

# Announcements

**Shelter:** Our Shelter service continues each week at noon, both in-person and 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.

**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](http://www.valleyspringschristianpreschool.org) or contact Danya Schulte: [danya@valleysprings.org](mailto: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!

# Order of Service

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

July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## Gathered by God for Worship

Welcome

Call to Worship  
Psalm 105:1-3

Song of Praise  
*Better Is One Day*

Prayer of Adoration

## Renewed by God Through Grace

Confession of Sin  
Psalm 106:6-7

Declaration of Grace  
Psalm 106:8

Song of Renewal and Gratitude  
*His Mercy Is More*

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

Offering

Sermon

## Sent by God to Serve Our World Together

Song of Response  
*Our God Is For Us*

Blessing

<b>General Offering: June 29 - July 5</b> .....	<b>\$ 26,945</b>
Weekly Budget Need .....	\$ 31,600
Last Week's Deficit .....	(\$ 4,655)
Budget Deficit (YTD).....	(\$ 190,891)

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

# Readings

## Scripture

<sup>1</sup>The Lord visited Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did to Sarah as he had promised. <sup>2</sup>And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. <sup>3</sup>Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac. <sup>4</sup>And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. <sup>5</sup>Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. <sup>6</sup>And Sarah said, "God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh over me." <sup>7</sup>And she said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

- Genesis 21:1-7 (*English Standard Version*)

## Reflection

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

- Romans 5:6–11 (*English Standard Version*)

They said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" And he said, "She is in the tent." The LORD said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?" The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son." But Sarah denied it, saying, "I did not laugh," for she was afraid. He said, "No, but you did laugh."

- Genesis 18:9–15 (*English Standard Version*)

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers...

- Matthew 1:1-2 (*English Standard Version*)

Remember this and stand firm, recall it to mind, you transgressors, remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose,' calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of my counsel from a far country. I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; I have purposed, and I will do it.

- Isaiah 46:8–11 (*English Standard Version*)

# Sermon Outline

## At the Right Time

Genesis 21:1-7

*The Life of Blessing*

Brad Anderson

*God consistently demonstrates his singular ability to speak, act, promise, and fulfill.*  
(Numbers 23:19)

### How does Genesis 21 continue to demonstrate God's singular ability?

God makes promises. (Genesis 21:1-7)

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God keeps the promises he makes. (Genesis 21:1-7)

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God fulfills it all at the right time. (Genesis 21:1-7)

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### Reflection Questions (taken in part from the Serendipity Study Bible for Groups)

- What does your name mean? Why was it given to you?
- What does this story reveal about God's patience and faithfulness? Abraham's obedience (See Genesis 17:12, 19)? Sarah's joyful serendipity (happy turn of events or an unplanned fortunate discovery)?
- How might Hagar and Ishmael be feeling just now?
- Who gets the last laugh in this serendipitous story? Why?
- What personal dream would you like to see fulfilled in your lifetime?
- What serendipity would bring you great joy this week?