



September 24, 2017

# West Valley Presbyterian Church

*This morning's theme: The Grace of Christ*

## Called to Worship

### **Call to worship: Hebrews 4:15-16**

We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

### **I Sing the Mighty Power of God**

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise  
That spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies  
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day  
The moon shines full at His command and all the stars obey

I sing the goodness of the Lord that filled the earth with food  
He formed the creatures with His Word and then pronounced them good  
Lord! How Thy wonders are displayed where'er I turn mine eye  
If I survey the ground I tread or gaze upon the sky

There's not a plant or flower below but makes Thy glories known  
And clouds arise and tempests blow by order from Thy throne  
While all that borrows life from Thee is ever in Thy care  
And everywhere that man can be thou God art present there

### **Scripture Reading: Ezekiel 36:22-26 (page 724)**

## Confessing our Sin

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Dear Father, we are thankful for your great mercy. Forgive our frivolous attitude toward life, our callousness toward suffering, our envy of those who have more than we have, our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure, our indifference to the treasures of heaven, our neglect of your wise and gracious law. Help us change our way of life so that we may desire what is good, love what you love, and do what you command. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Words of Assurance: Titus 2:11-14**

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Celebrating the Gospel

**The Love of God**

The love of God is greater far  
Than tongue or pen can ever tell;  
It goes beyond the highest star,  
And reaches to the lowest hell;  
The guilty pair, bowed down with care,  
God gave His Son to win;  
His erring child He reconciled,  
And pardoned from his sin.

*Oh, love of God, how rich and pure!  
How measureless and strong!  
It shall forevermore endure—  
The saints' and angels' song.*

When hoary time shall pass away,  
And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall,  
When men who here refuse to pray,  
On rocks and hills and mountains call,  
God's love so sure, shall still endure,  
All measureless and strong;  
Redeeming grace to Adam's race—  
The saints' and angels' song.

Could we with ink the ocean fill,  
And were the skies of parchment made,  
Were every stalk on earth a quill,  
And every man a scribe by trade;  
To write the love of God above  
Would drain the ocean dry;  
Nor could the scroll contain the whole,  
Though stretched from sky to sky.

**Declaring the Faith: 1 John 4:9-11**

**In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. If God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.**

**I'll Not Be Shaken (Psalm 62)**

For God alone, I wait in silence;  
My soul is still before the Lord  
He is my rock and my salvation,  
My fortress strong; I trust in Him.

I'll not be shaken! I'll not be shaken,  
For all my hope is in His love.  
From God alone comes my salvation;  
I wait and trust His steadfast love!

Put not your hope in gain of riches;  
Seek not your rest in empty wealth.  
The rich are weak; the poor are mighty,  
Who turn to God alone for help.

Pour out your heart to God our refuge  
And trust in Him to hear you cry.  
No other hope will never fail you;  
No other love will not run dry.

**Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**Greeting and Announcements**

*Sunday school classes for pre-K, K-1 and 2-3 grades are available during the sermon.*

*If you are visiting us, please fill out one of the welcome cards in front of your seat and drop it in the offering plate when it's passed.*

**Scripture: Matthew 5:17-20 (page 810)**

**Message: The Lawful Life**

*Pastor Mark Howard*

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## **Jesus I My Cross Have Taken**

Jesus, I my cross have taken all to leave and follow Thee  
Destitute, despised, forsaken Thou from hence my all shall be  
Perish every fond ambition all I've sought or hoped or known  
Yet how rich is my condition God and Heaven are still mine own

Let the world despise and leave me they have left my Savior too  
Human hearts and looks deceive me Thou art not like them untrue  
O while Thou dost smile upon me God of wisdom, love and might  
Foes may hate and friends disown me show Thy face and all is bright

Man may trouble and distress me 'twill but drive me to Thy breast  
Life with trials hard may press me heaven will bring me sweeter rest  
Oh, 'tis not in grief to harm me while Thy love is left to me  
Oh, 'twere not in joy to charm me were that joy unmixed with Thee

