

January 29, 2023
4th Sunday after Epiphany

PRELUDES

David's Song
More Love to Thee

Gilbert M. Martin
Van Denman Thompson

WELCOME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER CONCERNS AND REQUESTS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP #314

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

(verse 2)

Christ, Be Our Light

Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has power to save us. Make us your living voice. Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

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CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Our faith and hope are in the Lord.

All: God is our rock and our refuge.

One: Now faith, hope, and love abide.

All: And the love of God will never end.

***OPENING SONG #305 Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!**

Darwall's 148th

(verse 1)

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song! For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long! In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

(verse 2)

Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme, empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream! In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

(verse 3)

Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide, as we in mission magnify the Crucified! In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

(verse 4)

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song! For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long! In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

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CALL TO CONFESSION

One: Our sins and failures can overwhelm us. Yet God waits to forgive and heal. Let us lay down our burdens and open our hearts, that we may receive grace and the gift of new life.

*Please stand as you are able.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you set before us life and prosperity, but we turn towards death and adversity. We do not listen to your commandments, we bow down to other gods: convenience, self-reliance, greed, bitterness. Break us of our longing for gods we can see and touch. Turn us back to you, mysterious and mighty God, so that we may observe your commandments, and walk in your ways.

(Moment of Silent Prayer)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God is always offering us another chance. God is always offering life and abundance. Turn to God and receive the good news: Yesterday, today, and tomorrow, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

***SONG OF RESPONSE #629**

*Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee
(verse 5)*

St. Agnes

***Jesus, our only joy be thou, as thou our prize wilt be.
Jesus, be thou our glory now, and through eternity.***

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (from Isaiah 60)**

One: "Arise, shine, for you light has come! The glory of the Lord has risen upon us." May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

WORD

CHORAL PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION #469

*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying Children Praying
Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your Spirit in this
place. Lord, listen to your children praying. Send us love; send us
power; send us grace.*

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FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 6:1-6

"Beware of practicing your righteousness before others in order to be seen by them, for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. ² "So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³ But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your alms may be done in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁵ "And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

*Please stand as you are able.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Gentle Shepherd

Dresie

*Soloists: Barb Anderson, Sue Doughman, Tanya Fouts,
Marilyn Rodenhausen, Don Sullivan, Lois Urban*

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 6:14-21

14 “For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, **15** but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. **16** “And whenever you fast, do not look somber, like the hypocrites, for they mark their faces to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. **17** But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, **18** so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. **19** “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, **20** but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. **21** For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

MESSAGE

“Treasure on Earth and in Heaven” Rev. Dr. John Wahl

UNISON ASSCRIPTION OF PRAISE (Psalm 29:1, 11)

**To the Lord who speaks to us, strengthens us, and blesses us with peace,
be all glory and honor forever. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

WITNESS

CALL TO OFFERING

We take this time to reflect and recognize all contributions of time, talent, and treasure. A basket is available in the narthex for making monetary donations.

OFFERTORY

If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee

John Andrews

***SONG OF RESPONSE #205**

Live in Charity (sing twice)

Ubi Caritas (Taizé)

Live in charity and steadfast love.

Live in charity: God will dwell with you.

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***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

*Please stand as you are able.

***SENDING SONG #302**

When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace (verse 1) *O Waly Waly*

**When hands reach out and fingers trace the beauty of a loved one's face,
we thank you, God, that love relies on gifts of grace not seen with eyes.**
(verse 3)

When broken bodies will not mend, we thank you, God, for Christ our friend. In him, our healing can begin: he welcomes all the wounded in.
(verse 4)

And when the ways we learn and grow are not the ways that others know, we thank you, God, that we have learned your love's a gift, and never earned.

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Go Now In Peace

Price / Besig

POSTLUDE

To God Be the Glory

Edward Broughton

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Meeting Today – January 29, 2023



Session has appointed January 29, 2023, as the date for our Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation. This meeting – open to all members and friends of Valley – will begin immediately following the worship service.



Flowers

The flowers are dedicated by Lois Urban in honor of January birthdays.

Game Night for All Ages



Friday, February 17, 2023

Light Dinner served 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Games begin at 6:30 p.m.

Snacks served all evening

You're invited to come play all sorts of board and card games or bring your own. Drop in, or let us know you're coming at the following Google form:

<https://forms.gle/y1SCD9qtEjPatn58A>

You can, also, register on the church website.

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:
Friday, February 10, 2023
(10 a.m. – 4 p.m.)
Saturday, February 11, 2023
(10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Please consider donating the following items in January to help stock the shelves at the Chagrin Falls Park Community Center:



Eggs, butter, milk, oil, pancake mix, laundry detergent, bleach, fresh meat: sausage, kielbasa, chicken.

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

Health and Safety Protocols

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

- Windows may be open or fans turned on to provide appropriate air circulation.
- When inside the church building, face coverings are optional based on personal comfort level.
 - Socially distance as able in the pews and sanctuary.
 - If you are not feeling well today, please stay home.
- At this time, we will not be 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.

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

17560 Chillicothe Road
Chagrin Falls, OH 44023
Phone: (440) 543-1071
Email: valleypc@netlink.net

Rev. Dr. John Wahl, Pastor
Cell Phone: (216) 287-2405
Email: revjohnwahl@netlink.net

Heart of Valley Preschool
Heidi Cregar, Director
Phone: (440) 708-2572
Email: hovcp@netlink.net

Director of Music: Nancy Sullivan
Liturgist: Lois Urban

Organist: John Kautzman
Greeter: Glenna Pool