



# Valley Presbyterian Church

Liturgy for  
Nov 21, 2021



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 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 Ave. 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 and they should pick up the cups of bread and the vine as they enter for worship. 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 undershepherds 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.



Prelude  
Welcome

## LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

Ben Mason  
Pastor Jason Petterson

## GOD GATHERS HIS PEOPLE

Call to  
Worship †

Pastor Jason Petterson

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

Prayer of  
Adoration

Pastor Jason Petterson

Salutation

Confession of  
Faith †

*HEIDELBERG CATECHISM QUESTIONS 26, 27, 28*

Leader: What do you believe when you say: "I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth"?

**People: That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, out of nothing created heaven and earth with all that is in them, who also upholds and governs them by his eternal counsel and providence, is for the sake of Christ his Son, my God and my Father. I trust in Him so completely that I have no doubt that he will provide me with all things necessary for body and soul. Moreover, whatever evil he sends upon me in**

**this troubled life he will turn to my good, for he is able to do it, being almighty God, and is determined to do it, being a faithful Father.**

Leader: What do you understand by the providence of God?

**People: The almighty and ever-present power of God whereby he still upholds, as it were by his own hand, heaven and earth together with all creatures, and rules in such a way that leaves and grass, rain and drought, fruitful and unfruitful years, food and drink, health and sickness, riches and poverty, and everything else, come to us not by chance but by his fatherly hand.**

Leader: What advantage comes from acknowledging God's creation and providence?

**People: We learn that we are to be patient in adversity, grateful in the midst of blessing, and to trust our faithful God and Father for the future, assured that no creature shall separate us from his love, since all creatures are so completely in his hand that without his will they cannot even move.**

Doxology †  
#733

733

Doxology

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise  
him, all crea-tures here be - low; al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
lu - ia! praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; praise  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

• Standing if Able  
\* **Bold:** The congregation responds together

# GOD RESHAPES THE HEARTS AND LIVES OF HIS PEOPLE

Through  
Confessing  
Our Sins

Pastor Ron Svendsen

**O God, our Great Shepherd, you tenderly gather us as lambs, carrying us with your all-embracing love. Yet, like sheep, we wander from you: following in our own ways, ignoring your word, and distrusting your provision. Forgive our stubborn rebellion, our hardened hearts, and our lack of trust. Refresh us once again by your quiet waters of mercy and restore our souls by your redeeming love. Guide our paths that we might follow you more closely through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen**

Through  
Assurance of  
Pardon

Pastor Ron Svendsen

To Declare His  
Praise †

*ONLY A HOLY GOD*

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven  
Who else could make every king bow down  
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles  
Only a Holy God

What other beauty demands such praises  
What other splendor outshines the sun  
What other majesty rules with justice  
Only a Holy God

Come and behold Him  
The One and the Only  
Cry out, sing holy  
Forever a Holy God  
Come and worship the Holy God

What other glory consumes like fire  
What other power can raise the dead  
What other name remains undefeated  
Only a Holy God

Come and behold Him  
The One and the Only  
Cry out, sing holy  
Forever a Holy God  
Come and worship the Holy God

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• *Standing if Able*  
\* **Bold:** The congregation  
responds together

Who else could rescue me from my failing  
Who else would offer His only Son  
Who else invites me to call Him Father  
Only a Holy God  
Only my Holy God

Come and behold Him  
The One and the Only  
Cry out, sing holy  
Forever a Holy God  
Come and worship the Holy God

*"10,000 REASONS (BLESS THE LORD)"*

*[Chorus]*

*Bless the Lord, O my soul*

*O my soul*

*Worship His holy name*

*Sing like never before*

*O my soul*

*I'll worship Your holy name*

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing Your song again  
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me  
Let me be singing when the evening comes

*[Chorus]*

*Bless the Lord, O my soul*

*O my soul*

*Worship His holy name*

*Sing like never before*

*O my soul*

*I'll worship Your holy name*

You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger  
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind  
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

*[Chorus]*

*Bless the Lord, O my soul*

*O my soul*

*Worship His holy name*

*Sing like never before*

*O my soul*

*I'll worship Your holy name*

And on that day when my strength is failing  
The end draws near and my time has come  
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending  
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

*[Chorus]*

*Bless the Lord, O my soul*

*O my soul*

*Worship His holy name*

*Sing like never before*

*O my soul*

*I'll worship Your holy name*

Jesus, I'll worship Your holy name

Lord, I'll worship Your holy name

## **GOD USES HIS PEOPLE IN HIS SERVICE**

As We Pray  
For Our World

Pastor Ron Svendsen

As We Give To  
God's Work  
Throughout  
The World

OFFERTORY

Pastor Jason Petterson

## **GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD**

Scripture  
Reading

ACTS 22:30-23:35

Pastor Ron Svendsen

Message

WHEN THROWN TO THE LIONS

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

Communion

Pastor Ron Svendsen

## **GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT WITH HIS BLESSING**

Hymn of  
Response †  
#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.

