



VALLEY
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Liturgy for
January 25, 2026

THE BOOK OF
Colossians

Valley Presbyterian Church exists to make disciples of Jesus by gathering for the public worship of God; by growing in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ through Christian education; and by sending God's people to go out into the world and love their neighbors and cities for the glory of God.

Service Time:

11:00 am

Location:

9200 Haskell Avenue | North Hills, CA 91343



Welcome to Valley Presbyterian Church!

We trust that you will experience the presence of Christ and the welcome of his people as you gather with us this morning. Below are a series of answers to questions that are often asked about our worship service. We hope that you will find them informative. If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact our pastors directly at valleypresbyterian@gmail.com

Does your church have a statement of faith?

Yes! Valley Presbyterian Church is part of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), and as a part of the PCA we subscribe to a document called the Westminster Standards. This document consists of the Westminster Confession of Faith, and two Catechisms (the Larger and Shorter Catechisms) which are meant to be helpful teaching tools for the people of God. The Westminster Standards can be found online, but the basics of what we believe can be found in your bulletin. We confess these basics every week when we recite the Nicene Creed, which has been a summary of the Christian faith for over 1,500 years!

Why is your worship so liturgical?

Believe it or not, every church is liturgical. Some liturgies consist of three songs, announcements, a 50-minute sermon, etc. Those liturgies tend to reflect many Christian churches in North America. Our worship service is ordered the way that it is because it is a reflection of how God has met with his people throughout the history of the world. Here's a breakdown of why we do what we do:

God Gathers His People

At the appointed time, the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ gathers for worship, recognizing that God Himself has brought together His people.

We Come to God by Faith

In continued response to God's call to worship, we offer our first prayer to God. This prayer also reflects our adoration and affection for God, acknowledging Him as our Creator and Redeemer.

God Reshapes the Hearts and Lives of His People

God once again addresses us directly through His holy Word. As we are faced with God's perfect holiness, there is only one appropriate response—the confession of our sin. Having heard God's Law and having confessed our sins, what we need most is to have the gospel of Jesus Christ proclaimed to us! It is here that God assures us of His forgiveness and Fatherly love toward us!

God Uses His People in His Service

We now enter into a time of intercessory prayer, both for Christ's church and the world. The Kingdom of God is built through the prayers of the church, so we pray because we are given this privilege as His servant-people. In grateful response to all of God's gifts to us, we offer a token of appreciation to Him. Our financial gifts to God are the confession of our stewardship.

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

The preaching of the Word is the primary way God addresses sinners to receive salvation and to grow in it. Thus, in preaching, God continues to speak to us with the love of Jesus.

God Renews His Covenant with Us

The reading and the preaching of the Word is when God audibly speaks His gospel to us, then the administration of the sacraments is when God visibly shows His gospel to us. The Lord's Supper is God visibly communing with us at His table.

God Sends His People Out with His Blessing

Just as God initiated worship, so now God concludes worship with His benediction, His "good word." In the benediction, God, through the Pastor, blesses His beloved people. We can all objectively say after

worship that we were blessed. As it is not a prayer, but a pronouncement, we lift up our faces to the Lord as He blesses us, for His face shines upon us and His grace and peace are ours forevermore.

Why is there so much Scripture reading in your worship service?

The Bible is central in our worship service because we believe the Bible is God's word, and we need to hear from God when we gather together. One of Jesus' apostles, Paul, wrote, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, and to teaching." (1 Tim. 4:13) It is through God's word that faith is created in our hearts (Rom. 10:17), and we are made holy (John 17:17).

Why do you take communion most Sundays?

Communion is a Holy Sacrament of the Church (along with Baptism). The word Sacrament is a translation of a Greek word which means "mystery." Baptism and Communion are the "mysteries" of the church, because through them God works powerfully through his Word and Spirit nourishing our faith with Christ and all his benefits. Holy Communion is not an empty ritual, or a mere "remembrance" of Jesus' death, it is fellowship with the risen Christ. In Holy Communion, Jesus and all of his gifts are offered to the faithful.

Communion Information

We are serving both juice and wine as we partake of the Lord's Supper together. Both juice and wine serve as appropriate elements of communion as both fit the biblical requirement of being fruit of the vine. If you have never been baptized, or if you are not a

Christian, please abstain from taking Communion. If you'd like to take Communion, or to be baptized, speak to either of the Pastors, or to one of the Elders. We would be happy to assist you in taking steps toward Baptism, or your first Communion.

Communion is for baptized, repentant, and believing Christians. Let us come to Christ's table together rejoicing in our salvation!

Why do you baptize babies?

We baptize the children of believing parents because it is in line with the teaching of Scripture. We don't baptize babies because it's a nice tradition, or because it's what the universal church practiced up until the time of the Reformation. In the Bible, the children of believers are always treated as holy members of God's church by virtue of God's promises (1 Cor. 7:14). In the Old Testament, God commanded that the sign of membership in God's visible church be given to infants who didn't yet have faith (Gen.17:12). This principle still stands with the New Testament sign of Baptism (Acts 2:39; 16:15.)

