

This morning's theme: Grounded in God's People

# Called to Worship

## Call to Worship: Psalm 133

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

## Come People of the Risen King

Come people of the risen King Who delight to bring Him praise Come all and tune your hearts to sing. To the Morning Star of grace From the shifting shadows of the earth We will lift our eyes to Him Where steady arms of mercy reach To gather children in

> Rejoice, Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice! One heart, one voice. O Church of Christ, rejoice!

Come, those whose joy is morning sun And those weeping through the night Come, those who tell of battles won, And those struggling in the fight For His perfect love will never change. And His mercies never cease But follow us through all our days, With the certain hope of peace

Come, young and old from every land, Men and women of the faith Come, those with full or empty hands, Find the riches of His grace Over all the world His people sing, Shore to shore we hear them call The Truth that cries through every age, "Our God is all in all"!

Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-10

# Confessing Our Sin

#### **Prayer of Confession**

Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people. You have called us to be the church, to continue the mission of Jesus Christ to our lonely and confused world. Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active, isolated than involved, callous than compassionate, obstinate than obedient, legalistic than loving. Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins. Remove the obstacles preventing us from being your representatives to a broken world. Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit. This we pray in Jesus' powerful name. Amen.

## **Words of Assurance:** Isaiah 51:11

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

## Celebrating the Gospel

## Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set thy people free From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth thou art, Dear desire of ev'ry nation, joy of every longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee, Dayspring from on high, appear; Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of Thy birth we long to hear! O'er the hills the angels singing news, Glad tidings of a birth "Go to him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to Earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness, He whose glories knew no end; by His life He brings us gladness, Our redeemer, Shepherd, Friend. Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall; This the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all!

Born thy people to deliver, Born a child and yet a king born to reign in us forever, Now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal spirit; rule in all our hearts alone By thine all sufficient merit, Raise us to thy glorious throne

## Announcements (see p. 7)

#### **Pastoral Prayer**

I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanks givings 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.

<u>Greeting & Kids Ministry</u> – Sunday school is available for PreK- 4th grade kids. Please take your children to the narthex during the greeting time. They will be brought back before the end of the service.

#### The Church's One Foundation

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 ev'ry 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 ev'ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder, men see her sore oppressed, By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed, Yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, "How long?" And soon the night of weeping, shall be the morn of song.

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

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One, And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won: O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we, Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

# Consecrated by the Word Scripture Reading: Colossians 1:24-2:5 **Message:** Growing Others in Christ **Pastor Mark Howard** Notes:

#### Discuss:

- Jesus is God's full 'secret' (2:3). Where else are you tempted to look to find special wisdom?
- We grow to full maturity only through the proclamation of Christ (1:28). What does this imply for our approach to 'discipleship'?

#### **And Can It Be**

And can it be that I should gain An int'rest in the Savior's blood Died He for me, who caused His pain, For me, who Him to death pursued? Amazing love how can it be That Thou, My God shouldst die for me?

> Amazing love! How can it be That Thou, My God shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above So free, so infinite His grace! Emptied Himself, so great His love, And bled for Adam's helpless race 'Tis mercy all, immense and free, For O my God, it found out me!

Long my imprisoned spirit lay Fast bound in sin and nature's night; Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray. I woke, the dungeon flamed with light: My chains fell off, my heart was free I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in Him, is mine! Alive in Him, my Living Head, And clothed in righteousness divine. Bold I approach the eternal throne And claim the crown, through Christ my own.

# Oh Give Thanks to the Lord (Psalm 107)

We were wand'ring in the desert with our souls so starved and weak. We were hungry for a homeland we did not know how to seek. But we lifted up our voices to the only One who hears; And the God of mercy came and brought us near.

We were locked out of the garden, and our backs bent down with pain. In the shadow of death's darkness, we were slaves to sin and blame. Then we cried out in our labor to the only One who hears, And the God of mercy wiped away our tears.

Oh give thanks to the LORD for His love endures forever! We were wandering and lost, and our Father brought us home, To a safe dwelling place, to a feast of joy and laughter. Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!

We were fools in our rebellion, with our hunger strike of pride. We were sick and growing closer to the death we should have died. Then he heard of our condition, and he called us by our names; And the God of glory took away our shame.

We were far out on the ocean, making wealth and chasing dreams, But the waves of great destruction brought us tremb'ling to our knees. Then we cried like drunken sailors to the only One who hears, And the God of comfort took away our fears.

### **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: Ephesians 3:16-19

May God the Father, grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

**WELCOME!** If you are new to West Valley, we are glad you joined us this morning. Please scan this code or visit westvalleypres.org/welcome to fill out our welcome card.



## This week:

**Today:** Youth Parent Meeting – after service in choir room

**Youth Growth Group** – 6:00pm in the choir room

**Zoom Prayer Meeting** – 8:00pm-8:30pm (see below)

**Tuesday:** Women's Growth Group – 7:30pm in choir room

Wednesday: Kim's Growth Group – 7:00pm at the Kim's

**Thursday:** Men's Growth Group – 7:30pm in choir room

**Saturday:** Women's Growth Group – 8:00am via Zoom & at

the Kims'

#### Announcements

**Youth Parent Meeting** – We invite parents of middle and high school students to join us *after the service* for a brief meeting in the choir room.

**Congregational Meeting** – *Next Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>* everyone is invited to stay after the service for a brief presentation of our budget and an update on our "Build" action plan.

**Sunday School Teacher Training** – Saturday, October  $22^{nd}$  from 9:00am – 12:00 pm. A light breakfast will be provided. We will also be offering childcare for the duration of the meeting. This training is for current teachers and anyone interested in teaching.

**Sunday Zoom Prayer Meeting** - Every Sunday from 8:00pm-8:30pm, join us via Zoom to pray for the world, the nation, and the church. Dial (646) 558-8656 and enter meeting code 820 8319 4443.

# **Growth Groups**

Growth Groups are small gatherings of Christians who are committed together to moving people toward maturity in Christ. We encourage everyone to join at least one group to explore God's Word, pray together, and support one another. The following groups are meeting this fall. For more details visit westvalleypres.org/groups:

- ➤ Young adults Every other Sunday, 12:00pm
- ➤ **Youth group** Sundays, 6:00pm in the choir room
- ➤ Women's groups Tuesdays, 7:30pm & Saturdays, 8:00am
- ➤ **Men's groups** Thursdays, 7:30pm
- ➤ **Kim's home group** (open to all) Wednesdays, 7:00pm

# The week's memory verse:

He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. – Psalm 23:3 (NIV)

Contact Information
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<b>Deacons</b>
Growth Group Contacts:  Men: Mark Howard
Other Ministries:Music: Brian Stensonstensonbr@gmail.comKids: Karen LyngdohWVkids@westvalleypres.orgLibrary: Liz Ziegenfusweziegenfus@gmail.com
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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) www.westvalleypres.org | 610-421-8066 | PO Box 3741, Allentown, PA 18106