

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.

Noisy Offering is today! Please gather up your loose change and toss it into the buckets during our noisy offering to help our mission programs. The recipient of this month's gifts will be the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Today that fund is still empty. Donating your loose change will help the Pastors assist those in need in our community.

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

Prayer Ministry: The Prayer Ministry group meets once a week to pray for our church, community, families, friends and the needs of the world. We are looking for a few more prayer warriors to join us in the Sweet Family Room every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.

Prayer Request Cards: Anyone who would like the Prayer Ministry to pray for someone, please pick up a blue Prayer Request Card located in the Narthex next to the office, and in the pews. All cards are kept confidential.

From the Disciples to the Dawn of the Reformation with Professor Luke Timothy Johnson. This class **will not** meet Friday, December 28.

THANK YOU! On behalf of Youth on Their Own, I would like to thank our congregation for their generous support of the "Christmas Spread The Warmth Campaign" to give each student a plush throw and a Gift Certificate. Thank you for the needed food and cash donations to their Mini-Mall. Your TLC is greatly appreciated.

New Email Address: If you have an announcement/article/event for the Sunday bulletin, E-blast, Valley Voice, or church calendar, you no longer need to remember which person on staff does which publication. We have created a new email address, notices@valleypres.net, that will get the information to all the right people. When using this email address, please be sure to let us know which publication(s) you want the information put into. This address is effective immediately and we ask that you begin using it instead of emailing individual staff members with these types of items.

Giving Envelopes: The Church Giving Envelopes for 2019 have arrived. Please come to the office and pick them up for 2019.

Moses: Books for the class on Moses, starting January 17 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Classroom 5, will be available after worship today. The cost is \$12.

Thank you to our volunteers!

Coffee Fellowship

Don & Karen Brooks
Lee Ann Calhoun, Barbara Dittmer
Information Center
Pat Bruner

Medical Team

Marvin Clark
Visitor's Table
Mark & Sue Horton
Welcome Center
Carol Peeler, Roy Romstad

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



Frances Hayes

December 21



A Grief Recovery Workshop will begin on Monday, January 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for five weeks. The purpose of the workshop is to discover the stages of the grief process, find healthy ways to deal with the pain and loss and to begin the healing process. The Facilitator for the workshop is Lynne Szabo, M.A., M.F.C.C. Call the church office 520.625.5023 to reserve your spot.

Mission Breakfast: Pam and Dave L, our Missionaries to Iran, Pakistan, and Bangladesh will present their adventures on Saturday, January 19 at 8:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall at 8:30 with a fabulous breakfast. Tickets are \$5 and will be on sale Sunday, January 6 and January 13 in Fellowship Hall after our worship service.

Christianity & World Religions begins Wednesday, January 9 at 11:00 a.m. in Classroom 5. Books will be available today in Fellowship Hall after worship.

VPC Mission Quilters: The Quilters will meet in Fellowship Hall tomorrow from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Anyone who is interested or has questions, please call Patti Bright at 305-3275.

Taizé worship: Wednesday, January 2 at 5 p.m. in the Spiritual Life Center. If you have not experienced Taizé worship, please come for a service of beautiful music, candlelight, prayer and scripture.



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Telephone: (520) 625-5023

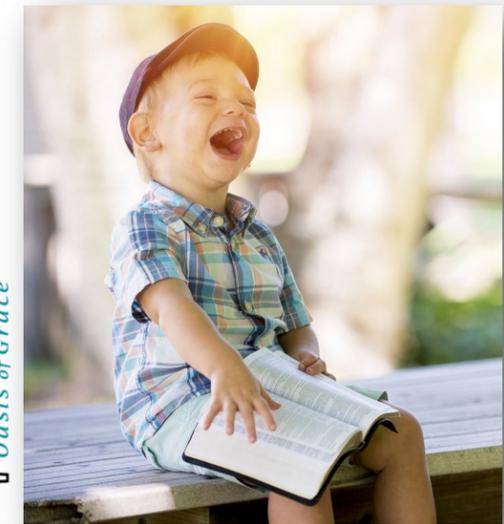
Web: www.valleypresbyterian.net
Email: vpc-office@valleypres.net

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*



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

✠ All those who are able, please stand

9:20 A.M.

December 30, 2018

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Heavenly God, our hallelujahs rang loud and true as we celebrated the birth of our Savior. We rejoice knowing that he is truly Emmanuel, God with us. Our hearts are filled with joy knowing that we see your face in the precious baby Jesus. May our worship and praise be to your glory, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Amen.

