

# Announcements

**Shelter:** Our Shelter service continues each week at noon via livestream. This brief midweek service runs about 40 minutes, and reflections are taken from our Shelter daily devotional email. Join us, in-person or via livestream, any week.

**Learning to Love - Race, Reconciliation, Forgiveness, and Discipleship:** Valley Springs attenders are invited to join this ongoing virtual conversation hosted by pastor Lance Lewis of Soaring Oaks Presbyterian Church. This class meets on Thursdays at 7:30pm, via Zoom. For connection information, email info@valleysprings.org.

**Learning to Love when there are Political Differences:** Have you wanted to learn how to love people with whom you disagree politically? Have you wanted to be equipped to have fruitful, Christ-honoring conversations with people with whom you disagree politically? A new class entitled "Learning to Love When there are Political Differences" will begin Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. It will meet virtually for 10 weeks. Register at valleysprings.org.

**Valley Springs Christian Preschool:** Our weekday preschool program for 3's, 4's, and 5-year-olds. Registration for the 2020-21 school year is now open. See www.valleyspringschristianpreschool.org or contact Danya Schulte: danya@valleysprings.org / (916) 786-7940 x106.

**Text-to-Give:** A new option to make giving easier. Simply text "give" to (669) 333-5880. You'll be asked to fill out a quick form to get set up for the first time. After that, giving is as easy as sending a text. Try it today!

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

# Order of Service

9<sup>th</sup> week after Pentecost

August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

## Gathered by God for Worship

Welcome

Call to Worship  
Revelation 21:3-4

Song of Praise  
*Behold Our God*

Prayer of Adoration

## Renewed by God Through Grace

Confession of Sin  
Psalm 42:11

Declaration of Grace  
Psalm 43:3-4

Song of Renewal and Gratitude  
*The Goodness of Jesus*

## Set Apart by God for Service in Every Area of Life

Children's Message

Offering

Sermon

The Lord's Supper (8am service only)

Profession of Faith: The Apostle's Creed

## Sent by God to Serve Our World Together

Song of Response  
*Christ Our Hope in Life and Death*

Blessing

<b>General Offering: July 20 - July 26</b> .....	<b>\$ 16,589</b>
Weekly Budget Need .....	\$ 31,600
Last Week's Deficit .....	(\$ 15,011)
Budget Deficit (YTD).....	(\$ 229,084)

This information can also be found at [valleysprings.org](http://valleysprings.org)

# Readings

## Scripture

<sup>1</sup> Sarah lived 127 years; these were the years of the life of Sarah. <sup>2</sup> And Sarah died at Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan, and Abraham went in to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her. <sup>3</sup> And Abraham rose up from before his dead and said to the Hittites, <sup>4</sup> "I am a sojourner and foreigner among you; give me property among you for a burying place, that I may bury my dead out of my sight." <sup>5</sup> The Hittites answered Abraham, <sup>6</sup> "Hear us, my lord; you are a prince of God among us. Bury your dead in the choicest of our tombs. None of us will withhold from you his tomb to hinder you from burying your dead." <sup>7</sup> Abraham rose and bowed to the Hittites, the people of the land. <sup>8</sup> And he said to them, "If you are willing that I should bury my dead out of my sight, hear me and entreat for me Ephron the son of Zohar, <sup>9</sup> that he may give me the cave of Machpelah, which he owns; it is at the end of his field. For the full price let him give it to me in your presence as property for a burying place."

<sup>10</sup> Now Ephron was sitting among the Hittites, and Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the hearing of the Hittites, of all who went in at the gate of his city, <sup>11</sup> "No, my lord, hear me: I give you the field, and I give you the cave that is in it. In the sight of the sons of my people I give it to you. Bury your dead." <sup>12</sup> Then Abraham bowed down before the people of the land. <sup>13</sup> And he said to Ephron in the hearing of the people of the land, "But if you will, hear me: I give the price of the field. Accept it from me, that I may bury my dead there." <sup>14</sup> Ephron answered Abraham, <sup>15</sup> "My lord, listen to me: a piece of land worth four hundred shekels of silver, what is that between you and me? Bury your dead." <sup>16</sup> Abraham listened to Ephron, and Abraham weighed out for Ephron the silver that he had named in the hearing of the Hittites, four hundred shekels of silver, according to the weights current among the merchants.

<sup>17</sup> So the field of Ephron in Machpelah, which was to the east of Mamre, the field with the cave that was in it and all the trees that were in the field, throughout its whole area, was made over <sup>18</sup> to Abraham as a possession in the presence of the Hittites, before all who went in at the gate of his city. <sup>19</sup> After this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah east of Mamre (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan. <sup>20</sup> The field and the cave that is in it were made over to Abraham as property for a burying place by the Hittites.

- Genesis 23 (English Standard Version)

# Sermon Outline

**Something More**  
Genesis 23

*The Life of Blessing*  
Matt Mobley

*When we look closely, we see God doing something "more" in the life of Abraham than what meets the eye.*

**More is seen in the extraordinary** (Genesis 23:1-4)

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**More is seen in the mundane** (Genesis 23:5-16; Hebrews 11:8-16)

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**More will be seen in our future** (Genesis 23:17-20; Romans 8:28-30)

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## Reflection Questions

- Describe a time in your life when you were a part of something that ended up being a much bigger deal than you initially thought it would be.
- What are some "big" moments in your life that brought you to Christ?
- What small things had to occur to lead you to the place where the "big" moment occurred?
- How has God been at work in the current pandemic/economic crisis/racial tension in our country?
- How has God been at work in your day-to-day life?