

January 15, 2023

# PRAYER LIVED



# ORDER OF SERVICE

## **GATHERED BY GOD FOR WORSHIP**

Welcome

**Call to Worship**

Matthew 11:28-30

**Songs of Praise**

*Come Thou Fount*

*Be Thou My Vision*

**Prayer of Adoration**

## **RENEWED BY GOD THROUGH GRACE**

**Confession of Sin**

Psalm 25:6-7

**Declaration of Grace**

Psalm 18:1-3

**Songs of Renewal & Gratitude**

*He Will Hold Me Fast*

*My Hope Is Built*

## **SET APART BY GOD**

**Offering**

**Sermon**

**The Lord's Supper**

**Profession of Faith**

The Apostle's Creed

## **SENT BY GOD**

**Song of Response**

*Christ Our Hope in Life and Death*

**Blessing**

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# READINGS

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## CALL TO WORSHIP

<sup>28</sup> "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.  
<sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart,  
and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy, and my burden is  
light."

- Matthew 11:28-30 (*English Standard Version*)

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# SONGS

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## COME THOU FOUNT

*(Words and Music by John Wyeth and Robert Robinson)*

Come, Thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise:  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love.

Here I raise mine Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I come;  
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home:  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

O, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let Thy grace, Lord, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:  
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it; seal it for Thy courts above.

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# SONGS

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## BE THOU MY VISION

*(Ancient Irish Poem, ca. 8th Century / Traditional Irish Melody)*

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, and I thy true son,  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
Thou and thou only first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.

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# READINGS

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## CONFESSION OF SIN

<sup>6</sup>Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. <sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!

- Psalm 25:6-7 *(English Standard Version)*

## DECLARATION OF GRACE

<sup>1</sup>I love you, O Lord, my strength. <sup>2</sup>The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. <sup>3</sup>I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.

- Psalm 18:1-3 *(English Standard Version)*

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# SONGS

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## 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!

## MY HOPE IS BUILT

*(Words and Music by Edward Mote and William Batchelder Bradbury)*

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand  
All other ground is sinking sand,  
All other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, His covenant, His blood, support me in the whelming flood;  
When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

When the last trumpet's voice shall sound, O may I then in Him be found;  
Dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

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# READINGS

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## SCRIPTURE

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup>since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup>And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed. ...

<sup>24</sup>Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

- John 17:1-5, 24 (*English Standard Version*)

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS (taken in part from the Serendipity Study Bible for Groups)

- Who would you say knows you the best? Who would you say you know the best? How have you come to the knowledge that you have of the other person?
- What does it mean to know God, or rather to be known by God? How does the work of Jesus reveal such knowledge? How does John 17:3 describe eternal life?
- What practical ways are there for a person to grow in the knowledge of God?
- Jesus prays that we would be with him where he is seated in the heavenly places to behold his glory. What do you suppose that will be like? Read the reflection quote by James Packer. What stands out to you about our loving-knowledge of God and God's loving-knowledge of us?
- Can you say that you are known by God at a personal level, in a bare way? If not, is this a desire that you feel, that is, to be known in such a bare way? If so, how does this knowledge encourage you?



# — REFLECTION QUOTES —

This is momentous knowledge. There is unspeakable comfort – the sort of comfort that energizes, be it said, not enervates – in knowing that God is constantly taking knowledge of me in love, and watching over me for my good. There is tremendous relief in knowing that his love to me is utterly realistic, based at every point on prior knowledge of the worst about me, so that no discovery now can disillusion him about me, in the way I am so often disillusioned about myself, and quench His determination to bless me. There is, certainly, great cause for humility in the thought that He sees all the twisted things about me that my fellow-men do not see (and I am glad!), and that He sees more corruption in me than that which I see in myself (which, in all conscience, is enough). There is, however, equally great incentive to worship and love God in the thought that for some unfathomable reason, he wants me as his friend, and desires to be my friend, and has given his Son to die for me in order to realize this purpose.

- J.I. Packer, *Knowing God* (p. 37)



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# READINGS

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## PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLE'S CREED

*Although not written by the apostles, the Apostle's Creed is a concise summary of their teachings. It originated as a baptismal confession, probably in the second century, and developed into its present form by the sixth or seventh century.*

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)

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# SONGS

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## CHRIST OUR HOPE IN LIFE AND DEATH

*(Words and Music by Jordan Kaufflin, Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, and Matthew Merker, 2020)*

What is our hope in life and death? Christ alone, Christ alone.  
What is our only confidence? That our souls to Him belong.  
Who holds our days within His hand? What comes, apart from His command?  
And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand.

*O sing hallelujah!  
Our hope springs eternal;  
O sing hallelujah!  
Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death.*

What truth can calm the troubled soul? God is good, God is good.  
Where is His grace and goodness known? In our great Redeemer's blood.  
Who holds our faith when fears arise? Who stands above the stormy trial?  
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

Unto the grave, what will we sing? "Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!"  
And what reward will heaven bring? Everlasting life with Him.  
There we will rise to meet the Lord, then sin and death will be destroyed,  
And we will feast in endless joy, when Christ is ours forevermore.

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# NOTES

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**KIDS MINISTRY VOLUNTEER MEETING:** This training is for all current volunteers and anyone interested in working with babies through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Today at 12pm in the Middle School Room. Lunch will be provided. Contact Rachel Coffman ([rachel@valleysprings.org](mailto:rachel@valleysprings.org)).

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES:** New Bible studies for women have begun. See the insert in today's bulletin for details, or check out the updated Women's Ministry page: [valleysprings.org/women](http://valleysprings.org/women).

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** A new study for men begins January 21<sup>st</sup>. Saturdays, 7:30am-9am, in the Youth Room. See the insert in today's bulletin for details, or check out the updated Men's Ministry page: [valleysprings.org/men](http://valleysprings.org/men).

**MEET & GREET:** For new attenders of Valley Springs. Meet the pastors and other attenders in a casual setting. Join us after church on Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:30am in the Middle School Room. Families welcome. Light refreshments will be served. Questions? or to RSVP, contact Dana Allred ([dana@valleysprings.org](mailto:dana@valleysprings.org)).

**FAMILY MEXICO MISSION TRIP:** The Family Mexico Mission trip is a great opportunity to serve the Lord and the people of Mexico with your immediate family and your Valley Springs family. The trip is from 7/17/23 to 7/24/23. Secure your spot(s) on the trip right now, by paying a \$100 deposit per person. Don't wait! Designate checks "Family Mexico Trip". Registration deposits are due by March 15<sup>th</sup>. Info meeting Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am in the Seminar Room. Contact: Marcel Weiland ([marcelweiland@comcast.net](mailto:marcelweiland@comcast.net)).

*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  
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