



December 19th, 2021

West Valley Presbyterian Church

This morning's theme: True Light in Christ

Called to Worship

Call to Worship: Isaiah 60:1-3

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Joy Has Dawned

Joy has dawned upon the world, promised from creation
God's salvation now unfurled, hope for every nation.
Not with fanfares from above, not with scenes of glory,
But a humble gift of love, Jesus born of Mary.

Sounds of wonder fill the sky with the songs of angels
As the mighty Prince of Life, shelters in a stable.
Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in darkness,
Cling now to a mother's breast, vulnerable and helpless.

Shepherds bow before the Lamb, gazing at the glory;
Gifts of men from distant lands, prophesy the story.
Gold a King is born today, incense God is with us,
Myrrh His death will make a way, and by His blood He'll win us.

Son of Adam, Son of heav'n, given as a ransom;
Reconciling God and man, Christ, our mighty champion!
What a Savior! What a Friend! What a glorious mystery!
Once a babe in Bethlehem, now the Lord of history.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 1:18-25

Confessing our Sin

Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus, light of the world, we confess that we have walked in darkness; we confess our willingness to be loved but our reluctance to love; We confess our readiness to accept your forgiving love but our refusal to forgive; We confess our eagerness to grasp your offer of redeeming love but our resistance to follow you without question. In this Advent time, forgive us our failure to respond as we should...

Come to us anew, and by your grace, assist us to receive you with joy, as the shepherds; with gratitude, as Simeon; with obedience, as Mary; with love, as you have loved us. Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Words of Assurance: Colossians 1:13-14

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Celebrating the Gospel

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary,
and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together,
proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth!

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous Gift is given;
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming,
but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still,
the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!

Announcements – see page 7

Pastoral Prayer

I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people.

1 Timothy 2:1–2.

The Lord's 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.

Kids Ministry – *Sunday school will be available for PreK – 3rd grade during the sermon. Please take your kids into the narthex during the next song. They will be brought back into the service during the final song.*

From the Squalor of a Borrowed Stable

From the squalor of a borrowed stable
by the spirit of a virgins faith
to the anguish and the shame of scandal
came the savior of the human race
but the skies were filled with the praise of heaven
shepherds listen as the angels tell
of the gift of God come down to man
at the dawning of Emmanuel

King of heaven now the friend of sinners
humble servant in the fathers hands
filled with power and the Holy Spirit
filled with mercy for the broken man
yes he walked my road and he felt my pain
joys and sorrows that I know so well
yet his righteous steps give me hope again
I will follow my Emmanuel

Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal
he was lifted on a cruel cross
he was punished for a world's transgressions
he was suffering to save the lost
he fights for breath, he fights for me
loosing sinners from the chains of hell
and with a shout our souls are free
death defeated by Emmanuel

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains

Gloria . . . in excelsis Deo
Gloria . . . in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
Which inspire your heavn'ly song?

Come to Bethlehem and see,
Christ whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord the newborn King

Communion in Sacrament

Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup. 1 Corinthians 11:28

Prayer of thanksgiving

Gracious Lord, we give you thanks for calling us out of the darkness and into your glorious light. When we remember the price you paid, the death of your only Son, we can only wonder and marvel at the greatness of your love. We give our lives to you Lord, and pray that through your Spirit you would teach us how to live according to your will. Send us out now to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of your mercy. We pray this in Jesus name. Amen.

Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love

Tithes and Offerings

An offering box is available near the exit. Alternatively, please consider giving online at westvalleypres.org/give. For more info visit the “giving info” link on our website.

Compelled to Go Out

Commission & Benediction: Luke 2:14

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!

This week

Today: **Youth Group** – 6pm in the choir room
Friday: **Christmas Eve Service**, 7pm
Saturday: **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

Announcements

Christmas Eve Service – THIS Friday, December 24th at 7pm. Invite a friend to join us for scripture readings, carols, and a short message.

Warm Clothing Drive – To benefit VAST (Valley Against Sex Trafficking) please place donations of NEW clothing in the box by the welcome desk THIS Sunday or NEXT. Suggestions include women's: socks, gloves, hats, scarves, sweat shirts, sweat pants, underwear, jackets. If you have questions you can contact Alice Kim at akim1997@gmail.com

Family Advent Devotional – Pick up a free copy of *The Adventures Of Christmas* at the welcome desk. This book contains 25 short and engaging devotions for families of all ages! If you are starting late, just use the “starred” readings.

Young Adults Group meets after the service, every other week in *the Fellowship Hall*. This fall-winter, we'll seek to become better equipped to share our faith.

Bible Studies— Our Bible studies are taking a brief break for the holidays and will resume in the new year.

- *Women's Bible Study* – Tuesdays, 7:30pm & Saturdays, 8am
- *Men's Bible Study* – Thursdays, 7:30pm
- *Other fellowship groups* – contact the office for more info

Friday Prayer Call – *Every Friday, 7am*. Join us for this brief, 15-minute dial-in prayer time to focus your heart on the Lord and seek his help! Just dial 518-992-1099 and enter code 636625 on Fridays at 7am.

Membership Class – *Saturday, January 22nd, 9am-12pm*. Want to learn more about West Valley? Interested in becoming a member? This short class is an opportunity to find out more. Sign-up available soon!

This Month's Memory Verse

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. – Romans 6:23

Contact Information

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

Meeting Location

9:30am at 1208 Brookside Rd, Wescosville
(Bethany's Wescosville Campus)

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