



# worship

at Altadena Valley Presbyterian Church

# Welcome to Altadena Valley

## **We are glad you are here.**

Please visit our website at [www.avpc.org](http://www.avpc.org) for more information about our beliefs, our staff and our ministries.

Here are a few details which might be helpful to you.

- Children are always welcome to participate in worship with their families. But, in case you need it, we do offer childcare for children ages 3 and under during both morning services. Please ask an usher or greeter for directions to where the childcare area is located.
- Children ages 4 through Grade 1 are invited to attend Worship Center. They may meet their teachers in the Welcome Center after the Pastoral Prayer. (The worship leader will indicate when the children can exit the sanctuary.) If you are a first- or second-time visitor, please walk with your child so you are able to register them. Children may be picked up in Sunday School classes after the early service and in the Worship Center Room after the late service.
- A Nursing Mother's room, with an audio feed of the service, is located just outside the Sanctuary, next to the Parlor.
- As part of our discipleship efforts, we are pleased to offer Sunday School for all ages during the hours of 9:45-10:45. Information sheets with a location map of all classes and a list of topics for the adult classes are available in the Welcome Center and Parlor.

If you are visiting with us, we would love an opportunity to get to know you better. Please scan the QR code below, or sign the pew registry pad. We give our first-time visitors a small gift, which you can get in the Welcome Center or Narthex.

*In consideration of others, please silence all electronic devices.*



# ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 14, 2024 | 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

## PRELUDE

### **“Christ, the Sure and Steady Anchor”**

Christ, the sure and steady anchor in the fury of the storm,  
When the winds of doubt blow through me and my sails have all been torn.  
In the suffering, in the sorrow, when my sinking hopes are few,  
I will hold fast to the anchor; it shall never be removed.

Christ, the sure and steady anchor while the tempest rages on,  
When temptation claims the battle and it seems the night has won.  
Deeper still then goes the anchor, though I justly stand accused,  
I will hold fast to the anchor; it shall never be removed.

Christ, the sure and steady anchor through the floods of unbelief.  
Hopeless, somehow, O my soul, now lift your eyes to Calvary.  
This my ballast of assurance, see his love forever proved.  
I will hold fast to the anchor; it shall never be removed.

Christ, the sure and steady anchor as we face the wave of death,  
When these trials give way to glory, and we draw our final breath.  
We will cross that great horizon, clouds behind, and life secured.  
And the calm will be the better for the storms that we endured.  
Christ the shore of our salvation, ever faithful, ever true.  
We will hold fast to the anchor; it shall never be removed.

Words and music by Matthew Boswell and Matthew Papa.

*Our prelude serves as a “gathering song,” signalling to the congregation when the worship service is about to begin. We encourage you to use this time to prepare your hearts for worship.*

*Through God's Word, his people are called to enter into his presence in corporate worship.*

## **CALL TO WORSHIP • Adapted from Psalm 48**

(Leader) Great is the LORD, and most worthy of praise, in the city of our God, his holy mountain. Beautiful in its loftiness, the joy of the whole earth is Mount Zion, the city of the Great King. God is in her citadels; he has shown himself to be her fortress.

**(Congregation) As we have heard, so we have seen in the city of the LORD Almighty, in the city of our God: God makes her secure forever.**

(Leader) Within your temple, O God, we meditate on your unfailing love. Like your name, O God, your praise reaches to the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with righteousness.

**(All) For this God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even to the end.**

## **INVOCATION**

### **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Our welcome of one another is a tangible expression of God's welcome to us.*

### **THE WELCOME OF GOD**

## SONGS OF PRAISE

PLEASE STAND

### **“Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!”**

Jesus! What a friend for sinners!  
Jesus! Lover of my soul;  
Friends may fail me, foes assail me,  
He, my Savior, makes me whole.  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!  
Hallelujah! What a friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,  
He is with me to the end.

Jesus! What a strength in weakness!  
Let me hide myself in him;  
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,  
He, my strength, my vict'ry wins.  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!  
Hallelujah! What a friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,  
He is with me to the end.

Jesus! What a help in sorrow!  
While the billows o'er me roll,  
Even when my heart is breaking,  
He, my comfort helps my soul.  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!  
Hallelujah! What a friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,  
He is with me to the end.

