



Valley Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Dear Friend in Christ,

I am happy to share with you my second sermon for 2021, on the occasion of Martin Luther King Jr. weekend. This Sunday, we will be reading the passage of Amos 5, which contains one of the verses made famous by Rev. Dr. King's preaching: "Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream." (Common English Bible) Especially after the violence that took place in Washington D.C., and especially our nation's Capitol, the words of both the prophet Amos and Rev. Dr. King can offer us a way forward together, should we choose to heed those words well!

Please use following phone numbers and links between 10:15am and 10:30am. You can join in one of two ways:

By computer, smart phone or tablet:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86757133623?pwd=OTFUQWJvU21MMmR6bkY5SitpelR1UT09>

By Phone: 1 (312) 626 6799 ID 867 5713 3623, Passcode 205879

(If you need a live link to the Worship link, you can go to the homepage of our website at www.vccbhm.org with the passcode 205879 OR click on "Links to Zoom" then the Sunday Worship link.)

I look forward to seeing you on Sunday!

Christ's and yours,
Pastor Eric

Valley Christian Church

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 17, 2021

PRELUDE

"Be Thou My Vision"

*Margaret Cox
Pianist*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Seek good and not evil, that you may live.
People: And so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said.
Leader: Hate evil and love good.
People: And establish justice in the gate.
Leader: It may be that the Lord, the God of hosts,
People: Will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

*Jim Taylor
Worship Leader*

(Amos 5:14-15, NRSV)

HYMN OF PRAISE

"How Long O God, How Long"

*How long O God, how long, the ancient cry is ours
We wait in grief and ask how long
Before we feel your powers*

*And why O God and why we ask with every age
And throw against your distant sky
The force of grief and rage*

*The cross, O God, the cross, we think about your Son
You know the weight and edge of loss
Your tears and ours are one*

*We trust O God, we trust, in time our grief shall mend
Transformed by love that shaped our dust
Your love which knows no end*

INVOCATION

*Jim Taylor
Worship Leader*

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

God of all righteousness and justice, we put our faith in you to show us the way because we know our own righteousness is limited, and our own justice imperfect. We follow you in the promise that you would set all things right and show us the way of truth. Along that way, we stop and pray to you on behalf of the people we have named aloud and the people and communities who are in the silence of our souls, as we lift up to you the ones whom we have named aloud at this time...

Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson

SCRIPTURE

Amos 5:18-27

*Jim Taylor
Worship Leader*

MESSAGE

"The Context of Justice"

Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson

HYMN

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

*God of grace and God of glory
On thy people pour thy power
Crown thine ancient church's story
Bring its bud to glorious flower
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour*

*Set our feet on lofty places, fill our lives that we may be
Strengthened with all Christlike graces
Pledged to set all captives free
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Lest we fail our call from thee
Lest we fail our call from thee*

*Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore
Let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Serving thee who we adore, serving thee who we adore*

SHARING OUR OFFERING WITH GOD

Share your financial offering with the church by mail or bring it by the church office. Thank you for your love gifts.

*Jim Taylor
Worship Leader*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

*Jim Taylor
Worship Leader*

**CALL TO
COMMUNION**

As we remember Christ's sacrifice and ransom for sin, we remember that He overcame the wages of sin—the grave—and that we, too, must also overcome sin.

Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson

**COMMUNION
HYMN**

"We Shall Overcome"

*We shall overcome, we shall overcome
We shall overcome someday
Oh deep in my heart, I do believe
We shall overcome someday*

*The Lord will see us thru, the Lord will see us thru
The Lord will see us through someday
Oh deep in my heart, I do believe
The Lord will see us through someday*

*We'll walk hand in hand, we'll walk hand in hand
We'll walk hand in hand someday
Oh deep in my heart, I do believe
We'll walk hand in hand someday*

**COMMUNION
PRAYER**

Conclude by praying together the Lord's Prayer

*Ginny Guindon
Elder*

**WORDS OF
INSTITUTION**

Hear the words of Jesus when He said, "Take and eat, this is my body, broken for you. Take and drink, this is the cup of the covenant poured out for you."

As the Words of Institution are spoken, you are invited to partake in the bread and juice, or whatever is available to you.

