


ALIVE
in
CHRIST

A photograph of a wooden cross with a white cloth draped over it. The cross is made of dark, weathered wood. The text "ALIVE" is written in large, white, serif capital letters at the top. Below it, the word "in" is written in a white, cursive script. At the bottom, the word "CHRIST" is written in large, white, serif capital letters. The cross is set against a background of green trees and a blue sky. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

ORDER OF SERVICE

GATHERED BY GOD FOR WORSHIP

Welcome

Call to Worship

Revelation 5:11-14

Songs of Praise

Holy, Holy, Holy (Nicaea)

All Things Together

Prayer of Adoration

RENEWED BY GOD THROUGH GRACE

Confession of Sin

Psalm 106:6

Declaration of Grace

Psalm 102:16-22

Songs of Renewal & Gratitude

Jesus Paid It All

Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me

SET APART BY GOD

Testimony of God's Grace: Lilly Polakovich

Offering

Sermon

The Lord's Supper

Profession of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

SENT BY GOD

Song of Response

The Church's One Foundation

Blessing

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|---|------------------|
| General Offering: April 26 - May 2 | \$ 25,355 |
| Weekly Budget Need..... | \$ 26,808 |
| Last Week's Deficit | (\$ 1,453) |
| Budget Deficit (YTD) | (\$ 136,095) |

This information can also be found at valleysprings.org

READINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP

¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" ¹³ And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" ¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped.

- Revelation 5:11-14 (*English Standard Version*)

CONFESSION OF SIN

⁶ Both we and our fathers have sinned;
we have committed iniquity; we have done wickedness.

- Psalm 106:6 (*English Standard Version*)

DECLARATION OF GRACE

¹⁶ For the Lord builds up Zion;
he appears in his glory;
¹⁷ he regards the prayer of the destitute
and does not despise their prayer.
¹⁸ Let this be recorded for a generation to come,
so that a people yet to be created may praise the Lord:
¹⁹ that he looked down from his holy height;
from heaven the Lord looked at the earth,
²⁰ to hear the groans of the prisoners,
to set free those who were doomed to die,
²¹ that they may declare in Zion the name of the Lord,
and in Jerusalem his praise,
²² when peoples gather together,
and kingdoms, to worship the Lord.

- Psalm 102:16-22 (*English Standard Version*)

READINGS

SCRIPTURE

²¹ And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds,
²² he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present
you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, ²³ if indeed you
continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the
gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven,
and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

- Colossians 1:21-23 (*English Standard Version*)

REFLECTION QUOTE

“No one who has been to the cross and seen God’s immeasurable and
unmerited love displayed there can go back to a life of selfishness.”

- John Stott

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)

SERMON OUTLINE

No Longer Strangers

Colossians 1:21-23

Jesus sought after us when we were strangers (Colossians 1:21-22)

- He welcomed us (Colossians 1:21)
 - He loved us (Colossians 1:22)
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As a result, we seek after others who are strangers (Colossians 1:23)

- We welcome the stranger
 - We love the stranger
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REFLECTION QUESTIONS (taken in part from the Serendipity Study Bible for Groups)

- Recall a time when you were "left out". How did that make you feel?
- Recall a time when you left someone else out. How did they feel?
- Regarding Christ's reconciling work, who benefits? How so? Toward what end?
- Have you ever had to reconcile with someone else? Was it easy or difficult?
- What are ways that you have "shifted from the hope of the gospel that you heard" in this past year?
- If someone were to examine your life, in what areas of your life would they look and conclude that you love Jesus? In what areas of your life would they look and conclude otherwise?
- Think of someone that you know who doesn't believe in Jesus. How can you reach out to them this week?

SONGS

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (NICAEA) *(Words and Music by John Bacchus Dykes & Reginald Heber)*

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea.
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see.
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity

ALL THINGS TOGETHER *(Words and Music by Andrew Peterson, 2018)*

He's the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of creation.
And by him all things were created, in heaven and earth, seen and unseen.
Rulers, dominions, and powers and kings.

*He holds all things, all things, all things together.
He holds all things, all things, all things together.*

He's the head of the body, the church, the firstborn from the dead.
So in ev'rything, He is the head,
And the fullness of God was pleased to dwell in him;
To reconcile to himself all things, all things, all things together.

Through him and for him, all things were made.
Through him and for him, all things were made.
He is before all things, in Him, all things hold together.

He made peace, He made peace, He made peace by the blood of his cross.

JESUS PAID IT ALL

(Words: Elvina M. Hall, 1865 / Music: John T. Grape, 1868 / Bridge: Alex Nifong, 2006)

I hear the Savior say, "Thy strength indeed is small;
Child of weakness, watch and pray, find in me thine all in all."

*Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe.
Sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it white as snow.*

Lord, now indeed I find Thy pow'r, and Thine alone,
Can change the leper's spots and melt the heart of stone.

(Continued on next page)

SONGS

And when before the throne I stand in him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save," my lips shall still repeat.

Oh praise the one who paid my debt, who raised this life up from the dead.

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.

THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

(Words and Music by Collin Baxter, Craig Swift, Ryan Van Kirk, Samuel John Stone, Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 2017)

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation by water and the Word:
From Heav'n He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

*Hallelujah, our salvation, Jesus Christ is our foundation.
Hallelujah, our salvation, Jesus Christ is our foundation.*

Mid toil and tribulation, and clamor of her war
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEXICO AUCTION VIRTUAL FUNDRAISER: We are raising funds to construct homes in Mexico with our long-time ministry partner, YUGO. This year our auction fundraiser is taking place entirely online, between May 1st and May 15th. That means two weeks to view all our great items. Bid high, and bid often! Every dollar raised will go directly to home construction. Auction items available include Valley Springs' classics like "Dinner with the Pastors" and whole home window washing. Those looking for a little more adventure will want to check out our 7-day, 6-night stay in Costa Rica, martial arts training, or axe throwing! To join in on the fun(draising), head to: valleysprings.org/auction.

2021 SUMMER FAMILY FEST: This year our Summer Family Fest is for everyone! Parents and kids through Grade 5 will attend together, and we need everyone else to volunteer! Three nights, June 23rd-25th, 6pm-8pm. Featuring dinner for everyone, worship, bible lessons, crafts, and games. Full details and registration: valleysprings.org/summerfest

PARK DATES: Join other Valley Springs' moms for fellowship and playtime for our kids. Monday, May 10th from 3pm-5pm at Royer Park.

YOU ARE WHAT YOU LOVE - THE SPIRITUAL POWER OF HABIT: In *You Are What You Love*, James K. A. Smith helps us recognize the formative power of culture and the transformative possibilities of Christian practices. This class will meet from May 2nd to June 13th, at 9am, in the Middle School Room and via Zoom. Please purchase a book in advance; we will read a chapter each week and then discuss on Sunday. Led by Marcel Weiland and Mark Bryan. Email matte@valleysprings.org for the Zoom info.

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

MERCY & CARE TEAM

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



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2401 Olympus Drive, Roseville, CA 95661

(916) 786-7940 | www.valleysprings.org