Why is worship led by Pastors and Elders?

Pastors and Elders are those whom Christ has gifted and have been set apart by ordination by the Presbytery or congregation to be God's representatives and under shepherds of the Lord Jesus Christ. We don't submit to God's Word because it comes from charismatic teachers, or funny communicators; we submit to it because it comes from those who have been set apart for the office of elder to speak the truth in love that we may grow more and more into the image of Christ.



LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

Prelude
Welcome

Ben Mason
Pastor Ron Svendsen

GOD GATHERS HIS PEOPLE

Call to
Worship +

Hymn of
Praise
#98 +

Now Thank We All Our God

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever-joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
The Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven—
The one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

WE COME TO GOD BY FAITH

Invocation
& Prayer
of Adoration +

Salutation +

Confession of
Faith +

The Nicene Creed

Pastor: People of God, what do you believe?

All: *We believe* in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. *We believe* in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And *we believe* in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and *we believe* in one holy catholic[^] and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for* the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*(^catholic meaning worldwide not Roman Catholic; *"for" not because of, or as the means of our sins being remitted but as representative of our sins being remitted)*

Doxology
#733 +

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below: Alleluia, alleluia! Praise him above, ye heav'nly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GOD RESHAPES THE HEARTS AND LIVES OF HIS PEOPLE

Call to
Confession

Through
Confessing
Our Sins
Publicly and
Privately

All: O God of grace, Thou hast imputed my sin to my substitute, and hast imputed his righteousness to my soul, clothing me with a bridegroom's robe, decking me with jewels of holiness. But in my Christian walk I am still in rags; my best prayers are stained with sin; my penitential tears are so much impurity. I need to repent of my repentance; I need my tears to be washed; I have no robe to bring to cover my sins, no loom to weave my own righteousness; I am always standing clothed in filthy garments, and by grace am always receiving change of raiment, for Thou dost always justify the ungodly: I am always going into the far country, and always returning home as a prodigal, always saying, Father, forgive me, and thou art always bringing forth the best robe. Every morning let me wear it, every evening return in it, go out to the day's work in it, be married in it, be wound in death in it, stand before the great white throne in it, enter heaven in it shining as the sun. Grant me never to lose sight of the exceeding sinfulness of sin, the exceeding righteousness of salvation, the exceeding glory of Christ, the exceeding beauty of holiness, the exceeding wonder of grace. In Him who has loved me and called me by His name. Amen.

Assurance of
Pardon

Hymn of
Praise
#32 +

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
All I have needed thy hand hath provided -
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
All I have needed thy hand hath provided -
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
All I have needed thy hand hath provided -
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Through the
Reading of
Scripture

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 55
New Testament Reading: Philippians 4:1-9

GOD USES HIS PEOPLE IN HIS SERVICE

As We Pray
for Our World

As We Give to
God's Work
Throughout
the World

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD

Scripture
Reading

Colossians 3:15-17

Message

"Being the church to the church, Part 2"

Pastor Ron Svendsen

GOD RENEWS HIS COVENANT WITH US

Song of
Preparation +

His Mercy is More

What love could remember no wrongs we have done;

Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum.

Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore;

Our sins they are many, **His mercy is more.**

Praise the Lord! **His mercy is more.**

Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn;

Our sins they are many, **His mercy is more.**

What patience would wait as we constantly roam;

What Father, so tender, is calling us home.

He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor;

Our sins they are many, **His mercy is more.**

Praise the Lord! **His mercy is more.**

Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn;

Our sins they are many, **His mercy is more.**

What riches of kindness He lavished on us;

His blood was the payment, His life was the cost.

We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford;

Our sins they are many, **His mercy is more.**

Praise the Lord! **His mercy is more.**

Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn;

Our sins they are many, **His mercy is more.**

Communion
Passing of the
Peace +

GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT WITH HIS BLESSING

Hymn of
Response
#457 +

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God:
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander—Lord, I feel it—prone to leave the God I love:
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

God's
Benediction
Postlude

Pastor Ron Svendsen

Ben Mason

Community Groups

We grow together in our faith, not just on Sunday mornings but by gathering to share meals, talk about the Bible, and pray with each other. Check out one of our community groups nearest to you! (VPC Community Groups meet 1st & 3rd Sundays Sept—May)

Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena

6:00pm

Leader: Pastor Ron Svendsen

Contact: 818-894-9200

Topic: Proverbs

North Hills

2nd Sunday at 3:30pm

Leader: Elder Jaime Garcia

Contact: 818-631-0408

Topic: Westminster Confession of Faith

Northridge

Sunday at 7:00pm/monthly

Leaders: Elders Bruce Mateko & Larry Shaw

Contact: 818-886-1233

Topic: *Pray Big* by Alistair Begg

Santa Clarita

2nd & 4th Sundays at 5:00pm

Leader: Pastor Ron Svendsen

Contact: 818-894-9200

Topic: Proverbs

Valencia/Santa Clarita

Sunday at 2:00pm

Leaders: Elders Jesse Cook & Edgar Figueroa

Contact: 818-894-9200

Topic: Redemptive-Historical Study of the Psalms

West Hills

Sunday at 6:30/monthly

Leaders: Nathan Maack (assisting Elder John Martinez)

Contact: (917) 916-7550

Topic: Joshua

Sunday Morning Sunday School & Worship

Adult & Children's Sunday School

Prayer at 9:40am.

