



VALLEY  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

Liturgy for  
March 8, 2026

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THE BOOK OF  
**Colossians**

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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](mailto: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 +

Psalm of  
Praise  
Hymn #57 +

### **Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah, O My Soul (Psalm 146, The Psalter 1912)**

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah, O my soul, Jehovah praise;

I will sing the glorious praises of my God through all my days.

Put no confidence in princes, nor for help on man depend;

He shall die, to dust returning, and his purposes shall end.

Happy is the man that chooses Israel's God to be his aid;

He is blessed whose hope of blessing on the Lord his God is stayed.

Heav'n and earth the Lord created, seas and all that they contain;

He delivers from oppressions, righteousness he will maintain.

Food he daily gives the hungry, sets the mourning pris'ner free,

Raises those bowed down with anguish, makes the sightless eye to see.

Well Jehovah loves the righteous, and the stranger he befriends,

Helps the fatherless and widow, judgment on the wicked sends.

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah, O my soul, Jehovah praise;

I will sing the glorious praises of my God through all my days.

Over all God reigns forever, through all ages he is King;

Unto him, your God, O Zion, joyful hallelujahs sing.

## 57

## Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah, O My Soul

*Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul. I will praise the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. Ps. 146:1, 2*

1. Hal - le - lu - jah, praise Je - ho - vah, O my soul, Je - ho - vah praise;  
 2. Hap - py is the man that choos - es Is - rael's God to be his aid;  
 3. Food he dai - ly gives the hun - gry, sets the mourn - ing pris - 'ner free,  
 4. Hal - le - lu - jah, praise Je - ho - vah, O my soul, Je - ho - vah praise;

I will sing the glo - rious prais - es of my God through all my days.  
 he is blessed whose hope of bless - ing on the Lord his God is stayed.  
 rais - es those bowed down with an - guish, makes the sight - less eye to see.  
 I will sing the glo - rious prais - es of my God through all my days.

Put no con - fi - dence in princ - es, nor for help on man de - pend;  
 Heav'n and earth the Lord cre - at - ed, seas and all that they con - tain;  
 Well Je - ho - vah loves the righ - teous, and the strang - er he be - friends,  
 O - ver all God reigns for - ev - er, through all a - ges he is King;

he shall die, to dust re - turn - ing, and his pur - pos - es shall end.  
 he de - liv - ers from op - pres - sion, righ - teous - ness he will main - tain.  
 helps the fa - ther - less and wid - ow, judg - ment on the wick - ed sends.  
 un - to him, your God, O Zi - on, joy - ful hal - le - lu - jahs sing.

# WE COME TO GOD BY FAITH

Invocation  
& Prayer  
of Adoration +

Salutation +

Confession of  
Faith +

## **The Apostles' Creed**

Pastor: People of God, what do you believe?

**All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy \*catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*(\*catholic meaning worldwide not Roman Catholic)*

## **Heidelberg Catechism, Questions 29 & 31**

Pastor: Why is the Son of God called “Jesus,” meaning “savior”?

**People: Because he saves us from our sins, and because salvation should not be sought and cannot be found in anyone else.**

Pastor: Why is he called “Christ,” meaning “anointed”?

**People: Because he has been ordained by God the Father and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit to be our chief prophet and teacher who fully reveals to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our deliverance; our only high priest who has delivered us by the one sacrifice of his body, and who continually pleads our cause with the Father; and our eternal king who governs us by his Word and Spirit, and who guards us and keeps us in the freedom he has won for us.**

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

Elder Edgar Figueroa

Through  
Confessing  
Our Sins  
Publicly and  
Privately

**All: Almighty God, maker of all things, and judge of all; we acknowledge and regret our many sins which we have committed this past week against your divine majesty. We humbly repent and are truly sorry for these our misdoings. The memory of them is grievous to us and the burden of them is heavy upon us. Have mercy on us, merciful Father; for the sake of your Son, our savior Jesus Christ. Forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve and please you in newness of life to the honor and glory of your name. Amen.**

Assurance of  
Pardon

Hymn of  
Praise #308 +

## **Jesus Paid it All**

I hear the Savior say, "Your strength indeed is small,  
Child of weakness, watch and pray, find in me your all in all."  
Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe;  
Sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it white as snow.  
  
Lord, now indeed I find your power, and yours alone,  
Can change the leper's spots, and melt the heart of stone.  
Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe;  
Sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it white as snow.  
  
For nothing good have I whereby your grace to claim—  
I'll wash my garments white in the blood of Calv'ry's lamb.  
Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe;  
Sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it white as snow.  
  
And when, before the throne, I stand in him complete,  
"Jesus died my soul to save," my lips shall still repeat.  
Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe;  
Sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it white as snow.

Through the  
Reading of  
Scripture

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 7:1-11

New Testament Reading: Romans 5:1-11

## **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 4:18

Message

“Go with Grace”

Pastor Ron Svendsen

## **GOD RENEWS HIS COVENANT WITH US**

Communion

Passing of the  
Peace +

## GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT WITH HIS BLESSING

Hymn of  
Response  
#460 +

### **Amazing Grace**

Amazing grace! — how sweet the sound—that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;

How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;

'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, his Word my hope secures;

He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.

And when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease,

I shall possess within the veil a life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,

We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we've first begun.

God's  
Benediction

Pastor Ron Svendsen

Postlude

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

Figuroa

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: Acts

## 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**

**Basic Beliefs | Pastor's Office**

#### Children's Sunday School | Brewer Hall

**Pre-K-1<sup>st</sup> Grade, Patty Reyes**

Show Me Jesus: Jesus is God's Son

**2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Grade, Sue Colunga**

Show Me Jesus: Loving Jesus

**5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade, Grant Gates**

G2R: Exodus to Ruth

**7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade, John Martinez**

Westminster Shorter Catechism

**9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 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 continue to pray for John Milton and his family as they cope with Connie's passing and had her service in Illinois on Friday, March 6.

## Mid-Week Gathering | TBD

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](mailto:info@benmasonmusic.com).

### Ushers & Parking Lot

#### Security Volunteers

Please contact Ed Arreaga at [earreaga@verizon.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

### 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 | 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](mailto:jtmarz06@gmail.com) for more information and the address.

### Basic Beliefs | Meeting in Pastor's Office on Sunday Mornings

This class is for those interested in a personal relationship with God, exploring the distinctives of the Reformed faith, or membership at VPC. Attending 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](mailto:valleypresbyterian@gmail.com)) know if you are interested!

### Outreach Training Session | March 15, After Worship

VPC is putting on another outreach training service after the worship service on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> to prepare "any member who desires or feels led" for Gospel-based outreach to the community. Meeting in the adult Sunday school room, lunch will be provided while speakers present 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.

### Sunday Supper | March 29, After Worship

Sunday Suppers are held in the Upper Room following the worship service on the 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Budget Update YTD as of 2/28/26

Tithes and Offerings: \$78,005.63

Expenses: \$87,757.46

Profit/Loss: -\$9,751.83

(Miscellaneous Income Balance: \$414,755.50)

(Usage of ERC monies for February: \$0.00)

**-If you need assistance, please ask an usher-**



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

9200 Haskell Ave.  
North Hills, CA 91343  
(818) 894-9200  
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Reverend Dr. Ronald Svendsen  
[ronald.svendsen@gmail.com](mailto:ronald.svendsen@gmail.com)

Liturgy for March 8, 2026  
The LORD's Day