

November 19, 2023

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THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO

# ISAAC

GENESIS

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# ORDER OF SERVICE

## GATHERED BY GOD FOR WORSHIP

Welcome

Call to Worship

Psalm 118:28-29

Songs of Praise

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty  
God of Wonders*

Prayer of Adoration

## RENEWED BY GOD THROUGH GRACE

Confession of Sin

Luke 18:13

Declaration of Grace

Micah 7:18-20

Songs of Renewal & Gratitude

*Great Are You Lord  
He Will Keep You (Psalm 121)*

## SET APART BY GOD

Offering

Sermon

The Lord's Supper

Profession of Faith

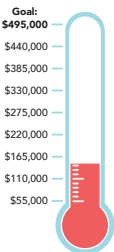
The Nicene Creed

## SENT BY GOD

Song of Response

*He Will Hold Me Fast*

Blessing



**Our Year End Giving Goal**  
**\$495,000 by 12/31**

General Offering: 11/6 - 11/12 ..... \$ 14,095  
Dollars to goal..... \$ 349,397

**GIVE NOW**



Text "GIVE" to  
(669) 333-5880

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# READINGS

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## CALL TO WORSHIP

<sup>28</sup>You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;  
you are my God; I will extol you.

<sup>29</sup>Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
for his steadfast love endures forever!

- Psalm 118:28-29 (*English Standard Version*)

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# SONGS

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## PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY

(*Words: Joachim Neander, Catherine Winkworth, addt'l. lyrics by Christy & Nathan Nockels /  
Music: LOBE DEN HERREN*)

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near,  
Praise Him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth.  
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth.  
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been.  
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee!  
Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,  
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O, let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!  
Let the amen sound from His people again.  
Gladly forever adore Him!

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# SONGS

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## GOD OF WONDERS

*(Words and Music by Marc Byrd and Steve Hindalong, 2000)*

Lord of all creation, of water, earth and sky;  
The heavens are your tabernacle; glory to the Lord on high.

*God of wonders beyond our galaxy, you are holy, holy.  
The universe declares your majesty, you are holy, holy.  
Lord of heaven and earth.*

Early in the morning, I will celebrate the light.  
When I stumble in the darkness, I will call your name by night.

Hallelujah, to the Lord of heaven and earth.  
Hallelujah, to the Lord of heaven and earth.  
Hallelujah, to the Lord of heaven and earth.

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# READINGS

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## CONFESSION OF SIN

<sup>13</sup>“But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’”

- Luke 18:13 (*English Standard Version*)

## DECLARATION OF GRACE

<sup>18</sup>Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. <sup>19</sup>He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. <sup>20</sup>You will show faithfulness to Jacob and steadfast love to Abraham, as you have sworn to our fathers from the days of old.

- Micah 7:18-20 (*English Standard Version*)

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# SONGS

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## **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!"

## **HE WILL KEEP YOU (PSALM 121)**

*(Words and Music by Bob Kauflin and David Zimmer, 2021)*

I lift my eyes and see I need not be afraid.  
All my help comes from the Lord, who the earth and sky has made.

*He will keep you from all evils behind you and before.  
He will sustain you through this journey from now and evermore.*

The Lord will never sleep. My steps, He has ordained.  
For the One Who holds the night is the Sovereign of my days.

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# READINGS

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## SCRIPTURE

<sup>1</sup> Abraham took another wife, whose name was Keturah. <sup>2</sup> She bore him Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah. <sup>3</sup> Jokshan fathered Sheba and Dedan. The sons of Dedan were Asshurim, Letushim, and Leummim. <sup>4</sup> The sons of Midian were Ephah, Epher, Hanoah, Abida, and Eldaah. All these were the children of Keturah. <sup>5</sup> Abraham gave all he had to Isaac. <sup>6</sup> But to the sons of his concubines Abraham gave gifts, and while he was still living he sent them away from his son Isaac, eastward to the east country.

<sup>7</sup> These are the days of the years of Abraham's life, 175 years. <sup>8</sup> Abraham breathed his last and died in a good old age, an old man and full of years, and was gathered to his people. <sup>9</sup> Isaac and Ishmael his sons buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, east of Mamre, <sup>10</sup> the field that Abraham purchased from the Hittites. There Abraham was buried, with Sarah his wife. <sup>11</sup> After the death of Abraham, God blessed Isaac his son. And Isaac settled at Beer-lahai-roi.

