

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.

**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.

**Rev. Mark Medina** will be holding office hours this Wednesday morning from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., at Posada Java, 665 S. Park Centre Ave., at La Posada.

**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.

**Cookbooks:** We still have some 40th Anniversary Cookbooks available. Get yours at the Women's Ministries table every Sunday after worship. \$18.00 each or 2 for \$35.00.

**Changing the Conversation:** Thursdays from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Classroom 5. Based on the book *Changing the Conversation*, this class discusses the issues facing mainline Protestant churches today.

**Soul Feast:** Beginning Mondays, May 14 at 1:00 p.m. in Classroom 5. Are you looking for food for your soul? Join Pastor Diane as we take a look at the spiritual disciplines of the Christian faith whereby "we place ourselves where God can bless us." The book *Soul Feast* can be purchased ahead of time (\$13) at the Faith Formation Kiosk today in Fellowship Hall.

**Why Evil Exists:** During the month of May, the Inquisitors will view and discuss selected lectures from one of the Great Courses, entitled, "Why Evil Exists." Specifically we will look at lectures on ideas from the Hebrew Bible, Christian Scriptures, the ideas of Irenaeus and Saint Augustine. These should be fascinating discussions. Come join us on Fridays at 1:30 p.m. in Classroom 1.

**RISE Scholastic Achievement, Inc.** "Come and See" how **RISE** is making a difference in the educational lives of abused/abandoned children in Nogales, Mexico, by taking a trip on Saturday, June 2. To sign up, see Reed Olson in Fellowship Hall after the worship service today to secure your seats or contact him directly at 269-7829.

**The Grapevine** will be held on Tuesday, May 22 at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary to hear about and see the new staff design for the future by Ruling Elder Tommy Calhoun and Rev. Medina.

**The Valley Galley Crew** would like to invite everyone to a brunch in Fellowship Hall after the service on Sunday, May 27. This is to thank everyone for their support of the Valley Galley this past year. We hope you can join us for good food and fellowship.

### Thank you to our volunteers!

#### Coffee Fellowship

Barbara Dittmer,  
Bob & Fran Williams

#### Visitors Table

Cheryl & Dave Stepp

#### Information Center

Pat Bruner

#### Welcome Centers

Carol Peeler

#### Medical Team

Marvin Clark

#### Please remember those currently or recently hospitalized:

Brenda Hait

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



Marcia Parker

May 7



**Women's Ministries:** Our last Gathering for this season will be on Tuesday, May 15 at 11:30 a.m. This is our annual Salad Potluck. Each woman brings their favorite salad to share with the group. Bread and dessert will be provided. As a result of us providing most of the meal, reservations will only be \$5. Sign up today in Fellowship Hall.

**What an Opportunity** for us to partner with our **Presbyterian Church Camp, Montlure**, in providing a week long Day Camp on June 25 through June 29 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with an extended care option. Camp can be one of the best weeks in a child's life. Children learn of Christ and grow in their faith as we, our church family, grow with them. More information about the Day Camp and our fund raiser is available on the Day Camp Table in Fellowship Hall after worship. Registration is also available on our church website: [www.valleypresbyterian.net](http://www.valleypresbyterian.net). HINT: some years, grandparents have actually flown their grandchildren in for a week of camp or VBS.

**Flowers:** If you would like to reserve flowers (one or both arrangements) in your name for any future Service of Worship, please call the church office (625-5023) or sign up at our Information Center on Sunday mornings. The cost is \$34 for each arrangement.



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Web: [www.valleypresbyterian.net](http://www.valleypresbyterian.net)  
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We are a Stephen Ministry Church



REV. MARK A. MEDINA, *Transitional Pastor*  
REV. DIANE CHRISTOPHER, *Pastor of Discipleship*  
REV. DR. LINDA LLOYD, *Interim Pastor of Care*

REV. JOE HAWKINS, *Pastor Emeritus*  
STEVE RODINE, *Church Administrator*  
JOEL PIERCE, *Director of Music*  
CHRISTINE ERICKSON, RN, *Parish Nurse*



#### To know Christ and make him known through word and deed.

✦ All those who are able, please stand May 13, 2018

#### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Holy of holies, as we prepare to meet you in this time of worship, help us to remember who you are. You are beyond our comprehension and you fill us with wonder. We know you as father God, mother hen, and wisdom woman. We know you as the one who is constant in your unconditional love for us. We know you as the one who has remained ever faithful to us, even when our faith has wavered. We pray to feel connected to you in these moments of worship and always. Amen.

