

# October 17, 2021

## 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

*Continuing with our sermon series entitled, Out of Chaos, Hope, we look today at the story of Samuel's call into God's service. Sometimes, our pathways are meticulously planned; other times, we must adapt and respond to the challenges we face and the opportunities that are presented to us. We rely on God not to dictate the answers, but be present and provide clarity as we move forward.*

### PRELUDES

*Andante in F  
I Love to Tell the Story*

*Louis Vierne  
Sarah Douglas*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*CHORAL INTROIT #288** *Spirit of the Living God* *Living God*  
***Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.***

By Daniel Iverson  
©1935, renewed 1963 Birdwing Music (admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing)  
CCL #11043756

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 96, 118)**

L: O sing to the Lord a new song;

**P: Sing to the Lord, all the earth.**

L: Sing and give praise to God's name;

**P: Tell the good news of salvation from day to day.**

L: This is the day the Lord has made;

**P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

### **\*WELCOMING SONG #409**

*God Is Here!*  
*(verse 1)*

*Abbot's Leigh*

***God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.***

*(verse 2)*

***Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace; here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place. Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech, here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.***

*(verse 3)*

***Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold; here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.***

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\*Please stand as you are able.

## **CALL TO CONFESSION (adapted from I John 1)**

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But when we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin:

## **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart, mind, and strength. We have failed to be an obedient people: we have not done your will; we have broken your law; we have rebelled against your love; we have refused to listen and respond to the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

## **TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: Hear the good news. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## **CHORAL RESPONSE #71**

*Surely, It Is God Who Saves Me*  
(refrain)

*First Song*

***Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust and not be afraid. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and God will be my Savior.***

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## **TIME WITH CHILDREN**

*Pastor John*

## **UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Loving God, fount of every blessing, open us to your life-giving Word and fill us with your Holy Spirit so that living water may flow through our hearts: a spring of hope for a thirsty world; in Jesus name, we pray. Amen.**

## **SCRIPTURE READING – Psalm 25:4-10**

<sup>4</sup> Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. <sup>5</sup> Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. <sup>6</sup> Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. <sup>7</sup> Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD! <sup>8</sup> Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. <sup>9</sup> He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. <sup>10</sup> All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

**SCRIPTURE READING – I Samuel 3:1-21 (Common English Bible)**

Now the boy Samuel was serving the LORD under Eli. The LORD's word was rare at that time, and visions weren't widely known. <sup>2</sup> One day Eli, whose eyes had grown so weak he was unable to see, was lying down in his room. <sup>3</sup> God's lamp hadn't gone out yet, and Samuel was lying down in the LORD's temple, where God's chest was. <sup>4</sup> The LORD called to Samuel. "I'm here," he said. <sup>5</sup> Samuel hurried to Eli and said, "I'm here. You called me?" "I didn't call you," Eli replied. "Go lie down." So he did. <sup>6</sup> Again the LORD called Samuel, so Samuel got up, went to Eli, and said, "I'm here. You called me?" "I didn't call, my son," Eli replied. "Go and lie down." (<sup>7</sup> Now Samuel didn't yet know the LORD, and the LORD's word hadn't yet been revealed to him.) <sup>8</sup> A third time the LORD called Samuel. He got up, went to Eli, and said, "I'm here. You called me?" Then Eli realized that it was the LORD who was calling the boy. <sup>9</sup> So Eli said to Samuel, "Go and lie down. If he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD. Your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down where he'd been. <sup>10</sup> Then the LORD came and stood there, calling just as before, "Samuel, Samuel!" Samuel said, "Speak. Your servant is listening." <sup>11</sup> The LORD said to Samuel, "I am about to do something in Israel that will make the ears of all who hear it tingle! <sup>12</sup> On that day, I will bring to pass against Eli everything I said about his household—every last bit of it! <sup>13</sup> I told him that I would punish his family forever because of the wrongdoing he knew about—how his sons were cursing God, but he wouldn't stop them. <sup>14</sup> Because of that I swore about Eli's household that his family's wrongdoing will never be reconciled by sacrifice or by offering." <sup>15</sup> Samuel lay there until morning, then opened the doors of the LORD's house. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. <sup>16</sup> But Eli called Samuel, saying: "Samuel, my son!" "I'm here," Samuel said. <sup>17</sup> "What did he say to you?" Eli asked. "Don't hide anything from me. May God deal harshly with you and worse still if you hide from me a single word from everything he said to you." <sup>18</sup> So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. "He is the LORD," Eli said. "He will do as he pleases." <sup>19</sup> So Samuel grew up, and the LORD was with him, not allowing any of his words to fail. <sup>20</sup> All Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was trustworthy as the LORD's prophet. <sup>21</sup> The LORD continued to appear at Shiloh because the LORD revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh through the LORD's own word.

