

THE
Servant
OF
God



February 26, 2023

ORDER OF SERVICE

GATHERED BY GOD FOR WORSHIP

Welcome

Call to Worship

Psalm 27:2

Songs of Praise

Come Thou Fount

Hear the Call of the Kingdom

Prayer of Adoration

RENEWED BY GOD THROUGH GRACE

Confession of Sin

Psalm 34:15-18

Declaration of Grace

Psalm 34:4-7

Songs of Renewal & Gratitude

Give Us Your Heart

Great Are You Lord

SET APART BY GOD

Offering

Sermon

The Lord's Supper

Profession of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

SENT BY GOD

Song of Response

All We Ask

Blessing

General Offering: Feb 13 - Feb 19	\$ 12,287
Weekly Budget Need.....	\$ 26,500
Last Week's Deficit.....	(\$ 14,213)
Budget Deficit (YTD).....	(\$100,374)

How are we doing?

Offering income is not evenly distributed throughout the year.

So far, we've received **8.1%** of our annual budget.

On average, we've received **10.9%** of our budget by this time in the year.

\$38,508 would bring us up to average.

GIVE NOW



Text "GIVE" to
(669) 333-5880

READINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP

²When evildoers assail me
to eat up my flesh,
my adversaries and foes,
it is they who stumble and fall.

- Psalm 27:2 (English Standard Version)

SONGS

COME THOU FOUNT

(Words and Music by John Wyeth and Robert Robinson)

Come, Thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise:
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love.

Here I raise mine Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home:
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

O, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy grace, Lord, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it; seal it for Thy courts above.

SONGS

HEAR THE CALL OF THE KINGDOM

(Words & Music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, and Stuart Townend, 2006)

Hear the call of the kingdom, lift your eyes to the King;
Let His song rise within you as a fragrant offering
Of how God, rich in mercy, came in Christ to redeem
All who trust in His unfailing grace.

Hear the call of the kingdom, to be children of light
With the mercy of heaven the humility of Christ;
Walking justly before Him, loving all that is right,
That the life of Christ may shine through us.

*King of heaven, we will answer the call.
We will follow, bringing hope to the world,
Filled with passion, filled with power to proclaim
Salvation in Jesus' name.*

Hear the call of the kingdom to reach out to the lost
With the Father's compassion in the wonder of the cross,
Bringing peace and forgiveness, and a hope yet to come:
Let the nations put their trust in Him.

READINGS

CONFESSION OF SIN

¹⁵The eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous and his ears toward their cry. ¹⁶The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. ¹⁷When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. ¹⁸The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

- Psalm 34:15-18 (English Standard Version)

DECLARATION OF GRACE

⁴I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears. ⁵Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed. ⁶This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him and saved him out of all his troubles. ⁷The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

- Psalm 34:4-7 (English Standard Version)

SONGS

GIVE US YOUR HEART

(Words and Music by People & Songs, 2016)

Your eyes are on the lowly, though others look away;
Your feet run to the broken, Your hands are quick to save;
Make us like You Lord.

You walk with the forgotten, and offer them a home,
Adopting the unwanted, and calling them Your own;
Make us like You Lord.

*O give us Your heart, o give us Your heart.
Let the light of heaven shine, as we step into the dark.
O give us Your heart, o give us Your heart.
All to see Your kingdom come and death depart.
O give us Your heart, o give us Your heart.*

Let justice flow like a river in the desert,
Let the nations know that You will reign forever.
As the earth beholds the glory of the Savior,
Let justice flow.

GREAT ARE YOU LORD

(Words and Music by David Leonard, Jason Ingram, and Leslie Jordan, 2012)

You give life. You are love. You bring light to the darkness.
You give hope. You restore ev'ry heart that is broken.
And great are You, Lord.

*It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise,
We pour out our praise.
It's Your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise to You only.*

And all the earth will shout Your praise.
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing,
"Great are You, Lord!"

READINGS

SCRIPTURE

¹ Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.

² He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;

³ a bruised reed he will not break,
and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

⁴ He will not grow faint or be discouraged
till he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his law.

- Isaiah 42:1-4 (*English Standard Version*)

REFLECTION QUESTIONS (taken in part from the Serendipity Study Bible for Groups)

- What do you think of when you hear the word “mercy”?
- What do you think of when you hear the word “justice”?
- Why is it important that our God is a God of justice? What about this makes you uncomfortable? What about this brings you hope?
- As Isaiah 42 paints a picture of the coming Servant, why is His mercy and justice so central to His mission?
- If our God is a God of mercy and justice, how are we to respond to that reality as Christians in the world today? How aren’t we to respond?

SERMON OUTLINE

A Different Kind of Strength

Isaiah 42:1-4

In the life and ministry of Jesus, we encounter the “strength” of God, but are put off by His strength. We are put off by His strength because in our eyes it looks a lot like losing. However, the Servant in Isaiah shows us that the “strength” of our God is demonstrated...