<sup>12</sup> These are the generations of Ishmael, Abraham's son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's servant, bore to Abraham. <sup>13</sup> These are the names of the sons of Ishmael, named in the order of their birth: Nebaioth, the firstborn of Ishmael; and Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam, <sup>14</sup> Mishma, Dumah, Massa, <sup>15</sup> Hadad, Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah. <sup>16</sup> These are the sons of Ishmael and these are their names, by their villages and by their encampments, twelve princes according to their tribes. <sup>17</sup> (These are the years of the life of Ishmael: 137 years. He breathed his last and died, and was gathered to his people.) <sup>18</sup> They settled from Havilah to Shur, which is opposite Egypt in the direction of Assyria. He settled over against all his kinsmen.

- Genesis 25:1-18 (*English Standard Version*)

## QUESTIONS

- What comes to mind when you think about "genealogy"?
- Why are genealogies important?
- Have you ever done a family tree? How far back can you go when thinking about the generations of people before you? What unique things have you learned about your own family history?
- Why does the Bible include genealogies? Why don't the Biblical authors just skip over them?
- Why does the entire New Testament begin with a genealogy in Matthew 1?
- Is it hard for you to believe that the God of the Bible is real? Recall a time in your life when you knew He was very real, and recall a time when He didn't seem real at all. Reflect on both of these instances.



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# REFLECTION

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## QUOTES

But as elsewhere, Genesis is not interested in sociological observation or historical anecdote for its own sake but in theology, in the fulfillment of the promises made to Abraham.

- Gordon J. Wenham, *Word Biblical Commentary: Genesis 16-50* (p. 166)

<sup>4</sup>“Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you.”

- Genesis 17:4-6 (*English Standard Version*)

<sup>37</sup>Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” <sup>38</sup>And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup>For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” <sup>40</sup>And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.” <sup>41</sup>So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

<sup>42</sup>And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. <sup>43</sup>And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup>And all who believed were together and had all things in common. <sup>45</sup>And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup>And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

- Acts 2:37-47 (*English Standard Version*)



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# READINGS

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## PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE NICENE CREED

*The Nicene Creed originated at the Council of Nicea (325), and an expanded form was adopted by the Council of Chalcedon (451). It was formulated to answer heresies that denied the Biblical doctrine of the Trinity and of the person of Christ.*

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father;  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried;  
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;  
and he shall come again, with glory,  
to judge both the living and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together  
is worshipped and glorified;  
who spoke by the prophets;  
and we believe in one holy catholic\* and apostolic church;  
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;  
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen

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





# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FAMILY MEXICO MISSIONS TRIP:** Are you interested in joining our annual Family Mexico Missions Trip next summer? Join us for lunch and an informational meeting on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> in the Middle School Room at 11:30am. This trip will be from July 13<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**BIBLE STUDIES:** Looking to get connected with a Bible study? We have options for Men, Women, and combined groups all throughout the week! Email [info@valleysprings.org](mailto:info@valleysprings.org) for more info.

**TGI - BLANKET DRIVE:** The Gathering Inn has reached out to let us know that they need blankets. If you'd like to donate, please bring new or like-new blankets to the collection box in the church lobby. We will be collecting blankets until Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - COMMUNION TEAM:** We are returning to passing the plates or coming forward for Communion. In order to facilitate this, we need volunteers to serve on the Communion Team. It would be a once-a-month commitment. If you are interested, please email [info@valleysprings.org](mailto:info@valleysprings.org). There will still be a gluten-free prepackaged option for those who need and/or prefer it.

**STAY CONNECTED:** Want to connect with Valley Springs throughout the week? Follow us on social media! We are on Facebook (@ValleySpringsChurch) and Instagram (@vspcroseville). Our community groups offer an opportunity for deeper connection. If you need help getting connected, please reach out to Dana Allred ([dana@valleysprings.org](mailto:dana@valleysprings.org)). Dana is our Coordinator of Connections and she would love to help you find fellowship.

*For more information, visit [www.valleysprings.org](http://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](mailto:elders@valleysprings.org)

### CARE MINISTRIES & ASSISTANCE REQUESTS

(916) 786-7940, option 4  
[info@valleysprings.org](mailto:info@valleysprings.org)



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