



Valley Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Dear Friend in Christ,

We would be very pleased to have you join our Sunday morning worship on Zoom by using the following instructions.

Please use these phone numbers and links between 10:15am and 10:30am Central Time. 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 and click on “Links to Zoom” then click on the Sunday Worship link.)

I look forward to seeing you on Sunday!

Christ's and yours,

Pastor Edd Spencer

Valley Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

2600 Cherokee Place, Birmingham, Alabama 35216

205-879-0419

office@vccbhm.org

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 26, 2023

THE BLESSING OF GATHERING

PRELUDE

*"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross/
In the Cross of Christ I Glory"*

*Margaret Cox
Pianist*

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Clarence Sellers
Worship Leader*

*INVITING WORDS TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Beneath the cross of Jesus,

We have come to take our stand.

Beneath the cross of Jesus,

His love makes us able to stand;

Able to stand free of condemnation;

Able to stand for justice and compassion.

Come, O Lord, and make us strong

Beneath the cross of Jesus. Amen

*Clarence Sellers
Worship Leader*

*HYMN OF PRAISE

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

p. 197
All Verses

*INVITING PRAYER

*Clarence Sellers
Worship Leader*

EXTINGUISHING THE FIRST LENTEN CANDLE

"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."

*Judy Sellers
Elder*

THE GIFT OF THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Edd Spencer

SCRIPTURE

John 3:16 (NT p.94)

*Clarence Sellers
Worship Leader*

SERMON

*"The Celtic Cross
The Circle of Eternal Life"*

Rev. Edd Spencer

OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*HYMN OF DEDICATION

"Crown Him With Many Crowns"

p. 234
Verses 1, 2 & 4

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Prayer cards are in the pews

Rev. Edd Spencer

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Edd Spencer

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

Giving of Tithes, Offerings and Week of Compassion Offering

*Clarence Sellers
Worship Leader*

Offertory

"I Love You, Lord"

*Margaret Cox
Pianist*

Doxology

Offertory Prayer

p.47

THE GIFT FROM JESUS

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Rev. Edd Spencer

COMMUNION PRAYER

Conclude by praying together the Lord's Prayer

*Judy 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."

Our deacons will come by each pew to serve you individually wrapped communion elements. Please partake of communion together when the pastor says "take eat and take drink"

SHARING GOD'S LOVE WITH OTHERS

*CLOSING HYMN

"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

p. 349
Verses 1-2

BENEDICTION

Rev. Edd Spencer

POSTLUDE

"The Power of the Cross"

*Margaret Cox
Pianist*

*Congregation standing – as able or willing

We welcome all our guests who are worshipping with us today at Valley Christian Church. We hope that you find it a meaningful experience and that you will come our way again soon. Please join us in the parlor after the service for a time of coffee and fellowship.

Life in the Valley

- Sunday, Feb 26 First Sunday in Lent – The Celtic Cross
Week of Compassion Offering
10:30am Worship (Sanctuary)
- Monday, Feb 27 6:00pm Embellishments Bell Choir Group (Yellow Room)
- Tuesday, Feb 28 6:30pm Adult Sunday School Class by Zoom
- Wednesday, Mar 1 11:30am Brown Bag Luncheon (Parlor)
12:00pm - Jesus Cleanses the Temple (Sanctuary)
- Saturday, Mar 4 9:00am Valley Work Day
Flora Richardson's Birthday
- Sunday, Mar 5 Second Sunday in Lent – The St. Andrews Cross
Food Pantry Sunday – Peas and Beans – canned or dried
Holy Week Devotionals.Due

Church office hours: 8:00 am – noon, Monday – Friday
Pastor Edd's office hours: 8:00 am – noon, Monday – Wednesday

Today's Servers

WORSHIP LEADER: Clarence Sellers ELDER: Judy Sellers DEACONS/GREETER: Team 1 –
Captain: Beth Collier Members: Terry Nunnally, John Gregory and Jean Thrasher OPEN: Pastor
CLOSE: John Gregory COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Ginny Guindon

Wednesday Lenten Service

This Wednesday, March 1st at 11:30am, is our Brown Bag Lunch and Lenten Worship Service. Please bring your lunch and special dessert will be provided after lunch. At 12:00noon we will gather in the sanctuary for worship. This year is "The Sounds of the Passion". This Wednesday we will hear the sounds of Jesus turning over the tables of the money changers in the Temple. Invite a friend.

Week of Compassion

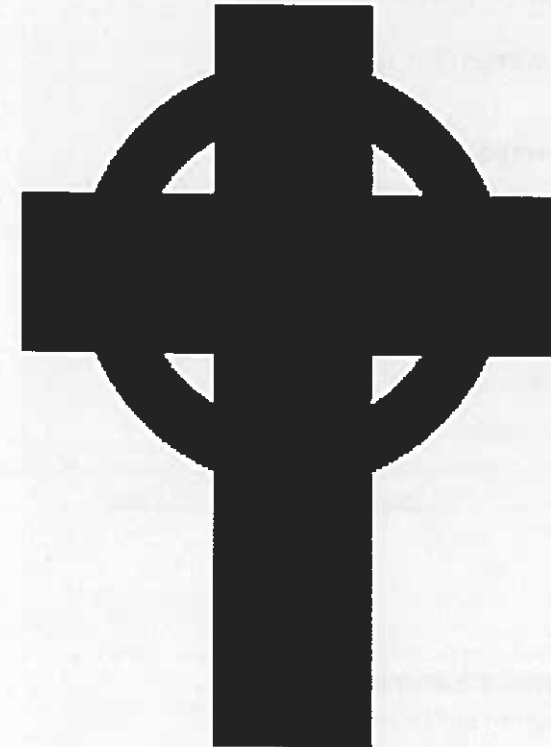
We are still receiving donations for the Week of Compassion. Please remember that because of WOC, "God's Mercies Rise Up Anew" each day.

Valley Christian Church

The Lenten Crosses Sermon Series

First Sunday in Lent

February 26, 2023



The Celtic Cross

The Celtic Cross is unique by the manner in which a circle is combined with a traditional Roman Cross. The circle symbolizes eternity; this cross reminds us of the eternal effect of our salvation secured through the death of Christ on the cross. Since a circle is without beginning or ending, it also symbolizes continuity and completeness with God – The creator and sustainer of a world without end. The blessing of the Celtic Cross is on the top of our sanctuary.