

September 17, 2023

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THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO

# ISAAC

GENESIS 

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# ORDER OF SERVICE

## GATHERED BY GOD FOR WORSHIP

Welcome

Call to Worship  
Psalm 104:33-34

Songs of Praise  
*Rise*  
*By Faith*

Prayer of Adoration

## RENEWED BY GOD THROUGH GRACE

Confession of Sin  
Jeremiah 3:12-13

Declaration of Grace  
Jeremiah 31:13-14

Songs of Renewal & Gratitude  
*Jesus Your Mercy*  
*Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me*

## 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

<b>General Offering: Sept 4 - Sept 10.....</b>	<b>\$ 35,820</b>
Weekly Budget Need.....	\$ 26,500
Last Week's Surplus.....	\$ 9,320
Budget Deficit (YTD).....	(\$200,035)

**How are we doing?**

Offering income is not evenly distributed throughout the year.

So far, we've received **56.6%** of our annual budget.

On average, we've received **51.8%** of our budget by this time in the year.

### GIVE NOW



Text "GIVE" to  
(669) 333-5880

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# READINGS

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## CALL TO WORSHIP

<sup>33</sup> | will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. <sup>34</sup> May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord.

- Psalm 104:33-34 (*English Standard Version*)

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# SONGS

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## RISE

*(Words and Music by Kari Jobe and Matt Bronleewe)*

Lead us to You, show us Your mercy,  
Your majesty lifted up on high;  
It tells of Your goodness.

Your name is true, Your name is holy,  
Your splendor is written in the skies;  
It tells of Your greatness.

*We will rise to praise You, offer our lives before You,  
Let every nation, all of creation.*

*We will rise; You are worthy.*

*Lift up our eyes to Your glory,*

*Let every nation, all of creation. We will rise.*

We stand in awe, You won the victory,  
Your enemies tremble at Your name; it speaks of Your triumph.  
You clothe the poor, You mend the broken,  
You heal our hearts, You take our shame; it speaks of Your kindness.

We will cry out Your renown; You are the God who has saved us.

We will rise to praise You. We lift a glorious sound;

You are the one who redeemed us. We will rise to praise You.

## BY FAITH

*(Words and Music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, and Stuart Townend, 2009)*

By faith we see the hand of God  
In the light of creation's grand design,  
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness,  
Who walk by faith and not by sight.

*(Continued on next page)*

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# SONGS

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By faith our fathers roamed the earth  
With the pow'r of His promise in their hearts  
Of a holy city built by God's own hand,  
A place where peace and justice reign.

*We will stand as children of the promise;  
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward.  
Till the race is finished and the work is done,  
We'll walk by faith and not by sight.*

By faith the prophets saw a day  
When the longed-for Messiah would appear  
With the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death,  
And rise triumphant from the grave.

By faith the church was called to go  
In the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost,  
To deliver captives and to preach good news  
In ev'ry corner of the earth.

By faith this mountain shall be moved  
And the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail,  
For we know in Christ all things are possible  
For all who call upon His name.

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## READINGS

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### CONFESSION OF SIN

<sup>12</sup>Go, and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, "Return, faithless Israel, declares the Lord. I will not look on you in anger, for I am merciful, declares the Lord; I will not be angry forever. <sup>13</sup>Only acknowledge your guilt, that you rebelled against the Lord your God and scattered your favors among foreigners under every green tree, and that you have not obeyed my voice, declares the Lord."

- Jeremiah 3:12-13 (*English Standard Version*)

### DECLARATION OF GRACE

<sup>13</sup>"Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. <sup>14</sup>I will feast the soul of the priests with abundance, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, declares the Lord."

- Jeremiah 31:13-14 (*English Standard Version*)

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# SONGS

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## JESUS YOUR MERCY

*(Words and Music by Bob Kauflin, Jordan Kauflin, and Nathan Stiff, 2019)*

Jesus, Your mercy is all my plea. I have no defense my guilt runs too deep.  
The best of my works pierced Your hands and Your feet. Jesus, Your mercy is all my plea.

Jesus, Your mercy is all my boast, the goodness I claim, the grounds of my hope.  
Whatever I lack, it's still what I need most. Jesus, Your mercy is all my boast.

*Praise the King who bore my sin, took my place when I stood condemned.  
Oh, how good You've always been to me. I will sing of Your mercy.*

Jesus, Your mercy is all my rest, when fears weigh me down and enemies press.  
A comfort I cling to in life and in death. Jesus, Your mercy is all my rest.