Sunday School at 10:00-10:45am. Classes are held for both our children (ages 3 and above) and adults each week. For more information see below:

Adult:

Study on Reformed Theology | Downstairs Fellowship Room

Children's Sunday School | Brewer Hall

Pre-K-1st Grade, Patty Reyes

Show Me Jesus: Jesus is God's Son

2nd-4th Grade, Sue Colunga

Show Me Jesus: Loving Jesus

5th-6th Grade, Grant Gates

G2R: Exodus to Ruth

7th-8th Grade, John Martinez

Westminster Shorter Catechism

9th-12th Grade, Jesse Cook

Consequence of Ideas

Post-Worship Fellowship & Snack

Refreshments and fellowship on the North Patio.

Children are Welcome in Worship | Nursery Available

As part of the covenant family of God, we encourage you to keep your children with you in worship regardless of their age, so that they may follow your example in worshipping God. Don't worry if your children are a bit restless or noisy. However, if your child needs an alternate location, please use the Fellowship Room right off the Narthex.

The nursery is open, and wonderful volunteers are ready to watch your little ones during the church service. Please visit the nursery for more information!

Prayer & Praise

Please be in prayer for Ramona Savra as she recovers from knee replacement surgery.

Mid-Week Gathering | January 28th

Join us on select Wednesdays at 7pm in the VPC Fellowship Room as we discuss *Dust to Glory* by R.C. Sproul.

Serving at VPC

Weekly Communion

Set-Up

We need more volunteers to help prepare and cleanup the weekly Communion elements. If interested, please see Nathan Maack for more information.

Music Ministry & Audio & Visual Team

We are looking for singers and instrumentalists who are interested in serving on the music team. Additional volunteers to run sound for the service and capture video for the livestream are needed. Training is provided. If willing to serve, please email Ben Mason at info@benmasonmusic.com.

Ushers & Parking Lot Security Volunteers

Please contact Ed Arreaga at earreaga@verizon.net for more information.

Meal Ministry

If you, or anyone you know at VPC is in a difficult season where meals would be helpful, please reach out to the Deacons or directly to Theresa Martinez (jtmarz06@gmail.com), to set up a meal train so we may serve you.

Nursery Volunteers

Please consider serving in the nursery! We need more adult volunteers and helpers to add to our rotating nursery schedule. Please reach out to Jess Herr if you have any questions

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Connecting at VPC

If you are a new or recent visitor to Valley Presbyterian Church, please email the church at valleypresbyterian@gmail.com so that we may add you to the VPC email list to keep you in the loop with the latest church news.

Basic Beliefs

For those interested in a personal relationship with God, exploring the distinctives of the Reformed faith, or membership at VPC. Attending this does not obligate you to join the church, but you do need to attend if you desire to become a member of VPC. Let Pastor Ron or the church office (valleypresbyterian@gmail.com) know if you are interested!

Women in the Word | Tuesdays, 10:00am-12:00pm

We meet in the VPC Fellowship room on Tuesday mornings. Please join us for a time in God's word and prayer as we enjoy coffee, refreshment, friendship, and wonderful conversations. No childcare is provided. We are continuing in Tim Keller's book *Romans 1-7*.

Women's Tuesday Evening Book Study | Next Date TBA

Please join us at the Martinez home for a time of discussion and encouragement around God's Word as we read the book *Echoes of Exodus: Tracing Themes of Redemption through Scripture* by Alistair J. Roberts and Andrew Wilson. Contact Theresa Martinez at jtmarz06@gmail.com for more information and the address.

Sunday Supper | March 29, After Service

Sunday Suppers are held in the Upper Room following the worship service on the 5th Sunday of the month. Please bring a dish to share as we enjoy a fellowship meal together. There are food warmers, a refrigerator, and outlets available in the kitchen to place food that morning. Please contact Nikki Siddall with any questions.

Gospel-Based Outreach to the Community Training | Today, After Worship Service

The church is holding a training session today to prepare any member who desires or feels led for Gospel-based outreach to the community. Lunch will be provided while speakers present on their experience sharing the Gospel. The goal is to prepare members to share their faith with others in their community, in accordance with 1 Peter 3:15.

-If you need assistance, please ask an usher-



**A Church Where God's
People Gather, Grow and Go
for the Glory of God**

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North Hills, CA 91343
(818) 894-9200
valleypresbyterian.org

Reverend Dr. Ronald Svendsen
ronald.svendsen@gmail.com

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The LORD's Day