

# ***THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT***

***March 26, 2023***

## ***THE BLESSING OF GATHERING***

### **PRELUDE**

*“Chopin, Op. 28 No. 4”*

*John Neville  
Pianist*

### **GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **\*INVITING WORDS TO WORSHIP** (Responsive)

We gather here today, O Lord, in hope of the promise of life.

**You have defeated death and made eternal life available to all,**

And not just eternal life in the future.

**You make eternal life available to us in this life now.**

That our lives may take on an eternal quality even as we live day to day.

**O Lord, help us to live the life you have given each one of us fully every day**

**and to share the story of your eternal love with others. To you be the glory.**

*Judy Sellers  
Worship Leader*

*Judy Sellers  
Worship Leader*

### **\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

*“We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations”*

Hymn 484  
All Verses

### **\*INVITING PRAYER**

*Judy Sellers  
Worship Leader*

### **EXTINGUISHING THE FIFTH LENTEN CANDLE**

“I thirst”

*Carolyn Nunnally  
Elder*

## ***THE GIFT OF THE WORD***

### **CHILDREN’S MOMENT**

*Rev. Edd Spencer*

### **SCRIPTURE**

Exodus 12:21-23 (OT p. 58)

John 10:1-10 (NT p. 103)

*Judy Sellers  
Worship Leader*

### **SERMON**

*“The Jerusalem Cross  
The Love of God”*

*Rev. Edd Spencer*

## ***OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD***

### **\*HYMN OF DEDICATION**

*“Amazing Grace!”*

Hymn 546  
Verses 1, 2 & 3

### **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

Prayer cards are in the pews

*Rev. Edd Spencer*

### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

*Rev. Edd Spencer*

### **STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE**

Giving of Tithes,

Offerings

Offertory

*“Chopin prelude Op. 28 No. 6”*

*Judy Sellers  
Worship Leader*

*John Neville  
Pianist*

Hymn 48

\*Doxology

\*Offertory Prayer

## ***THE GIFT FROM JESUS***

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

*Rev. Edd Spencer*

### **COMMUNION PRAYER**

Conclude by praying together the Lord’s Prayer

*Carolyn Nunnally  
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**

*“Lead On, O King Eternal”*

Hymn 632  
Verses 1 & 3

### **\*BENEDICTION**

*Rev. Edd Spencer*

### **POSTLUDE**

*“Gymnopedie No. 1 by Satie”*

*John Neville  
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, Mar 26	Fifth Sunday in Lent – The Jerusalem Cross Distribute Holy Week Booklets
Monday, Mar 27	6:00pm Embellishments Bell Choir Group (Yellow Room)
Tuesday, Mar 28	9:00am BQG Retreat (Fellowship) 6:30pm Adult Sunday School Class by Zoom
Wednesday, Mar 29	9:00am BQG Retreat (Fellowship) 9:00am New Horizons (Sanctuary) 11:30am Brown Bag Luncheon (Parlor) 12:00pm Worship – The Nails
Thursday, Mar 30	9:00am New Horizons (Fellowship) 10:30am Disciples Women (Parlor)
Friday, Mar 31	9:00am New Horizons (Fellowship)
Saturday, Apr 1	9:00am Valley Work Day
Sunday, Apr 2	Palm Sunday Sixth Sunday in Lent Easter Offering Food Pantry Sunday – canned fruit

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

### Today's Servers

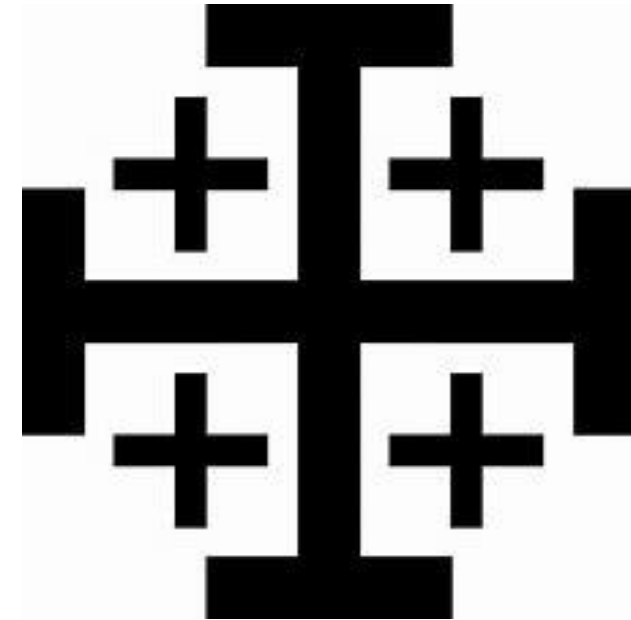
WORSHIP LEADER: Judy Sellers ELDER: Carolyn Nunnelly DEACONS/GREETER: Team 2 –  
Captain: Peggi Zinser Members: Carol Speed, Clarence Sellers and Ted Stuckenschneider  
OPEN: Pastor CLOSE: Peggi Zinser COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Sarah Draper

# *Valley Christian Church*

## **The Lenten Crosses Sermon Series**

### **Fifth Sunday in Lent**

*March 26, 2023*



## **The Jerusalem Cross**

This cross is composed of four Old Testament Tau crosses with their bases joined at the center. Prior to the coming of the plague of the angel of death in Egypt, the Israelites made a mark in the form of a “T” called a Tau cross upon the doorposts of their houses. This mark was made with blood of a sacrificed lamb and the angel of death “passed over” every house marked with the cross of blood. The four small Greek crosses symbolize the four gospels which have displaced the mosaic law depicted by the Tau cross. We are reminded that we have passed from the “Law of Moses” to the “Love of God” revealed through the death of Christ on the cross.