



Ascension Sunday
May 5, 2024
Communion & Stephen Commissioning

PRELUDE

I Know that My Redeemer Lives
Brach Drew, Soloist

L. Edwards

**OUTPOURING OF WATERS, PASSING CHRIST'S PEACE, TRINITY
RINGING, CHORAL PROCESSION**

Pastor Craig

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jana Honermann

This is a day to celebrate miracles! Forty days after the Resurrection of Jesus, Christ ascended to sit at the right hand of God. On Cinco de Mayo 1862 impoverished Mexico overthrew invasion by the French army. France returned to attack, and in January 1866 the United States sent aid to support the Liberal Mexican government forcing Napoleon to unconditionally withdraw. This day, we break the bread and share the

cup of reconciliation, respect and love in Jesus Christ. This morning a Stephen Minister is commissioned, to listen and pray with a sister in the church. This is a day to celebrate the mystery and miracles of life.

☩ **OPENING HYMN** *Lead On, O King Eternal!* 269

THE COMMISSIONING OF A STEPHEN MINISTER

Jana Honermann & Pastor Craig

Donna Faulkner has completed 50 hours of certification training in order to serve as a Stephen minister in this congregation and to walk beside an individual through their concerns.

VOWS FOR STEPHEN MINISTERS AND VOWS FOR CONGREGATION

PRAYER & COMMENDATION

☩ **GLORIA PATRI** 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, Amen.

ANTHEM *Name of All Majesty* T. Fettke

Name of all majesty, fathomless mystery,
King of the ages by angels adored;
power and authority, splendor and dignity,
bow to his mastery Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord!

Child of our destiny, God from eternity,
The love of the Father on sins outpoured;
see now what God has done sending his only Son,
Christ the beloved One Jesus is Lord!

Source of all sovereignty, light, immortality,
life everlasting and heaven assured;
so with the ransomed, we praise him eternally,
Christ in his majesty Jesus, is Lord.

Name of all majesty, bow to his sovereignty,
Jesus is Lord, he is Lord!

CHILDREN TIME

SCRIPTURE

Daniel 7: 1-7, 9-14

In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream, and visions passed through his mind as he was lying in bed. He wrote down the substance of his dream.

Daniel said: “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me were the four winds of heaven churning up the great sea. Four great beasts, each different from the others, came up out of the sea.

“The first was like a lion, and it had the wings of an eagle. I watched until its wings were torn off and it was lifted from the ground so that it stood on two feet like a human being, and the mind of a human was given to it.

“And there before me was a second beast, which looked like a bear. It was raised up on one of its sides, and it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. It was told, ‘Get up and eat your fill of flesh!’

“After that, I looked, and there before me was another beast, one that looked like a leopard. And on its back it had four wings like those of a bird. This beast had four heads, and it was given authority to rule.

“After that, in my vision at night I looked, and there before me was a fourth beast—terrifying and frightening and very powerful. It had large

iron teeth; it crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. It was different from all the former beasts, and it had ten horns.

“As I looked, thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. A river of fire was flowing coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened.

“Then I continued to watch because of the boastful words the horn was speaking. I kept looking until the beast was slain and its body destroyed and thrown into the blazing fire. (The other beasts had been stripped of their authority, but were allowed to live for a period of time.)

“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

Acts 1: 1-11

In my former book, *Theophilus*, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days

you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

P: **Thanks be to God**

CHORAL AMEN

SERMON: BIBLICAL MYSTERY

⌄ HYMN *All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name* 263

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Savior, Redeemer of My Soul* R. Gardner
Brach Drew, Soloist

****Please print your name in the fellowship register: Friendship Pads in the pews are a great way to meet your neighbor.***

***** If you have a special prayer request, please fill out the blue card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. There is also a box in the Narthex you may place it in as well. Our Pastors and Prayer Ministry Team will Pray for your request.***

✠ DOXOLOGY

606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

The Invitation

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (Sung)

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy 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 thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

(Please hold your elements so all may receive together)

✠ HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns

268

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Creator, children all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry step I take, let this be my solemn vow;
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

✦ **POSTLUDE** *This Is My Father's World* Bish

✦ **All those who are able, please stand**

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All Worship Services are available for replay on our website.

www.valleypres.net

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY PROVIDED BY: Ray & Katie Sayre, Celebrating their 36th Anniversary (May 17th).

