

JANUARY 9, 2022

Lord, teach us to

P R A Y

ORDER OF SERVICE

GATHERED BY GOD FOR WORSHIP

Welcome

Call to Worship

Jeremiah 29:11-13

Songs of Praise

Open the Eyes of My Heart

Be Thou My Vision

Prayer of Adoration

RENEWED BY GOD THROUGH GRACE

Confession of Sin

Psalm 32:5-6

Declaration of Grace

1 John 1:9

Songs of Renewal & Gratitude

Lord, I Need You

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

SET APART BY GOD

Offering

Sermon

The Lord's Supper

Profession of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

SENT BY GOD

Song of Response

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Blessing

READINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP

¹¹For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. ¹²Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. ¹³You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

- Jeremiah 29:11-13 (*English Standard Version*)

SONGS

OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART (*Words and Music by Paul Baloche, 1997*)

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,
Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see You, I want to see You.*

To see You high and lifted up,
Shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love;
As we sing holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy,
I want to see You.

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.

Continued on next page)

SONGS

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.

READINGS

CONFESSION OF SIN

⁵I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my iniquity;
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. *Selah*

⁶Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;
surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not reach him.

- Psalm 32:5-6 (*English Standard Version*)

DECLARATION OF GRACE

⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- 1 John 1:9 (*English Standard Version*)

SONGS

LORD, I NEED YOU *(Words and Music by Christy Nockels, Daniel Carson, Jesse Reeves, Kristian Stanfill, and Matt Maher, 2011)*

Lord, I come, I confess. Bowing here, I find my rest.
And without You, I fall apart. You're the one that guides my heart.

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.

My one defense, my righteousness; oh, God, how I need You.

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more.
Where grace is found is where You are.

And where You are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.
Where You are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.

So, teach my song to rise to You when temptation comes my way.

And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus, You're my hope and stay.

And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus, You're my hope and stay.

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS *(Words: Thomas O. Chisholm / Music: William M. Runyan)*

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;

All I have needed Thy hand hath provided

Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest;
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

READINGS

SCRIPTURE

¹ Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."

- Luke 11:1 (*English Standard Version*)

²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone...

- Matthew 14:23 (*English Standard Version*)

¹⁵ But now even more the report about him went abroad, and great crowds gathered to hear him and to be healed of their infirmities. ¹⁶ But he would withdraw to desolate places and pray.

- Luke 5:15-16 (*English Standard Version*)

¹² In these days he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God.

- Luke 6:12 (*English Standard Version*)

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

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

- Read the quote by Madeleine L'Engle from *Walking on Water: Reflections on Faith and Art*. How does prayer help us with the navigation of "self"? How does prayer shape our desires and help us to learn how to pray?
- The life of Jesus was constantly marked by grace, a grace fueled by the means appointed by God: The Word of God, The Sacraments of the Church and Prayer, both public and private. Spend some time finding and meditating on various places in scripture that reveal Jesus' participation in the means of grace from his earliest days and through the whole of his life and ministry. Use the quote from Leon Morris to look at some of the passages from Luke that emphasize prayer in the ministry of Jesus.
- How did John the Baptist teach his disciples to pray? What does the Shorter Catechism tell us that prayer is all about?
- Have you ever spent a night in prayer?

— REFLECTION QUOTES —

The God Luke knows is interested in our salvation and constantly at work in human affairs to bring to pass his redemptive purposes...Luke stresses the importance of prayer. He has two principal ways of doing this: (a) He records prayers of Jesus (Luke 3:21; 5:16; 6:12; 9:18, 28f.; 10:21f.; 11:1; 22:41ff.; 23:46; seven of these are in Luke alone and they show Jesus at prayer before each great crisis of his life). This Gospel alone records that Jesus prayed for Peter (Luke 22:31f.). Luke tells us that Jesus prayed for his enemies (Luke 23:34) and for himself (Luke 22:41f.). (b) He includes parables which teach so much about prayer, the friend at midnight (Luke 11:5ff.), the unjust judge (Luke 18:1ff.), the Pharisee and the tax-collector (Luke 18:10ff.). In addition, Luke records some exhortations to the disciples to pray (Luke 6:28; 11:1; 22:40, 46), and he has a warning against the wrong kind of prayer (Luke 20:47).

- Leon Morris, *Luke* (p. 43, 50)

Q. 98. *What is prayer?*

A. Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgment of his mercies.

- The Shorter Catechism, WMC

Before I can listen to God in prayer, I must fumble through the prayer of words, of willful demands, the prayers of childish "Gimmes," of "Help mes," of "I want..." Until I tell God what I want, I have no way of knowing whether or not I truly want it. Unless I ask God for something, I do not know whether or not it is something for which I ought to ask, and I cannot add, "But if this is not your will for me, then your will is what I want, not mine." The prayer of words cannot be eliminated. And I must pray them daily, whether I feel like praying or not. Otherwise, when God has something to say to me, I will not know how to listen. Until I have worked through self, I will not be enabled to get out of the way.

- Madeleine L'Engle, *Walking on Water: Reflections on Faith and Art* (p. 14-15)

READINGS

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)

SONGS

WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

(Words: Joseph Scriven / Swedish tune: Barn och stjärnor)

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry ev'rything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry ev'rything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness—take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES: New Bible studies for men and women begin in January. Registration open now. See the insert in today's bulletin, or valleysprings.org for details.

STEPHEN MINISTRY TRAINING: Stephen Ministry provides confidential, Christ-centered care to individuals in the congregation and community who are experiencing life difficulties. A Stephen Ministry training class will begin in January 2022. This training is valuable for all relationships and is available for the entire congregation. The training requires weekly attendance, but there is no obligation to become a Stephen Minister. For more information, contact Laurie Whiddon: lauriewhiddon@yahoo.com.

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 7/16/22 to 7/23/22. 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 15th. Info meeting Sunday, January 23rd, at 11:30am, in the Middle School Room. Contact: Marcel Weiland (marcelweiland@comcast.net).

AUCTION ITEM TEAM: We are putting together a team of volunteers to help us gather item donations for our upcoming dinner auction. The only qualification needed is a little bit of spare time over the next few weeks! This team will be critical to ensuring we have a good quantity and selection of donated items to auction off to raise funds for our missions efforts! Interested? Contact: Isaac Noschka (isaac@valleysprings.org).

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.

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CARE MINISTRIES & ASSISTANCE REQUESTS

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