death are graced by faith's renewing springs. All this we pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who wept and laughed, and came for us. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Traveler, are you passing through? We are on a journey too, Here we meet to feast and rest, each of us, like you a guest. We have found a deep spring here, an oasis of grace, pure and clear, a fire to keep us warm through the night, the cold and storm. Have you lost your way? We have room in our hearts for you to stay. Tell us where you started from, where you have been, how far you have come. We will tell you what we have learned: where we doubled back and turned. Up ahead is hard and slow. At our table take a seat we have more than we can eat. Join us and renew your strength needed for the journey's length. You, our guest, play host, instead. Bless and break and pass the bread. Sharing bread, we share far more, we share our stories, songs and prayers, our common hopes and cares, until it dawns on us to trace in your eyes and in your face, what we sensed but hardly knew: Christ is here in you!

✠GLORIA *Gloria 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 *Emmanuel* M.W. Smith/Arr. Huff
 Emmanuel
 Wonderful Counselor, Lord of life, Lord of all.
 He is the Prince of Peace, Mighty God, Holy One,
 Emmanuel.

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.

CHORAL RESPONSE

CHILDRENS MOMENT

SCRIPTURE READING Hebrews 2:5-18
 Reader: *This is the Word of the Lord.* People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "To Make Reconciliation for the Sins of the People"
 Pastor Craig

✠AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed p. 35

✠HYMN *Once in Royal David's City* 140

PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS
**If you haven't already done so, please print your name in the Fellowship Register.*

OFFERTORY *Mary, Did You Know* Lowry, Greene
 Soloist - Chris Heckler

✠DOXOLOGY 606
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 *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* 136

✠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 *Wie schon leuchtet der Morgenstern* J.C. Bach

OUR WORSHIP NOW ENTERS THE WORLD!

Worship Aids/Sermon Notes

Sermon Title:

"To Make Reconciliation for the Sins of the People"

Scripture: Hebrews 2:5-18

⁵It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking. ⁶But there is a place where someone has testified: "What is mankind that you are mindful of them, a son of man that you care for him?" ⁷You made them a little lower than the angels; you crowned them with glory and honor ⁸and put everything under their feet." In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them. ⁹But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. ¹⁰In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. ¹¹Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. ¹²He says, "I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises." ¹³And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again he says, "Here am I, and the children God has given me." ¹⁴Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants. ¹⁷For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

VPC FINANCIAL/ATTENDANCE UPDATE

Week #51 (through 12/22/19)			
Church Weekly Operations Finances		Church Weekly Attendance	
Weekly Giving Income	\$9,680	2019 Attendance	397
Δ Weekly Giving Budget	\$12,755	2018 Attendance	329
*YTD Giving Income	\$688,017	*YTD 2019 Attendance	16,795
Δ*YTD Giving Budget	\$633,507	*YTD 2018 Attendance	16,341
(*) YTD: Year-to-Date			
(Δ) Based on Aug 2019 Budget Adjustment		2019 Per Capita is \$40.22 per member	