



December 24th, 2023

West Valley Presbyterian Church

This morning's theme: The Gift of Christ

Called to Worship

Call to Worship: Isaiah 2:2-5

Leader: It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say:

All: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."

O Come O Come Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times did'st give the Law,
In cloud, and majesty and awe.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny
From depths of Hell Thy people save
And give them victory o'er the grave

O come, Thou Day Spring from on high
And cheer us by thy drawing nigh
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come, thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:1-7

Prayer of Confession

Lord, we have not kept watch for you. We have occupied ourselves with our own concerns. We have not waited to find your will for us. We have not noticed the needs of the people around us. We have not acknowledged the love that has been shown to us. Forgive us for our lack of watchfulness. Help us to wait to know your will. Help us to look out for the needs of others. Help us to work and watch for your coming again. Amen.

Words of Assurance: Ephesians 2:8-10

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Celebrating the Gospel

Mary's Song (Our King of Peace)

My soul magnifies the Lord;
My spirit rejoices in God!
My Savior has seen his servant in need,
And behold the great things He has done:

He scatters the proud and rich;
He lifts up the humble and weak.
The kings of the earth, He casts from their thrones
And the hungry He welcomes to feast

*Oh, behold, my Savior has come!
And my soul will tell of His praise
For He who is strong has come to the weak
And, at last, He will reign as our King of Peace*

From now to the end of time
The nations will know me as blest
For God has made new His promise of love
And mercy through Abraham's seed

Declaring Our Faith: *Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55)*

“My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.

Announcements *(page 7)*

Prayer

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

1 Tim. 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.

Greeting Time

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 stor-y.
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.

Consecrated by the Word

Scripture Reading: Luke 1: 26-38

Mark Howard

Message: "The God of Christmas"

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

God rest ye merry, gentlemen; let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray;

*O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

From God our heav'nly Father, a blessed angel came;
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same:
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.

"Fear not, then," said the angel, "let nothing you affright;
This day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,
To save all those who trust in him from Satan's pow'r and might."

Now to the Lord sing praises all you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas all others doth deface.

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.

Commission: Psalm 37:3-4

Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Christmas Benediction:

The joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the Magi, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of Christ be yours this Christmas. And the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen

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.*



Weekly Growth Groups

- Tuesday** – *Kims' Home Group, 7:00pm*
Women's, 7:00pm in the choir room
- Wednesday** – *Lantzes' Home Group, 5:30pm*
Howards' Home Group, 7:00pm
- Thursday** – *Men's, 6:30am at the Wegmans on Tilghman St.*
Men's, 7:00pm in the choir room
- Friday** – *Women's, 9:30am, every other week at the*
Goonewardenes' (childcare available, please let
Joanne know if needed)
- Saturday** – *Women's, 9:00am*

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. For details visit westvalleypres.org/groups.

Candlelight Service – Join us tonight at 7:00pm for Scripture readings, carols, and a message on the birth of Christ.

No Sunday School – There will be *no adult or kids Sunday School next Sunday (12/31)*.

Coffee Set Up Volunteers Needed! – We're looking for some volunteers to join our Coffee Set-Up team. If you're interested, please email Anthony at falconeanthony525@gmail.com.

Monday Prayer Call – Join us on Mondays from 7:00am-7:15am via Zoom to pray for the world, the nation, and the church. It is now exclusively dial-in; call (646)-558-8656 and enter meeting code 820 8319 4443.

This Month's Memory Verse:

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. – John 1:14

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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
10:00am at 1208 Brookside Rd, Wescosville
(Bethany's Wescosville Campus)
www.westvalleypres.org | 610-421-8066 | PO Box 3741, Allentown 18106

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