**Chorus:**

*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 spring-time and harvest  
Sun moon and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness mercy and love

**Chorus:**

*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

**Chorus:**

*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!*

## 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)

### Encino

*Sunday at 7pm/monthly*

**Host/Leader:** Elder Jeff Oxman

**Contact:** 818-616-2373

**Topic:** The Gospel of Mark

### Northridge

*Sunday at 7pm/monthly*

**Host/Leader:** Elder Bruce Mateko & Larry Shaw

**Contact:** 818-886-1233

**Topic:** The Lives and Teachings of The Apostles

### North Hills

*2nd & 4th Sundays at 4pm*

**Host/Leader:** Elder Jaime Garcia

**Contact:** 818-631-0408

**Topic:** Westminster Confession of Faith

### West Hills

*Sundays at 6pm*

**Host/Leader:** Elder Alex Bryer

**Contact:** (818) 521-6475

**Topic:** James

### Valencia/Santa Clarita

*Sunday at 2pm*

**Leader:** Pastor Jason

**Topic:** Westminster Shorter Catechism

### Santa Clarita

*2nd & 4th Sundays at 5:00pm*

**Leader:** Pastor Ron

**Contact:** 818-894-9200

**Topic:** "Knowing God" by J. I. Packer

### Burbank

*6:00pm*

**Leader:** Pastor Ron

**Contact:** 818-894-9200

**Topic:** "Knowing God" by J. I. Packer

## Sunday Morning Sunday School & Worship

### Adult & Children's Sunday School

Prayer at 9:30am.

Sunday School is held for both our children and adults from 10:00-10:45am each week. The adult class is held in the Fellowship Room. Children's classes are available for ages 3 and above. For more information see below:

#### Adult:

- Downstairs Fellowship Room – Going Through The Old Testament: Nehemiah 8-13; Esther 1-4 {next week – Esther 5-10; Isaiah 40-41}

#### Children's Sunday School:

- [Ages 8 & up] Westminster Shorter Catechism - Upper Room North - Elder John
- [Ages 3-7] Beginners Kids' Quest Catechism Club - Upstairs in the South Room - VPC Members Carly Mischke and Theresa Martinez

#### Basic Beliefs: {a new class began October 3rd!}

We meet at 10 a.m. in the Pastor's Office. For those interested in a personal relationship with God, exploring the distinctives of the Reformed faith, or membership in this particular body of believers - Church Office- Pastor Ron - 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 know, or the church office if you are interested.

### Post-Worship Fellowship & Snack

Refreshments and fellowship on the North Patio.

### Children are Welcome in Worship

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 is too restless or noisy during a worship service, please use the Fellowship Room right off the Narthex.

## Prayer & Praise

- Please pray for Dorothy Hillyer as she continues to recover. She hopes to return to worship services soon.
- Please be in prayer for Rozzi Sathre and her family as her husband Dick went to be with his Lord on 11/15/21. The Sathre family were members of VPC in years past.

**NOVEMBER  
2021**

## Announcements & Needs

### **Women In The Word:**

Women's Community Group has begun meeting again on Tuesdays at 10:00am in the VPC Fellowship Room. New Format! Teaching God's Word! Make New Friends! Fun Discussions! Praying For One Another! Coffee and Treats! We look forward to meeting you! {No Childcare Provided}

### **VPC Congregation:**

Your Session has set aside the months of November and December as a time for prayer and reflection concerning the future leadership of Valley Presbyterian Church. If there are any men you believe are Biblically qualified to be trained as an Elder or Deacon, please send their name to the church office. The Biblical qualifications for Elder and Deacon are found in 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:5-9. Your Session will then determine if the candidates are eligible for election. This will take several months as training and examination for each office is required. Then your Session will present any candidates to the congregation at a Congregation Meeting for a vote by the congregation.

Although we will no longer have the offering boxes in the narthex, you will continue to have the option to give online at

<https://www.valleypresbyterian.org/giving>

### **Roofing Project News:**

A construction fence has been set up along the front of the sanctuary entrance. This fence has minimal impact on the cars entering our parking lot but does alter the way that we enter the church. Since the front (north) entrance to the sanctuary is blocked off, we will enter through the back (south) entrance to the narthex on Sundays. The north doors in the narthex have been marked for emergency exit only.

Signs have been placed at the end of the fence, between the Church and Brewer Hall, clearly directing everyone to go through the wrought iron gate and along the walkway to the south patio. We anticipate that our heating & air conditioning system will be down for about the next month.

(Also, we will have our post worship service fellowship on the South Patio for now)

Serving at your side,

*The Deacons*

Donations for roofing project as of 11/14/21 = 78794.25

### **Connecting at VPC**

If you are new, or a recent visitor to Valley Presbyterian Church, please email the church so we can add you to the VPC email list to keep you in the loop with the latest church news.

[valleypresbyterian@gmail.com](mailto:valleypresbyterian@gmail.com)

### **Following Worship - Pastors and Elders are available for prayer or counsel**

Our Elders and Pastors have been set apart by God for the spiritual care of those the Lord brings to VPC. Life has many ups and downs and our undershepherds make themselves available each week after the worship service to care for those in need. The Bible calls us to rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep (and everything in between). Wherever you find yourself this morning please don't be shy about seeking out a pastor or elder for prayer or counsel. Feel free to speak to one of them at the Narthex doors as you exit if you would like meet with them for counsel or prayer.

**-If you need assistance, be sure to ask an usher-**

**Sunday School Takes Place Every  
Sunday!**

**Sundays | 10am**

**Mid-Week Bible Study!**

**Wednesdays | 7pm**

Pastor Jason will be teaching on The Gospel of John.

**Location:** VPC Fellowship Room



**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  
[valleypresbyterian.org](http://valleypresbyterian.org)

**Reverend Dr. Ronald Svendsen**  
(Sr. Pastor)  
[ronald.svendsen@gmail.com](mailto:ronald.svendsen@gmail.com)

**Reverend Jason Petterson**  
(Associate Pastor)  
[jason.petterson@gmail.com](mailto:jason.petterson@gmail.com)

Liturgy for Nov 21, 2021  
The LORD's Day