



Valley Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Dear Friend in Christ,

I am happy to share with you this Sunday the fifth installment of my Lenten sermon series, “We Were There: Lenten Edition,” developed in consultation with Lola Kiser. We adapted the first-person format of Valley’s lovely Advent devotional book, “We Were There,” picking out fourteen eyewitnesses to Holy Week. Some of their voices will be in our Holy Week devotional, and some are in this sermon series. Today’s voices are those of the men who buried Jesus, Joseph of Arimathea and (in John’s Gospel) Nicodemus. Theirs was an act not only of devotion but, of genuine sacrifice after Christ’s own sacrificial death.

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

Palm Sunday

March 28, 2021

PRELUDE

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

Margaret Cox
Pianist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: What is born of flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.

People: We must be born anew.

Leader: God's spirit blows wherever it wishes.

People: We hear its sound, but know not where it comes from or where it is going.

Leader: It's the same with everyone born of the Spirit.

People: The one whom God sent speaks God's words because God gives the Spirit generously.

Eve Harman
Worship Leader

(John 3:6-8, 34, CEB)

HYMN OF PRAISE

"All Glory Laud and Honor"

*All glory laud and honor to you Redeemer King
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring
You are a child of Israel, great David's greater Son
You ride in lowly triumph, Messiah, Blessed One*

*The company of angels are praising you on high
And we with all creation in chorus make reply
The people of the Hebrews with palms before you went
Our praise & prayer & anthems before you we present*

*To you before the passion they sang the hymns of praise
To you now high exalted, our melody we raise
As you received their praises, now hear us as we pray
Since you delight in goodness, rule in our hearts today*

INVOCATION

Eve Harman
Worship Leader

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Majestic Lord, as we sing Hosannas to your Son's name on this Palm Sunday, we also take to heart the meaning of hosanna: Lord, save us. We pray to you to save us from illness and injury, to help us lift each other out of insecurity and poverty, and to lead us into the paradise which awaits us. As we gather, we remember those who are most urgently in need of your presence. We pray to you for the people we have named aloud and the people 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

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Make My Life an Alleluia," Ruth Elaine Schram

Linda Reeves

SCRIPTURE

John 19:38-42

Eve Harman
Worship Leader

MESSAGE

"Joseph of Arimathea & Nicodemus"

Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson

HYMN

"Abide With Me"

*Abide with me, fast falls the eventide
The darkness deepens, God with me abide
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee
Help of the helpless, O abide with me*

*Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away
Change and decay in all around I see
O thou who changest not, abide with me*

*I need thy presence every passing hour
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me*

*Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies
Heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee
In life, in death, O God, abide with me*

**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.

*Eve Harman
Worship Leader*

**OFFERTORY
PRAYER**

*Eve Harman
Worship Leader*

**CALL TO
COMMUNION**

May we remember how the palms and cloaks laid forth on this day make a path to the Lord's table, and that by laying out our own palms and cloaks we build that path.

Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson

**COMMUNION
HYMN**

"Here, Savior, We Would Come"

*Here, Savior, we would come in your appointed way
Obedient to your high command
Our solemn vows to pay*

*O bless this sacred rite to make us whole and free
Now may we serve with faithfulness and love eternally*

**COMMUNION
PRAYER**

Conclude by praying together the Lord's Prayer

*Clarence Sellers
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 Lord who has met you in the crowds singing Hosanna send you forth into our holy city here, to carry these Hosannas on your heart and lips. May the blessing of the Lord be with you on this day and all days. Amen.

Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson

POSTLUDE

"Lift High the Cross"

*Margaret Cox
Pianist*

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