Not in dominance (Isaiah 42:1-4; Micah 6:6-7; Isaiah 1:13-17, 23)

But in His mercy and justice (Isaiah 42:1-4; Micah 6:8; John 5:39-40)

— REFLECTION QUOTES —

The term for 'mercy' is the Hebrew word *chesedh*, God's unconditional grace and compassion. The word for 'justice' is the Hebrew term *mishpat*. In Micah 6:8, '*mishpat* puts the emphasis on the action, *chesedh* puts it on the attitude [or motive] behind the action.' To walk with God, then, we must do justice, out of merciful love.

- Timothy Keller, *Generous Justice* (p. 3)

⁶“With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

- Micah 6:6-7 (*English Standard Version*)

¹³Bring no more vain offerings; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations—I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly. ¹⁴Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hates; they have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. ¹⁵When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood. ¹⁶Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, ¹⁷learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause. ...

²³Your princes are rebels and companions of thieves. Everyone loves a bribe and runs after gifts. They do not bring justice to the fatherless, and the widow's cause does not come to them.

- Isaiah 1:13-17, 23 (*English Standard Version*)

⁸He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

- Micah 6:8 (*English Standard Version*)

³⁹You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, ⁴⁰yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.

- John 5:39-40 (*English Standard Version*)

READINGS

PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLE'S CREED

Although not written by the apostles, the Apostle's Creed is a concise summary of their teachings. It originated as a baptismal confession, probably in the second century, and developed into its present form by the sixth or seventh century.

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

* ("catholic" means "world-wide" in scope rather than regional or sectarian)

SONGS

ALL WE ASK

(Words and Music by Donnie McClurkin, 2008)

Hear our earnest prayer, O Lord.
Hear our humble cry, precious, loving, caring Lord.
On whom we rely ever loving, ever Living God;
Of whom no one can compare.
All we ask is that You hear our prayers.

Give us strength, most Holy Lord.
Strength to meet this day. Lead us by Your Holy Word.
Guide us in Your way, for life is filled with winding turns.
We have often lost our way,
All we ask is that You lead today.

Give us love that's true, O Lord.
Trusting as a child, love for all we see, O Lord.
Pure and undefiled, but to heal the heart and not turn away.
Anyone who is in need,
All we ask is teach us love indeed, yeah.

Take me home with You, my Lord.
When my life is through, take me home with peace, my Lord.
Let me rest with You when I've fought the fight,
And I've kept the faith, and my race on earth is won.
All I ask is that You say, "Well done."
Lord, please let me hear You say, "Well done."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN SERVICES: Join us Wednesdays at noon for a special service as we prepare and anticipate Good Friday and Easter. Continues through Holy Week, in the Chapel.

AUCTION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! We're looking for people to help with various things for the auction: kitchen cleanup, beverage team, help sell raffle tickets, greet and help with item pickup/checkout. If you're interested, contact Isaac Noschka (isaac@valleysprings.org / (916) 786-7940 x140).

AUCTION BAKE SALE: There will be a bake sale in the Lobby next Sunday, March 5th before and after service. All proceeds go towards the auction. Want to contribute some baked goods? Contact: Isaac Noschka (isaac@valleysprings.org / (916) 786-7940 x140).

AUCTION YFC SNACK DRIVE: We're partnering with YFC to donate snacks and drinks for their ministry sites on and off campuses. YFC is looking for individually packed snacks like: chips, granola bars, fruit snacks, bottled water, Gatorade, etc. Snacks can be dropped off at the church office starting today through the end of the Auction Saturday, March 11th.

VALLEY SPRINGS CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL: Our weekday preschool program for 3's, 4's, and 5-year-olds. Registration for the 2023-24 school year is open! See www.valleyspringschristianpreschool.org or contact Danya Schulte: danya@valleysprings.org / (916) 786-7670.

FAMILY MEXICO TRIP: Come to our Mexico mission trip information meeting and meet and have lunch with Pastor Raymundo and Paster Ray with whom we have partnered for many years on our Mexico trips. The meeting will be at 11:45 AM on Sunday, March 5th in the Middle School Room. The Family Mexico Mission trip is a great opportunity to serve the Lord and the people of Mexico with your immediate family and your Valley Springs family. As in the past, we will be building houses for people. The trip is from 7/15/23 to 7/22/23. You can secure your spot(s) on the trip right now, by paying a \$100 deposit per person. Don't wait! Please email Marcel Weiland at marcelweiland@comcast.net. Our registration deposits are due to YUGO Ministries by March 20th.

For more information, visit www.valleysprings.org

OUR MISSION

Valley Springs Presbyterian Church is an intergenerational community of grace, learning to love God, and serve our world, together.

ELDER ON-CALL

(916) 786-7940, option 5
elders@valleysprings.org

CARE MINISTRIES & ASSISTANCE REQUESTS

(916) 786-7940, option 4
info@valleysprings.org



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2401 Olympus Drive, Roseville, CA 95661

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