**THIS SUNDAY IS FOODBANK SUNDAY, PLEASE LEAVE YOUR
NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS ON THE CART IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL**

BOOKS! BOOKS! BOOKS!

There are tables in the Fellowship Hall, with books from Pastor Diane's personal collection. These are free for the taking. Help yourself.

THIS WEEK:

MONDAY, MAY 6:

- 9:00 a.m. Parkinson's Chair Exercise – Charter Hall
- 9:00 a.m. Patio Sale Coordinating Team—Sweet Family Room
- 9:30 a.m. Mission Quilters—Classroom 1
- 1:00 p.m. Bible Reflections Bible study, – Classroom 5

TUESDAY, MAY 7:

- 9:00 a.m. Cardio Drumming – Charter Hall
- 9:00 a.m. Women's Ministry Team Meeting– Classroom 5
- 9:30 a.m. Prayer Ministry– Sweet Family Room
- 10:00 a.m. Personnel Committee Meeting – Classroom 3
- 1:00 p.m. Journey through Grief—Classroom 5
- 1:30 p.m. Buildings & Grounds –Classroom 1

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8:

- 9:00 a.m. Deacon's Meeting—Classroom 5
- 9:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study—Classroom 1
- 9:00 a.m. Parkinson's Chair Exercises – Charter Hall
- 10:00 a.m. Chair Exercise Class—Charter Hall
- 1:00 p.m. Membership & Outreach—Classroom 5
- 1:00 p.m. Miriam Circle Meeting—Classroom 1
- 2:00 p.m. Valley Ringers Rehearsal – Sweet Family Room
- 3:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary

THURSDAY, MAY 9:

- 8:00 a.m. Patio Sale Pack and Sort—Fellowship Hall
- 9:00 a.m. Valley Galley Lunch Prep for VAS Fridays—Kitchen

FRIDAY, MAY 10:

- 9:00 a.m. Parkinson’s Chair Exercises—Charter Hall
- 9:00 a.m. Valley Galley Loading Truck for VAS
- 9:00 a.m. Stephen Ministry Meeting—Classroom 5
- 1:00 p.m. Journey Through Grief—Classroom 5

VPC Financial - Attendance / On-Line Viewing Metrics			
Monthly Giving Support Contributions		Weekly Attendance / Viewing	
March-2024		Through Week 17 (04/28/24)	
Monthly Giving Support	\$ 77,001	Weekly Attendance Sanctuary	255
Monthly Giving Budget	62,410	YTD 2024 Attendance Sanctuary	5,839
YTD Giving Support	235,508	Weekly Viewing On-Line	120
YTD Giving Budget	205,350	YTD 2024 Viewing On-Line	2,451
<small>S. Ginader - VPC treasurer - steveginader@gmail.com - 952-687-1879 2024 Per Capita is \$41.50 per member</small>			

WELCOME to all who enter this place. Drink deeply of the living waters of God’s grace as we worship together in spirit.

VISITORS: Consider yourself at home while you are here! Please enjoy a cup of coffee, lemonade and a cookie while visiting the Visitor’s Table in Fellowship Hall after the church worship service. You can pick up a Visitor’s Information Packet at the Visitor's Table or the Welcome Centers. If you would like to receive more information about us, visit us at valleypres.net where you can sign up for our daily email blasts and monthly newsletter.

Children are invited to worship in the sanctuary then attend Sunday School after Children’s Time.

We are glad you have joined us today.



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We are a Stephen Ministry Church



REV. DR. CRAIG LINDSEY, *Head of Staff*
CHRISTINE ERICKSON, RN, *Parish Nurse*
JAMIE REED, *Director of Music*
JAN BRACHEL, *Organist/Accompanist*
REV. JOE HAWKINS, *Pastor Emeritus*