

July 30, 2023

REJOICE

celebrate the savior

ORDER OF SERVICE

GATHERED BY GOD FOR WORSHIP

Welcome

Call to Worship

Psalm 96:1-6

Songs of Praise

Blessed Be Your Name

He Reigns

Prayer of Adoration

RENEWED BY GOD THROUGH GRACE

Confession of Sin

Isaiah 5:20-24

Declaration of Grace

Psalm 143:7-12

Songs of Renewal & Gratitude

My Soul Will Wait (Psalm 62)

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

SET APART BY GOD

Offering

Sermon

The Lord's Supper

SENT BY GOD

Song of Response

He Will Hold Me Fast

Blessing

PLEDGE CARD UPDATE

Increase Monthly Giving\$ 6,256.33

One-Time Special Gifts.....\$ 45,150.00

Largest Potential Financial Impact..... \$ 300,000

The pledge cards are designed to help the Session know where adjustments to the current plan need to be made. We are asking that pledge cards be turned in by August 1st.

If you have any questions, please email info@valleysprings.org or connect with an Elder/Generosity Team Member.

GIVE NOW



Text "GIVE" to
(669) 333-5880

READINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP

- ¹ Oh sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth!
- ² Sing to the Lord, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.
- ³ Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples!
- ⁴ For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
he is to be feared above all gods.
- ⁵ For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.
- ⁶ Splendor and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

- Psalm 96:1-6 (English Standard Version)

SONGS

BLESSED BE YOUR NAME

(Words and Music by Matt & Beth Redman, 2002)

Blessed be your name in the land that is plentiful,
Where your streams of abundance flow, blessed be your name.

Blessed be your name, when I'm found in the desert place,
Though I walk through the wilderness, blessed be your name.

*Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord. Blessed be your glorious name.*

Blessed be your name, when the sun's shining down on me,
When the world's as it should be, blessed be your name.

Blessed be your name, on the road marked with suffering,
Though there's pain in the offering, blessed be your name.

You give and take away, you give and take away,
My heart will choose to say, Lord, blessed be your name.

SONGS

HE REIGNS

(Words and Music by Peter Furler and Steve Taylor, 2003)

It's the song of the redeemed rising from the African plain.
It's the song of the forgiven drowning out the Amazon rain.
The song of Asian believers filled with God's holy fire.
It's every tribe, every tongue, every nation;
A love song born of a grateful choir.

It's all God's children singing:

"Glory, glory, hallelujah! He reigns, He reigns."

It's all God's children singing:

"Glory, glory, hallelujah! He reigns, He reigns."

Let it rise above the four winds, caught up in the heavenly sound.
Let praises echo from the towers of cathedrals
To the faithful gathered underground.
Of all the songs sung from the dawn of creation, some were meant to persist.
Of all the bells rung from a thousand steeples, none rings truer than this:

And all the powers of darkness tremble at what they've just heard,
'Cause all the powers of darkness can't drown out a single word.

READINGS

CONFESSION OF SIN

²⁰Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! ²¹Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, and shrewd in their own sight! ²²Woe to those who are heroes at drinking wine, and valiant men in mixing strong drink, ²³who acquit the guilty for a bribe, and deprive the innocent of his right!

²⁴Therefore, as the tongue of fire devours the stubble, and as dry grass sinks down in the flame, so their root will be as rottenness, and their blossom go up like dust; for they have rejected the law of the Lord of hosts, and have despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

- Isaiah 5:20-24 (English Standard Version)

DECLARATION OF GRACE

⁷Answer me quickly, O Lord! My spirit fails! Hide not your face from me, lest I be like those who go down to the pit. ⁸Let me hear in the morning of your steadfast love, for in you I trust. Make me know the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.

⁹Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord! I have fled to you for refuge. ¹⁰Teach me to do your will, for you are my God! Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!

¹¹For your name's sake, O Lord, preserve my life! In your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble! ¹²And in your steadfast love you will cut off my enemies, and you will destroy all the adversaries of my soul, for I am your servant.