Jesus, Your mercy is all my joy. Forever I'll lift my heart and my voice,  
To sing of a treasure no pow'r can destroy. Jesus, Your mercy is all my joy.

## YET NOT I BUT THROUGH CHRIST IN ME

*(Words and Music by Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, and Michael Farren, 2018)*

What gift of grace is Jesus, my Redeemer. There is no more for heaven now to give.  
He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom,  
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.

To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus. For my life is wholly bound to His.  
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing: all is mine!  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken, for by my side the Savior, He will stay.  
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing,  
For in my need, His power is displayed.

To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me. Through the deepest valley He will lead.  
Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome!  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven, the future sure, the price, it has been paid.  
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,  
And He was raised to overthrow the grave.

To this I hold: my sin has been defeated. Jesus now, and ever, is my plea.  
Oh the chains are released, I can sing: I am free!  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With ev'ry breath I long to follow Jesus, for He has said that He will bring me home.  
And day by day I know He will renew me  
Until I stand with joy before the throne.

To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus. All the glory evermore to Him.  
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

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# READINGS

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## SCRIPTURE

<sup>9</sup>They said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" And he said, "She is in the tent." <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. <sup>12</sup>So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?" <sup>13</sup>The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' <sup>14</sup>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." <sup>15</sup>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*)

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What comes to mind when you think of the words, "hope" and "hopelessness"?
- Read Genesis 18:1-15. What stands out to you about this whole passage?
- Up to this point, Sarah had experienced years of hoping for a child but had still not conceived a child. Discuss a time in your life when you experienced years of "let-downs". How did that experience affect you? Does that experience still affect you today? Why or why not?

# SERMON OUTLINE

## Hope Declared

*Genesis 18:9-15*

*The life of Isaac is one that is marked by hope. Here, we find Abraham and Sarah in their old age, and we see God declaring His hope to Sarah in the midst of her hopelessness. This passage shows us three ways that God declares His hope to us:*

**God declares His hope in the midst of pain.** (Genesis 18:9-12)

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**God declares His hope in the midst of creating trust.**

(Genesis 18:13-15; Jeremiah 32:17, 27)

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**God declares His hope in the midst of producing joy.**

(Genesis 18:13-15; Hebrews 12:1-2; Psalm 30:11-12)

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# — REFLECTION QUOTES —

Hope is one of the Theological virtues. This means that a continual looking forward to the eternal world is not (as some modern people think) a form of escapism or wishful thinking, but one of the things a Christian is meant to do. It does not mean that we are to leave the present world as it is. If you read history you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were just those who thought most of the next.

- C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity* (p. 134)

<sup>17</sup>“Ah, Lord God! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you.”  
... <sup>27</sup>“Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh. Is anything too hard for me?”

- Jeremiah 32:17, 27 (*English Standard Version*)

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

- Hebrews 12:1-2 (*English Standard Version*)

<sup>11</sup>You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness, <sup>12</sup>that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever!

- Psalm 30:11-12 (*English Standard Version*)



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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 Kauflin, 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

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES:** New Bible studies for women have begun! We're studying the book of James. For more info, check out [valleysprings.org/women](http://valleysprings.org/women).

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** Our Saturday morning Men's Bible study is studying "Knowing God" by J. I. Packer every Saturday from 7:30am to 9am in the Youth Room. For more info, check out [valleysprings.org/men](http://valleysprings.org/men).

**MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT - STEPHEN MINISTRY:** Stephen Ministry is a listening and caring ministry. Are you going through a season where you just need a kind ear? Reach out to our Stephen Ministry coordinator, Laurie Whiddon ([lauriewhiddon@yahoo.com](mailto:lauriewhiddon@yahoo.com)). She will connect you with a Stephen Minister available to walk through life with you. All requests and care recipients are kept confidential.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - COMMUNION TEAM:** In October, we will be returning to passing the plates or coming forward for Communion. In order to facilitate this, we need volunteers to serve on the Communion Team. It would be a once-a-month commitment. If you are interested, please email [info@valleysprings.org](mailto:info@valleysprings.org). There will still be a gluten-free prepackaged option for those who need and/or prefer it.

**STAY CONNECTED:** Want to connect with Valley Springs throughout the week? Follow us on social media! We are on Facebook (@ValleySpringsChurch) and Instagram (@vspcroseville). We also have community groups that you can connect with! If you need help getting connected, please reach out to Dana Allred ([dana@valleysprings.org](mailto:dana@valleysprings.org)). Dana is our Coordinator of Connection and she would love to help you find fellowship.

*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  
[info@valleysprings.org](mailto:info@valleysprings.org)



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