WELCOME & NEWS OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Medina

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

NOISY OFFERING

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

POURING OF THE WATER

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

PRELUDE

Beautiful Savior

arr. Becki Mayo

INTROIT

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Good Christian friends, rejoice With heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door, And we are blest forever more.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

✠ CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Christopher

L: Come, people of God. Let us give thanks for these holy days of Christmas.
P: Here we have come to worship the God of new beginnings and new opportunities.
L: Come, people of God. Let us celebrate and rejoice for the wondrous gifts given to us.
P: Here in our worship, we look to the future as we are filled with the gifts of Christmas: love, hope, peace, joy!
All: Now we again sing the joyous carols of Christmas and witness to our Savior's birth.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess that we aren't always the best children. We don't always play nice, we don't always share our toys, we sometimes even punch our neighbor. We often put more food on our plate than we know we should or than we can even eat. For all these sins and for many more, we, your children, still run to you seeking your love and grace. (silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE TO PARDON *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

**O Holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!**

ANTHEM *Mary Had a Baby* African American Spiritual

Peggy Briggs - soloist; Katie Sayre - soloist; Marie Valade - soloist

Mary had a baby, my Lord.
Mary had a baby, my Lord.
Mary had a baby, Mary had a baby,
Mary had a baby, my Lord.

What did she name him, my Lord?
What did she name him, my Lord?
What did she name him, what did she name him,
what did she name him, my Lord?

She named him King Jesus, my Lord.
She named him King Jesus, my Lord.
She named him King Jesus, she named him King Jesus,
she named him King Jesus, my Lord.

Where was he born, my Lord?
Where was he born, my Lord?
Where was he born, where was he born,
where was he born, my Lord?

Born in a manger, my Lord.
Born in a manger, my Lord.
Born in a manger, born in a manger,
born in a manger, my Lord.

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.

YOUTH CHAT (September-May)

Children remain in worship today.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING 1 Samuel 2:18-21, 26 Gee-Gee Smith
Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

NEW TESTAMENT READING Luke 2:41-52
Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON Two Boys Walk into a Church... Rev. Christopher

✠HYMN *Children of the Heavenly Father*

Children of the heavenly Father
Safely in His bosom gather
Nestling bird nor star in Heaven
Such a refuge even was given

God, His own doth tend and nourish
In His holy courts they flourish
From all evil things He spares them
In His mighty arms He bears them

Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord, His children sever
Unto them His grace He showeth
And their sorrows all He knoweth

✠AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed p. 14

PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

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

OFFERTORY *The Birthday of a King* William Neidlinger
Diane Hartley - soloist

✠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 *He Came Down* 2085

✠BENEDICTION

✠CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Go Tell It on the Mountain*
**Go, tell it on the mountain Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!
Down in a lowly manger The humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation That blessed Christmas morn.**

✠POSTLUDE *Voluntary in F-major* G.F. Handel

OUR WORSHIP NOW ENTERS THE WORLD!

Worship Aids/Sermon Notes

Sermon Title: Two Boys Walk into a Church

Scriptures:

1 Samuel 2:18-21, 26

¹⁸But Samuel was ministering before the LORD—a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹Each year his mother made him a little robe and took it to him when she went up with her husband to offer the annual sacrifice. ²⁰Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, saying, “May the Lord give you children by this woman to take the place of the one she prayed for and gave to the Lord.” Then they would go home. ²¹And the Lord was gracious to Hannah; she gave birth to three sons and two daughters. Meanwhile, the boy Samuel grew up in the presence of the Lord.

²⁶And the boy Samuel continued to grow in stature and in favor with the Lord and with people.

Luke 2:41-52

⁴¹Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. ⁴²When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. ⁴³After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ⁴⁴Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.” ⁴⁹“Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?” ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁵¹Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵²And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

VPC FINANCIAL/ATTENDANCE UPDATE

Week #51 (thru 12/23/18)			
Church Operations Weekly Finances		Weekly Church Attendance	
Weekly Giving Income	\$8,258	2018 Attendance	329
Weekly Giving Budget	\$13,874	2017 Attendance	393
*YTD Giving Income	\$672,057	*YTD 2018 Attendance	16,341
*YTD Giving Budget	\$728,831	*YTD 2017 Attendance	19,109
<small>*YTD: Year-to-Date</small>			
<small>D. Brooks - VPC Treasurer - dxb38@cox.net - 520-399-3959</small>			