

ALIVE
in
CHRIST



ORDER OF SERVICE

GATHERED BY GOD FOR WORSHIP

Welcome

Call to Worship

Revelation 4:6b-11

Songs of Praise

Revelation Song

How Great Thou Art

Prayer of Adoration

RENEWED BY GOD THROUGH GRACE

Confession of Sin

Psalm 102:1-2

Declaration of Grace

Psalm 100:5

Songs of Renewal & Gratitude

The Goodness of Jesus

The Lord Is My Salvation

SET APART BY GOD

Testimony of God's Grace: Pat Hammer

Offering

Sermon

The Lord's Supper

Profession of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

SENT BY GOD

Song of Response

All Things Together

Blessing

General Offering: April 19 - April 25.....	\$ 14,121
Weekly Budget Need.....	\$ 26,808
Last Week's Deficit	(\$ 12,287)
Budget Deficit (YTD)	(\$ 134,642)

This information can also be found at valleysprings.org

READINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP

^{6b} And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: ⁷ the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight. ⁸ And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!" ⁹ And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, ¹⁰ the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying, ¹¹ "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

- Revelation 4:4b-11 (*English Standard Version*)

CONFESSION OF SIN

¹ Hear my prayer, O Lord;
let my cry come to you!

² Do not hide your face from me
in the day of my distress!

Incline your ear to me;
answer me speedily in the day when I call!

- Psalm 102:1-2 (*English Standard Version*)

DECLARATION OF GRACE

⁵ For the Lord is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

- Psalm 100:5 (*English Standard Version*)

READINGS

SCRIPTURE

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

- Colossians 1:15-20 (*English Standard Version*)

REFLECTION QUOTE

What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.

- A.W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*

PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLE'S CREED

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)

SERMON OUTLINE

Jesus is Unique *Colossians 1:15-20*

Jesus is unique...

- He is God...Creator and Sustainer (Colossians 1:15, 18-20)
 - He is Lord...has authority over all (Colossians 1:16-18)
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Therefore, we are unique as we follow Him

- We reflect His image to the world around us
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REFLECTION QUESTIONS (taken in part from the Serendipity Study Bible for Groups)

- As a kid, what "superhuman" character did you look up to? Why?
- Why would people find the statements in this passage so outrageous? What might you say in response to someone who thought these claims ridiculous?
- Jesus is the image of the invisible God: how would you explain to someone what Christians believe about Jesus and His deity?
- Jesus is the sustainer: how should this knowledge change the way we view both Jesus and the universe we live in?
- Given Christ's supreme role in creation (vv.15-17), what does that imply for the church (v.18)? For heavenly beings (v.20)? For all earthly powers and authority?
- How do you feel about the significance of the church in general, and your church in particular?
- Can you articulate the Gospel for an unbeliever? How does this passage help in doing so?

SONGS

REVELATION SONG *(Words and Music by Jennie Lee Riddle, 2004)*

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain; holy, holy is He;
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on heaven's mercy seat.

*Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty.
Who was and is and is to come;
With all creation I sing Praise to the King of kings;
You are my ev'rything and I will adore You.*

Clothed in rainbows of living color; flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder;
Blessing and honor, strength and glory and power be to You, the only wise King.

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder, at the mention of Your name;
Jesus, Your name is power, breath and living water,
Such a marv'lous mystery, yeah.

HOW GREAT THOU ART *(Words and Music by Stuart Wesley Keene Hine)*

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow'r thru'out the universe displayed!

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin!

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration and there proclaim,
My God, how great Thou art!

THE GOODNESS OF JESUS

(Words and Music by Michael Farren, Jaywan Maxwell, Jonny Robinson, and Rich Thompson)

Come you weary heart now to Jesus; come you anxious soul now and see.
There is perfect love and comfort in your tears, rest here in His wondrous peace.

(Continued on next page)

SONGS

*Oh the goodness, the goodness of Jesus
Satisfied he is all that I need
May it be, come what may, that I rest all my days
In the goodness of Jesus*

Come find what this world cannot offer; come and find your joy here complete.
Taste the living water, never thirst again. Rest here in His wondrous peace.

Come and find your hope now in Jesus; He is all he said he would be.
Grace is overflowing from the Savior's heart. Rest here in His wondrous peace.

THE LORD IS MY SALVATION *(Words and Music by Frank Houghton)*

The grace of God has reached for me, and pulled me from the raging sea.
And I am safe on this solid ground: The Lord is my salvation.

I will not fear when darkness falls, His strength will help me scale these walls.
I'll see the dawn of the rising sun: The Lord is my salvation.

*Who is like the Lord our God? Strong to save, faithful in love.
My debt is paid and the vict'ry won: The Lord is my salvation.*

My hope is hidden in the Lord, He flow'rs each promise of His Word.
When winter fades, I know spring will come: The Lord is my salvation.

In times of waiting, times of need, when I know loss, when I am weak.
I know His grace will renew these days: The Lord is my salvation.

And when I reach the final day, He will not leave me in the grave.
But I will rise, He will call me home: The Lord is my salvation.

Glory be to God, the Father, glory be to God, the Son,
Glory be to God, the Spirit: The Lord is our salvation.

ALL THINGS TOGETHER *(Words and Music by Andrew Peterson, 2018)*

He's the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of creation.
And by him all things were created, in heaven and earth, seen and unseen.
Rulers, dominions, and powers and kings.

*He holds all things, all things, all things together.
He holds all things, all things, all things together.*

He's the head of the body, the church, the firstborn from the dead.
So in ev'rything, He is the head,
And the fullness of God was pleased to dwell in him;
To reconcile to himself all things, all things, all things together.

Through him and for him, all things were made.
Through him and for him, all things were made.
He is before all things, in Him, all things hold together.

He made peace, He made peace, He made peace by the blood of his cross.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEXICO AUCTION VIRTUAL FUNDRAISER: We are raising funds to construct homes in Mexico with our long-time ministry partner, YUGO. This year our auction fundraiser is taking place entirely online, between May 1st and May 15th. That means two weeks to view all our great items, bid high, and bid often! Every dollar raised will go directly to home construction. Auction items available include Valley Springs' classics like "Dinner with the Pastors" and whole home window washing. Those looking for a little more adventure will want to check out our 7-day, 6-night stay in Costa Rica, martial arts training, or axe throwing! To join in on the fun(draising), head to: valleysprings.org/auction.

PARK DATES: Join other Valley Springs' moms for fellowship and playtime for our kids. Monday, May 10th from 3pm-5pm at Royer Park.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY: The men's Bible study has started, *33thseries: Volume 2*, Saturdays at 7:30am. Registration and more info at: valleysprings.org/men.

YOU ARE WHAT YOU LOVE - THE SPIRITUAL POWER OF HABIT: In *You Are What You Love*, James K. A. Smith helps us recognize the formative power of culture and the transformative possibilities of Christian practices. This class will meet from May 2nd to June 13th, at 9am, in the Middle School Room and via Zoom. Please purchase a book in advance; we will read a chapter each week and then discuss on Sunday. Led by Marcel Weiland and Mark Bryan. Email matte@valleysprings.org for the Zoom info.

VALLEY SPRINGS CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL: Our weekday preschool program for 3's, 4's, and 5-year-olds. Registration for the 2021-22 school year is now open. See www.valleyspringschristianpreschool.org or contact Danya Schulte: danya@valleysprings.org / (916) 786-7940 x106.

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

MERCY & CARE TEAM

(916) 786-7940, option 4
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