BENEDICTION

May the God who has shown you the way here, to God's house, show you the way forth in the world to share in justice and love, peace and equity, and may the blessing of God be with you now and always, Amen.

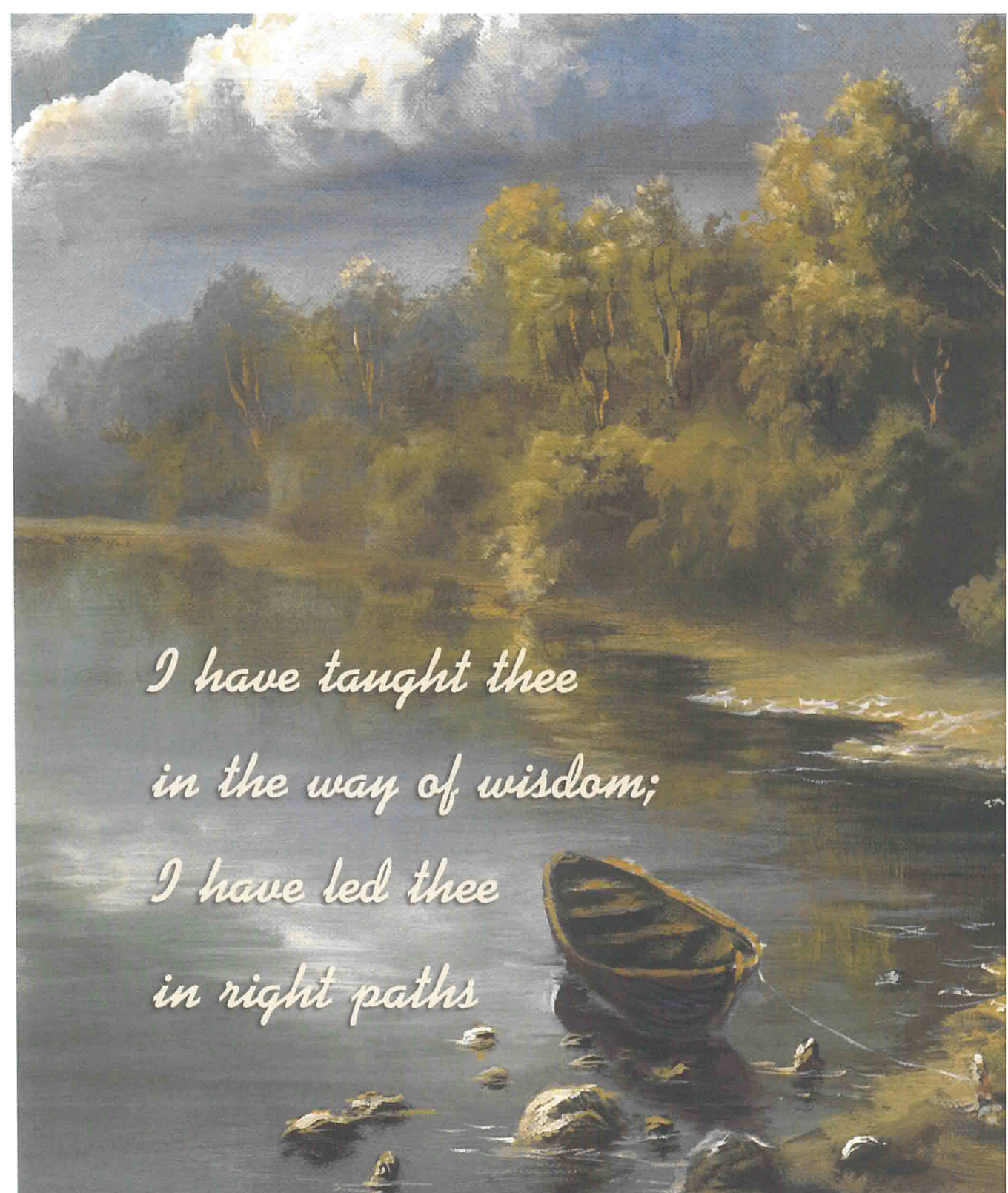
Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson

POSTLUDE

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

*Margaret Cox
Pianist*

You are warmly invited to remain in our Zoom worship space for some online fellowship time following the postlude.



*I have taught thee
in the way of wisdom;
I have led thee
in right paths*