

THE
Servant
OF
God



March 26, 2023

ORDER OF SERVICE

GATHERED BY GOD FOR WORSHIP

Welcome

Call to Worship

Psalm 34:1-3

Songs of Praise

Blessed Be Your Name

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Prayer of Adoration

RENEWED BY GOD THROUGH GRACE

Confession of Sin

Psalm 41:4, 10

Declaration of Grace

Psalm 36:7-9

Songs of Renewal & Gratitude

I Surrender

The Perfect Wisdom of Our God

SET APART BY GOD

Offering

Sermon

The Lord's Supper

Profession of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

SENT BY GOD

Song of Response

Breathe on Me Breath of God

Blessing

General Offering: Mar 13 - Mar 19.....	\$ 23,068
Weekly Budget Need.....	\$ 26,500
Last Week's Deficit.....	(\$ 3,432)
Budget Deficit (YTD).....	(\$120,293)

How are we doing?

Offering income is not evenly distributed throughout the year.

So far, we've received **14.3%** of our annual budget.

On average, we've received **15.9%** of our budget by this time in the year.

\$21,883 would bring us up to average.

GIVE NOW



Text "GIVE" to
(669) 333-5880

READINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP

- ¹ I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- ² My soul makes its boast in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.
- ³ Oh, magnify the Lord with me,
and let us exalt his name together!

- Psalm 34:1-3 (English Standard Version)

SONGS

BLESSED BE YOUR NAME

(Words and Music by Matt & Beth Redman, 2002)

Blessed be your name in the land that is plentiful,
Where your streams of abundance flow, blessed be your name.
Blessed be your name, when I'm found in the desert place,
Though I walk through the wilderness, blessed be your name.

Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say

*Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord. Blessed be your glorious name.*

Blessed be your name, when the sun's shining down on me,
When the world's as it should be, blessed be your name.
Blessed be your name, on the road marked with suffering,
Though there's pain in the offering, blessed be your name.

You give and take away, you give and take away,
My heart will choose to say, Lord, blessed be your name.

SONGS

10,000 REASONS (BLESS THE LORD)

(Words and Music by Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman, 2011)

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;

Worship His holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul;

I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,

It's time to sing Your song again.

Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,

Let me be singing when the evening comes.

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.

Your name is great and Your heart is kind.

For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;

Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

And on that day, when my strength is failing,

The end draws near, and my time has come;

Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending

Ten thousand years, and then forevermore!

READINGS

CONFESSION OF SIN

⁴ As for me, I said, "O Lord, be gracious to me;

heal me, for I have sinned against you!" ...

¹⁰ But you, O Lord, be gracious to me,

and raise me up, that I may repay them!

- Psalm 41:4, 10 (English Standard Version)

DECLARATION OF GRACE

⁷ How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

⁸ They feast on the abundance of your house,

and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

⁹ For with you is the fountain of life;

in your light do we see light.

- Psalm 36:7-9 (English Standard Version)

SONGS

I SURRENDER

(Words and Music by Matt Crocker, 2011)

Here I am, down on my knees again.
Surrendering all. Surrendering all.

Find me here. Lord, as You draw me near.
Desperate for You. Desperate for You. I surrender.

Drench my soul, as mercy and grace unfold.
I hunger and thirst. I hunger and thirst.

With arms stretched wide, I know You hear my cry.
Speak to me now. Speak to me now.

I surrender. I surrender.

I want to know You more.

I want to know You more.

Like a rushing wind, Jesus breathe within.
Lord, have Your way. Lord, have Your way in me.
Like a mighty storm, stir within my soul.
Lord, have Your way. Lord, have Your way in me.

THE PERFECT WISDOM OF OUR GOD

(Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend, 2011)

The perfect wisdom of our God, revealed in all the universe:
All things created by His hand, and held together at His command.
He knows the myst'ries of the seas, the secrets of the stars are His;
He guides the planets on their way, and turns the earth through another day.

The matchless wisdom of His ways that mark the path of righteousness;
His word a lamp unto my feet, His Spirit teaching and guiding me.
And O the mystery of the cross, that God should suffer for the lost,
So that the fool might shame the wise and all the glory might go to Christ!

O grant me wisdom from above, to pray for peace and cling to love,
And teach me humbly to receive the sun and rain of Your sovereignty.
Each strand of sorrow has a place within this tapestry of grace;
So through the trials I choose to say: "Your perfect will in Your perfect way".

READINGS

SCRIPTURE

⁴The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting.

⁷But the Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. ⁸He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. ⁹Behold, the Lord God helps me; who will declare me guilty? Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

- Isaiah 50:4-9 (*English Standard Version*)

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

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

- Describe your best teachers. What makes them so good at their instruction? What did you learn?
- Have you ever experienced personally or known someone who has learned through apprenticeship? Describe the process of an apprenticeship. What is the pattern of learning found in an apprenticeship? What characteristics of an apprenticeship can you see in Isaiah 50:4-9?
- Describe the learning posture of the servant scholar who teaches from verses 4-7.
- Describe the learning posture of the servant as a gentle healer in verses 4, 6-7.
- Describe the learning posture of Jesus as the Son of God. How does simple and child-like trust guide Jesus as the suffering servant?
- What elements of trust do you see demonstrated in the suffering servant of God as you read Isaiah 50:4-9? What is this servant being asked to do? What is this servant learning? What content is this servant suffering, being asked to take in, and then pour out to others?
- What learnings are you presently willing to take on in order to follow this suffering servant?

SERMON OUTLINE

Sustained by the Suffering Servant

Isaiah 50:4-9

God's people are sustained by the power of the suffering servant... (Isaiah 50:4)

How does the suffering servant sustain the people of God?

As a willing and gentle healer... (Isaiah 50:4, 6-7)

As a willing and humble scholar... (Isaiah 50:4-7)

As a willing and innocent child... (Isaiah 50:8-9)

— REFLECTION QUOTES —

Teaching, therefore, asks first of all the creation of a space where students and teachers can enter into a fearless communication with each other and allow their respective life experiences to be their primary and most valuable source of growth and maturation. It asks for a mutual trust in which those who teach and those who want to learn can become present to each other, not as opponents, but as those who share in the same struggle and search for the same truth.

- Henri Nouwen, *Reaching Out* (p. 85)

⁴² And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³ But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

- Mark 10:42-45 (*English Standard Version*)

READINGS

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)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN SERVICES: Join us Wednesdays at noon for a special service as we prepare and anticipate Good Friday and Easter. Continues through Holy Week, in the Chapel.

HOLY WEEK: Special services for Maundy Thursday (April 6th, 7pm, in the Worship Room), Good Friday (April 7th, 7pm, in the Worship Room), and Easter Sunday (April 9th, 10am, in the Worship Room). Communion will be served at the Maundy Thursday service. Nursery/Toddler room open, but not staffed, for all services. Come worship with us!

RIDE MINISTRY: The Valley Springs' Ride Ministry provides transportation for Valley Springs church attendees who are not able to drive. Transportation is available for Sunday services, church events, and medical appointments depending on the availability of ministry volunteers. If you would like to volunteer or need a ride, please email info@valleysprings.org.

VALLEY SPRINGS CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL: Our weekday preschool program for 3's, 4's, and 5-year-olds. Registration for the 2023-24 school year is open! See www.valleyspringschristianpreschool.org or contact Danya Schulte: danya@valleysprings.org / (916) 786-7670.

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.

ELDER ON-CALL

(916) 786-7940, option 5
elders@valleysprings.org

CARE MINISTRIES & ASSISTANCE REQUESTS

(916) 786-7940, option 4
info@valleysprings.org



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