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

**MINUTE FOR MINISTRY** Deacon Nancy Tompkins

#### POURING OF THE WATER

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

**PRELUDE** *Gabriel's Oboe* E. Morricone  
Pam Coggins - oboe

**INTROIT** *The First Song of Isaiah*

**Surely, it is God who saves me;  
I will trust in him and not be afraid.  
For the Lord is my stronghold  
And my sure defense,  
And he will be my Savior.**

✦ **CALL TO WORSHIP** Rev. Dr. Linda Lloyd

**We come today seeking Wisdom.  
If we seek Wisdom,  
She will come to us.  
Come, Wisdom, come!**

✦ **HYMN** *O God Beyond All Praising*

## INVITATION TO CONFESSION

God, like a wise woman, wants the best for us, and loves us no matter what. We fall short of deserving that love, yet it's always there for us like a mother's love. Let us join together in acknowledging our human condition.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**L:** We are called to love one another as God loves us.

**P:** **And yet we fall into complacency and distraction, not heeding God's call.**

**L:** Like a mother to a child, God comforts us and reassures us.

**P:** **Like children, we can be self-absorbed and take the mothering for granted.**

**All:** **God loves us anyway. As children we will strive to follow the path that our mothering God had placed before us.**

**In doing so, we will prayerfully seek God's grace and offer the best of ourselves to our ministry together.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, hear the good news, God loves us and redeems us through the love and sacrifice of Christ. Like a wise, caring mother to a child, God's arms are always open to welcome us into loving, sustaining relationship. Amen.

## RESPONSE TO ASSURANCE *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* 2207

**On bended knee with needy hearts we come and pray.**

**Lord, listen to your children. With willing hearts and open arms we come and pray. Lord, listen to your children. With simple words of heart-felt thanks we come. Believing your in your promises, we come. On children, listen to your children.**

## ✦ ANTHEM *Down to the River to Pray* arr. Mary McDonald (with Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying) Sanctuary Choir

As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good ole way and who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way.

O mothers, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

O mothers, let's go down, down to the river to pray, down to the river to pray.

O Lord, listen to your children prayin'. O Lord, send your Spirit in this place. O Lord, listen to your children prayin', send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Something's gonna happen like the world has never known, when the people of the Lord get down to pray. A door's gonna swing open and the walls come a-tumblin'down, when the people of the Lord get down to pray.

O mothers, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

O mothers, let's go down, down to the river to pray, to pray:

Lord, listen to your children prayin'. O Lord, send your Spirit in this place. O Lord, listen to your children prayin', send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace. Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

I went down to the river to pray, I went down to the river to pray, I went down to the river to pray, to the river to pray. Down to the river to pray.

## 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.**

*Please join the Choir in singing the Great Amen.*



## YOUTH CHAT

Deacon Peggy Babcock

*Following the message, grades 1-6 will go to Classroom 3 for Sunday School.*

## NEW TESTAMENT READING

Linda Jorn

John 17:6-19

*Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

Proverbs 3:13-18

*Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## SERMON

*"Mothering"*

Rev. Dr. Lloyd

## ✦ HYMN

*Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth*

2050

## ✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Brief Statement of Faith*

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in one body of Christ the Church.**

## PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

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

## OFFERTORY

*Meditation from "Cornwall"*

Nigel Hess

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

## STEPHEN MINISTRY COMMISSIONING

**Introduction of New Stephen Leader:** Ted Smith

**Cloud of Witnesses:** Stephen Ministers

**Prayer for Stephen Ministry and Invitation to Ministry**

## ✦ HYMN

*How Great Thou Art*

O Store Gud 467

## ✦ 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

*March*

Johann Fux

**OUR WORSHIP NOW ENTERS THE WORLD!**

## *Worship Aids/Sermon Notes*

Sermon Title: *"Mothering"*

## John 17:6-19

"I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled."

"I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified."

## Proverbs 3:13-18

Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding, for she is more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold. She is more precious than rubies; nothing you desire can compare with her. Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. Her ways are pleasant ways, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her; those who hold her fast will be blessed.