

January 14, 2024
2nd Sunday after Epiphany

WELCOME

PRELUDES

Ivory Palaces
Prayer

David Paxton
Mark Davis

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER CONCERNS AND REQUESTS

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (based on John 1:43-51)

One: When God is revealed to us, God invites us in;

All: Having known us from the beginning, God shapes us still;

One: God uses our ordinary gifts and everyday lives,

All: God seeks our service with the resources we have to give,

One: God calls us ever deeper into the mystery of faith, saying:

All: "Follow me. Come and see."

***OPENING SONG #726** *Will You Come and Follow Me*
(verse 1)

Kelvingrove

***"Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where
you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown;
will you let my name be known; will you let my life be grown in you and
you in me?"***

(verse 2)

***"Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for
cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you
and you in me?"***

(verse 5)

***Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me
turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in
you and you in me.***

Text by John L. Bell and Graham Maule / ©1987 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.) / Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-722956

CALL TO CONFESSION

One: Let us approach God with confidence, trusting in God's grace as we
humbly confess our sins:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, you know us better than we know ourselves. You know our
sins even before we confess. Your knowledge is wonderful, but, also,
challenging. We'd much rather avoid painful truths and deny our role in
wrongdoing. Help us face our failings so we can move forward in truth.
Amen.**

(Moment of Silent Confession)

*Please stand as you are able.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Psalm 10:17)

One: "The steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting." Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

***SONG OF RESPONSE #725**

O Jesus, I Have Promised
(verse 4)

Nyland

O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you that where you are in glory your servant shall be too. And, Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; now give me grace to follow, my Master and my friend.

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

One: Like the light of the star God sent to guide seekers and sages, the splendor of God's light dawns on us in a peace that surpasses understanding. May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And, also, with you.

WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (based on Psalm 19:14)

Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. As we approach your Word, may we be ready to receive the message you intend for us today. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING (Responsive)

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

One: O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

All: You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

One: You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

All: Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.

One: You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

All: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

One: For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

All: I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

One: My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

All: Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

One: How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

All: I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.

*Please stand as you are able.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING*John 1:43-51*

⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴ Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶ Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸ Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰ Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹ And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

SERMON*"Known and Called"**Amber Balista***WITNESS****INVITATION TO OFFERING**

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

OFFERTORY*Jesus Is My Life**Todd Kendall***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE****THE LORD'S PRAYER*****SENDING SONG #733***We All Are One in Mission**Es Flog Ein Kleins Waldvögelein**(verse 1)*

We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all. A single, great commission compels us from above to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.

(verse 2)

We all are called for service to witness in God's name. Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same: to touch the lives of others by God's surprising grace, so every folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.

(verse 3)

Now let us be united and let our song be heard. Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming word. We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

Text by Rusty Edwards / ©1986 Hope Publishing Company / Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-722956

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***BENEDICTION**

Light Your Light

Fairman / Latta

POSTLUDE

The Lord Reigneth

Lani Smith

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amber Balista

Please welcome Amber Balista back to our pulpit this today. Amber is a former seminary intern at Valley, a graduate of Dubuque Theological Seminary, is under the care of Christ Presbyterian Church in Chesterland, and is searching for a call in ministry. She is, also, a pharmacy technician.

Thank you from Missions

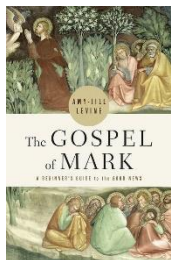
Mission would like to thank the congregation for their generosity this Christmas. Many gloves, hats, socks, and bus fare money was delivered to North Church to give to their congregation. Also, gifts from the angel tree were given to Chagrin Park Community Center. Your gifts will ensure that many will be warm this winter. Thank you again, Mission

Six Session Bible Study

The Gospel of Mark

A Beginner's Guide to the Good News

By Amy-Jill Levine



During worship for the first two months of the New Year, we will be looking at passages from the Gospel of Mark; widely regarded as the oldest of the four gospels. Through her book and accompanying video lessons, Jewish scholar, Amy Jill-Levine, brings the Good News of the gospel message alive as participants will come to see Jesus as divine and human, powerful and weak, approachable yet mysterious. The book features an in-depth study of select passages and illuminates the Gospel in its historical context and as a source for the other gospels.

You are invited to attend either weekly 90-minute session based on your own availability. Books are available in the Narthex.

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.

Jan. 18, 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22

Mondays, 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26

Annual Meeting



The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation will take place on Sunday, February 4, following the 10:30 a.m. worship service for the purposes of acting on nominations, reporting the annual budget, and approving pastoral terms of call. The meeting agenda and pertinent information will be made available by Sunday, January 28.

Annual Per Capita Apportionment

Each year, the governing bodies of our denomination set a per-person apportionment to fund mission, education, and administrative programs for the wider church. For 2024, that amount has been set at \$38 per church member. Individuals / families who would like to pay this Per Capita, can add it to their pledge or offering. The balance will be paid through Valley's general fund. Please contact the church office, if you have any questions.

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:
Friday, February 9, 2024 (1 p.m. – 4 p.m.)
Saturday, February 10, 2024 (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Pass-it-on is accepting donations. Please contact Brenda Wahl at 440-829-7841 or passitonamissionoflove@gmail.com.

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

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

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: Beth Krause

Organist: John Kautzman
Greeters: Susan Doughman & Lois Urban