Go, then, earthly fame and treasure Come disaster, scorn and pain  
In Thy service, pain is pleasure with Thy favor, loss is gain  
I have called Thee, Abba, Father I have stayed my heart on Thee  
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather all must work for good to me

Soul then know Thy full salvation rise o'er sin and fear and care<sup>[1]</sup>  
Joy to find in every station something still to do or bear  
Think what Spirit dwells within thee Think what Father's smiles are thine  
Think that Jesus died to win thee child of heaven, canst thou repine

Haste thee on from grace to glory armed by faith, and winged by prayer<sup>[1]</sup>  
Heaven's eternal days before thee God's own hand shall guide us there<sup>[1]</sup>

Soon shall close thy earthly mission swift shall pass thy pilgrim days<sup>[1]</sup>  
Hope shall change to glad fruition faith to sight, and prayer to praise

## **Tithes and Offerings**

*Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7*

**We Will Say In That Day (Isaiah 12)**

You will see there a highway from God's own hand  
That will lead back the lost to the Promised Land;  
And the voice of the Savior will call us friends,  
Saying, "Join in the song of the Lord!"

We will call back our armies: "Return from war!"  
And we'll make into plowshares our useless swords,  
Very soon to for-get what they once were for,  
When we join in the song of the Lord!

We will say in that day, "To the Lord, give thanks!"  
We will not be afraid, for He comes to save.  
We will shout; we will call every tribe and race,  
"Come and join in the song of the Lord!"

You will see there a banquet for sinners spread,  
Where we'll sit with the Lord at the table's head;  
And our Shepherd himself is our wine and bread.  
And we'll join in the song of the Lord!

When the remnant return to the promised land;  
When the highway of God brings us home to Him;  
We'll be welcomed with love by our Savior friend;  
And we'll join in the song of the Lord

Compelled to Go Out

**Commission: Deuteronomy 6:4-5**

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

**Benediction: 2 Corinthians 13:14**

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

*Please join us for a coffee and refreshments following the service!*

## Community and Events

### This week:

**Today:**           **Young Adults Group** – 12pm at the Howards’  
**Youth Group** – 6.30pm at church.  
**No Men’s or Women’s Bible Study this week**

**Friday**           **Family Friday Night** - Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.  
Dessert, activities for kids and teaching on parenting.  
Sign up at the back or online: [westvalleypres.org/Friday](http://westvalleypres.org/Friday)

**Next Sunday** **Prayer Night** 6-7pm at church

### Announcements:

**Playground Group** - We will meet at Alton Park on Oxford Dr. in Allentown on the 2nd/4th **Thursday** of the month at 10:30am.

**Adopt a Student** – Sign up at the back if you’d like to host a college student or if you’re a student who’d like to connect with a family.

**Derek’s ordination and installation** – Sunday October 8<sup>th</sup>, during our worship service. Followed by a church lunch to celebrate.

### Discipleship Focus: Life at Home

**Marriage Seminar** – Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup> 9am-11.30am. Speaker: Christian Counselor Jeff Stark will be teaching on the *Biblical basics for a healthy marriage*. Sign up at [westvalleypres.org/marriage](http://westvalleypres.org/marriage).

**Men’s retreat** – Save the date: November 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>. Tim Witmer will be sharing insights from his book, *The Shepherd Leader at Home*

### Small Groups:

**Bible Studies** – This fall our men’s and women’s Bible studies will be exploring the book of Exodus. See details above.

**Growth Groups** - These groups meet regularly to discuss the sermon: *Sundays, 4pm at the Nussbaums’* and *Fridays, 6.30pm at the Lyngdohs’*.

**Young Adults Group** – Meets for lunch and Bible study every other week, Sunday at 12pm at the Howards’. Contact: [brian.stenson@dm.org](mailto:brian.stenson@dm.org).

Memory Verse

“Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your father who is in heaven.”

Matthew 5:16

Contact Information

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Growing disciples of Jesus
at home, at work and in our communities
through the Word, prayer and mutual encouragement

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