**SERMON SERIES:**

Out of Chaos, Hope – "God Provides Clarity"

Rev. John Wahl

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE****THE LORD'S PRAYER****CALL TO OFFERING****OFFERTORY**

*Almighty God, Thy Word is Cast*

*Rolf Unkel*

**\*DOXOLOGY #707**      *Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord*      Hall  
(verse 4)

**Take thou ourselves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will; through our surrendered souls thy plans fulfill. We yield ourselves to thee: time, talents, all; we hear, and henceforth heed, thy sovereign call.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\*SENDING SONG #730**

*I Sing a Song of the Saints of God*      Grand Isle  
(verse 1)

**I sing a song of the saints of God, patient and brave and true, who toiled and fought and lived and died for the Lord they loved and knew. And one was a doctor, and one was a queen, and one was a shepherdess on the green: they were all of them saints of God, and I mean, God helping, to be one too.**

(verse 2)

**They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, and God's love made them strong; and they followed the right, for Jesus' sake, the whole of their good lives long. And one was a soldier, and one was a priest, and one was slain by a fierce wild beast: and there's not any reason, no, not the least, why I shouldn't be one too.**

(verse 3)

**They lived not only in ages past; there are hundreds of thousands still; the world is bright with joyous saints who love to do Jesus' will. You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea, in church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea; for the saints of God are just folk like me, and I mean to be one too.**

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**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**      *Love So Deep*      Davies & King

**POSTLUDE**      *Triumph and Thanksgiving*      Franklin Ritter

\*Please stand as you are able.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Health and Safety Protocols**

With the return to in-person worship services, we ask you to follow these guidelines:

- Windows will be open and fans turned on, so please dress to be comfortable.
- In order for proper distancing, please do not sit in the pews that have been blocked or directly next to people not in your family.
- Please wear face coverings when inside the church building.

- If you are not feeling well today, please stay home.
- Hymnals and pew bibles have been put away, the words are printed in the bulletin.
- At this time, we will not be passing the peace, the offering plate, or holding hands for the benediction at the close of the service.
- After the worship service has concluded, we ask that you move outside for any extended conversations.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. Any changes to these protocols will be shared in advance of Sunday gatherings.

### **Stoller Pastries Fundraiser - HOVCP**

Heart of Valley is, once again, selling Stoller pastries – just in time for the holidays! This is a very popular fundraiser because the pastries are so good! Items come frozen and can be stored in your freezer to use later. You can order online with the link below or call Heidi at the preschool – 440/708-2572:

<https://store.myfundraisingplace.com/SelectProducts/890d5879-9986-48eb-833e-bb5a57004fba/1128446>

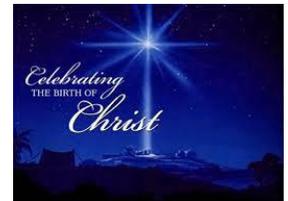
**We will be taking orders through today, October 17<sup>th</sup>.** Delivery is the week of November 8<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your support!

### **Festival Choir**



The Festival Choir of Valley started rehearsals for "A Simple Christmas" on Thursday October 14<sup>th</sup>, at 8 p.m. in the Choir Loft. You are invited to join us for this special presentation on December 12th during the worship service. "A Simple

Christmas" is an opportunity for you to join the choir and let the birth of Christ fill your heart once again.



### **October is Pastor Appreciation Month!**



Show your appreciation for Pastor John by sending him a note of thanks and appreciation. Cards are available in the Narthex!

### **CFPCC Food Bank Needs**

Helyne Walker is creating 50 Goody Bags to give out to the families in the community. Please pick something from the list below or add your favorite snack, or please consider donating items to help stock the shelves at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center:



**Potato chips, pretzels, popcorn, granola bars, candy, apples, oranges.**

The Goody Bags will go out to families, adults, and seniors....people of all ages.

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations.

### Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

**Friday, November 12**

(10 a.m. – 4 p.m.)

**Saturday, November 13**

(10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

### Dougbe River School

**2021 Gala**

**Sunday, October 24**

In-person Gala

5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

at

Banquet Center at St. Noel

35200 Chardon Road

Willoughby, OH 44094

Attendees should be fully vaccinated and wear a mask, except when eating / drinking.

### Blessing of the Animals

**Outdoor Chapel**

**Today, October 17, 4:00 p.m.**



Did you know that our Book of Common Worship includes a service for the Blessing of the Animals? On this Sunday afternoon, October 17, we are inviting anyone in the community to bring their pets to the outdoor chapel for a special service of thanksgiving, prayer, music, and blessing. Please dress for the weather. In case of rain, the service will be held under the front portico.

### North Church Partnership



October is our partnership month with North Presbyterian Church. In June, North resumed worship services, but – because of Covid protocols – is not preparing meals in their kitchen or encouraging partner church members to gather with them at this time.

While we provide financial support to North Church (including a portion of the Peace and Global Witness Offering that was on October 3), we, also, have – over the past year – prepared meals in our church kitchen to send up to North. We will be doing this, again, on Saturday, October 23 from 10:00 a.m. – noon. If you would like to volunteer to prepare meals, provide dessert, or drive the meals up on Sunday morning, please sign up on the church website, or go to the website below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f44aaaa2ba4f49-north1>

**VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**www.valleypresbychurch.org**  
**VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345**

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Liturgist: Marilyn Rodenhausen

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Greeters: Timmons Family