



Memorial Day Weekend **ASCENSION SUNDAY** May 29, 2022

PRELUDE *America, the Beautiful* S.A. Ward/Arr. P. Mickelson

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP Pastor Craig

POURING OUT OF WATERS

PASSING THE PEACE

RINGING THE BOWL

CALL TO WORSHIP Chuck Ramsay
Since we have a Great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace in time of need.

☩ **OPENING HYMN** *My Country, 'Tis of Thee* 337

CALL TO PRAYER Acts 1: 7-11
“It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth.” When Jesus had said this, as

they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold two men stood by them in white robes, and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life, and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him acknowledging his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the ways of the world and failed to give him glory. Forgive us and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the body which is his church.

(Silent prayer) Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

John 17: 18

Jesus prayed: As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. Brothers and Sisters, believe the good news of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

✠ GLORIA PATRI

581

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

Dona Nobis Pacem

M. Miller

Dona nobis, nobis pacem.

ANTHEM

I Am Not Afraid

L.Larson

In the emptiness of silence when the world has turned away;
Beneath the weight of sorrow when I can no longer pray;
In the wilderness of worry, in the desert of despair;
In the neverending darkness when it seems that no one cares,

I am not afraid, I am not alone.
You hold me in Your hands and will not let me go.
Though the waters rise and though the winds may blow,
I will not be afraid, for I am not alone.

When there are no words of comfort that can stem the flow of tears;
When I'm stranded at the center of a rising tide of fear;
When there is no path before me, when my feet have lost their way,
I remember You are with me and I am not afraid!

I will not be afraid, for I am not alone.

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.

CHORAL RESPONSE

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE

2 Kings 2: 1-15

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; the LORD has sent me to Bethel.”

But Elisha said, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel.

The company of the prophets at Bethel came out to Elisha and asked, “Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?”

“Yes, I know,” Elisha replied, “so be quiet.”

Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here, Elisha; the LORD has sent me to Jericho.”

And he replied, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So they went to Jericho.

The company of the prophets at Jericho went up to Elisha and asked him, “Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?”

“Yes, I know,” he replied, “so be quiet.”

Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.”

And he replied, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them walked on.

Fifty men from the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?”

“Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit,” Elisha replied.

“You have asked a difficult thing,” Elijah said, “yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise, it will not.”

As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. Elisha saw this and cried out, “My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!”

And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his garment and tore it in two.

Elisha then picked up Elijah’s cloak that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the cloak that had fallen from Elijah and struck the water with it. “Where now is the LORD, the God of Elijah?” he asked. When he struck the water, it divided to the right and to the left, and he crossed over.

The company of the prophets from Jericho, who were watching, said, “The spirit of Elijah is resting on Elisha.” And they went to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.

Acts 16: 16-34

Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a female slave who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortunetelling. She followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved.” She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so annoyed that he turned around and said to the spirit, “In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!” At that moment the spirit left her.

When her owners realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities. They brought them before the magistrates and said, “These men are Jews, and are throwing our city

into an uproar by advocating customs unlawful for us Romans to accept or practice.”

The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone’s chains came loose. The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted, “Don’t harm yourself! We are all here!”

The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.

SERMON

“THE POWER OF PRESENCE”

✠ **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

✠ **HYMN** *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory* 354

✠ **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

✠ **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *Because He Lives*

Because he lives, I can face tomorrow,
Because he lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know, he holds the future,
And life is worth the living,
Just because he lives!

✠ **POSTLUDE** *Children of the Heavenly Father* Arr. J. Jones

✠ **All those who are able, please stand**

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All Worship Services are available for replay on our website.

www.valleypres.net

Flowers for the Sanctuary Provided by:

Donaldina Joung, in memory of her grandson, Brandon.

Please remember those hospitalized or in rehabilitation:

Bonnie Wollin, Barb Case, Melvin Mounts.

WELCOME to all who enter this place. Drink deeply of the living waters of God's grace as we worship together in spirit.

VISITORS: Consider yourself at home while you are here! Please enjoy a cup of coffee, lemonade and a cookie while visiting the Visitor's Table in Fellowship Hall after the church worship service. You can pick up a Visitor's Information Packet at the Visitor's Table or the Welcome Centers. If you would like to receive more information about us, visit us at valleypres.net where you can sign up for our daily email blasts and monthly newsletter.

Children are invited to worship in the sanctuary then attend Sunday School after Children's Time.

We are glad you have joined us today.

VPC Financial - Attendance / On-Line Viewing Metrics			
Monthly Giving Support Contributions		Weekly Attendance / Viewing	
April-2022		Through Week #21 (05/22/22)	
Monthly Giving Support	\$ 70,220	Weekly Attendance Sanctuary	171
Monthly Giving Budget	70,443	* YTD 2022 Attendance Sanctuary	5,544
*YTD Giving Support	287,440	** Weekly Viewing On-Line	217
*YTD Giving Budget	345,408	** YTD 2022 Viewing On-Line	3,936
		* YTD 2022 Attendance / On-Line	9,480
		* YTD 2021 Attendance Sanctuary	2,824
<p>* YTD = Year to Date ** Number of on-line devices tuned into Sunday service</p> <p>D. Brooks - VPC treasurer - dxb38@cox.net - 520-399-3959 2022 Per Capita is \$41.50 per member</p>			



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We are a Stephen Ministry Church



REV. DR. CRAIG LINDSEY, *Head of Staff*
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*