- Psalm 143:7-12 (English Standard Version)

SONGS

MY SOUL WILL WAIT (PSALM 62)

(Words and Music by Bob Kauflin and Keaton Bunting, 2021)

When the enemy surrounds and my heart grows faint within,
When the darkness overwhelms and my fears are pressing in,
I will trust in You, O Lord, in the silence I will wait,
I will stand upon Your Word.

*You're my solid rock and my salvation,
My steadfast hope that won't be shaken,
My soul will wait, my soul will wait for You.*

You're my stronghold and my shield, in the midst of every threat,
Through the wicked never yield, they will vanish like a breath,
Yes, I know the outcome's sure, Satan's evil plans will fail,
In Your power I'm secure.

*You're my comfort when I feel forsaken,
My refuge and my sure foundation,
My soul will wait, my soul will wait for You.*

This is love I can't explain, this is mercy unreserved,
Through Your sacrifice so great I have peace that's undeserved,
For the battle has been won, and I fear no shame or loss,
Now the sting of death is gone.

Pouring out our hearts before You, we will trust in You.
Perfect Savior, strong Defender, we will trust in You.

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

(Words: Thomas O. Chisholm / Music: William M. Runyan)

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

*Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest;
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

READINGS

SCRIPTURE

⁸ Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. ⁹ Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. ¹⁰ For “Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; ¹¹ let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it. ¹² For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

¹³ Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵ but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil.

- 1 Peter 3:8-17 (*English Standard Version*)

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

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

- Have you ever gotten into a fight? Who started the fight? What would have prevented the fight from happening?
- What event(s) from your life do you recall when you hear the saying, “you can’t fight fire with fire”?
- In what ways does Jesus “win the fight”? How is His way different from the world’s way? How is it different from your way?
- Read 1 John 4:15-21. How does this message apply to the persecuted church in the first century? How does it apply to the church today?

SERMON OUTLINE

But on the Contrary, Bless...

1 Peter 3:8-17

The Bible shows us time and time again God acting in ways that we would expect Him not to act. We see Him doing this in order to show us that it is truly Him at work, and that He doesn't need power or greed like the world does to accomplish His great purposes. Peter's letter to these churches in the first century is no different, as here Peter shows us...

Evil only produces more evil... (1 Peter 3:8-12)

The only way to overcome evil is by blessing... (1 Peter 3:13-17; Romans 12:16-21)

We bless because He first blessed us... (Matthew 9:36; 1 John 4:15-21)

— REFLECTION QUOTES —

What we believe determines how we live. Men who sincerely believed that what they were doing was right have perpetrated many of the most hideous crimes against humanity.

- William Wilberforce, *Real Christianity*

¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

- Romans 12:16-21 (*English Standard Version*)

³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

- Matthew 9:36 (*English Standard Version*)

¹⁵ Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶ So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷ By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹ And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

- 1 John 4:15-21 (*English Standard Version*)

SONGS

HE WILL HOLD ME FAST

(Words & Music by Ada Ruth Habershon and Matthew Merker, 2013)

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

*He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.*

Those He saves are His delight; Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost; His Promises shall last;
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUMMER PARK PLAY DATES: Join the moms and kiddos of Valley Springs for fellowship and playtime. The next play date is Tuesday, August 1st, 9am at Hillsborough Park in Roseville.

WOMEN'S SUMMER NIGHTS: It's ladies' night! Come join the women of Valley Springs for fellowship, fun, and good appetizers/drinks. Wednesday, August 2nd from 5pm-7pm at La Provence in Roseville. If you have any questions, contact Dana Allred: dana@valleysprings.org.

WORK DAY: Help us take care of some necessary tasks around our facility! On Saturday, August 5th, 9am-11am, we could use some help with a few projects inside and outside our building. We'll be painting, cleaning, and taking care of a few other odds and ends! Good work clothes are recommended; we'll provide any necessary tools. Contact: Isaac Noschka (isaac@valleysprings.org).

END OF SUMMER BASH: Summer may be ending, but our fun is just getting started! Join us for a (California) BBQ and our annual tank wars on Saturday, August 19th at 5 pm. Please plan to bring either a main dish and a side OR a main dish and a dessert.

JOSEPH'S STOREHOUSE: Our food pantry needs to be restocked! We need canned fruit, canned chicken, jelly, individually packaged snacks, baked beans, boxed pasta noodles, and soup. Drop off donations at the front desk.

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.

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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