Jesus! I do now receive him,  
More than all in him I find;  
He hath granted me forgiveness,  
I am his, and he is mine.  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!  
Hallelujah! What a friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,  
He is with me to the end.

## **“Steadfast”**

I will build my house whether storm or drought,  
On the rock that does not move.  
I will set my hope in your love, O Lord,  
And your faithfulness will prove.  
You are steadfast, steadfast.

By the word you spoke, all the starry host  
Are called out by name each night.  
In your watchful care, I will rest secure  
As you lead us with your light.  
You are steadfast, steadfast.  
You are steadfast, steadfast.

I will not trust in the strength of kings;  
On your promise I will stand.  
I will shout for joy, I will raise my voice,  
“Hallelujah to the Lamb!”  
You are steadfast, steadfast.  
You are steadfast, steadfast.

In the moment of emptiness, all was fulfilled,  
In the hour of darkness, your light was revealed.  
In the presence of death, your life was affirmed.  
In the absence of holiness, you are still God.  
You are steadfast, steadfast.  
You are steadfast, steadfast.  
You are steadfast, steadfast.  
You are steadfast, steadfast.

Words and Music by Joshua Silverberg, Leslie Jordan, and Sandra McCracken.

## **"For the Beauty"**

For the beauty of the earth,  
For the glory of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth  
Over and around us lies;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise,  
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour  
Of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
Sun and moon, and stars of light;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise,  
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love,  
Brother, sister, parent, child,  
Friends on earth and friends above,  
For all gentle thoughts and mild;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise,  
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For each perfect gift of thine  
To our race so freely given,  
Graces human and divine,  
Flowers of earth and buds of Heaven;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise,  
This our hymn of grateful praise.

*Every month in  
Sunday School,  
our children learn  
a new hymn. "For  
the Beauty of the  
Earth" is April's  
"Hymn of the  
Month."*

## **CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**O God, Lover of the loveless,**

**It is your will that we should love you,  
with heart, soul, mind, and strength  
and our neighbors as ourselves.**

**But we are not sufficient for these things.**

**There is by nature no pure love in our souls;  
Every affection in us is turned away from you;  
We are bound, as slaves, to lust.**

**We cannot love you,  
lovely as you are,  
until you have set us free.**

**By grace we are free,  
and we would serve you,  
for you are God,  
and through Jesus we are redeemed,  
and our sins are forgiven.**

**Order all our ways by your holy Word  
and make your commandments the joy of our hearts.**

**May we grow in your love  
and manifest it to all humankind.**

**Spirit of Love,  
make us like the loving Jesus  
that we may shine before others to your glory.**

**In his name we pray. Amen.**

Adapted from The Valley of Vision: "Christian Love."

*We encourage you  
to use this time for  
silent reflection.*

## **SILENT CONFESSION**



## ASSURANCE OF PARDON • 1 John 4:9-11, 19

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation\* for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

**(All) We love because he first loved us. Thanks be to God.**

*\*Propitiation refers to the turning away of the wrath of God, the just judgment of our sin, by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross.*

## HYMN OF RESPONSE • #648

PLEASE STAND

### **“My Jesus, I Love Thee”**

My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;  
For thee all the follies of sin I resign.  
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou;  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love thee because thou hast first loved me,  
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.  
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I'll love thee in life, I will love thee in death;  
And praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath;  
And say, when the death dew lies cold on my brow:  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight,  
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;  
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow:  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

*(8:30 AM Service) Michael & Wendy Weber*

*(11:00 AM Service) Claude & Tina Dorsey, Gloria Hall, Melanie Rogers*

### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

*(At this time, children ages 4 through Grade 1 are invited to attend Worship Center. They will exit to the Welcome Center to meet their teachers. If you are a first- or second-time visitor, please walk with your child so you are able to register them. Children may be picked up in Sunday School classes after the early service and in the Worship Center Room after the late service.)*

### **SCRIPTURE READING • 2 Corinthians 13:11-14**

<sup>13:11</sup> Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

<sup>12</sup> Greet one another with a holy kiss. <sup>13</sup> All the saints greet you.

<sup>14</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

## **SERMON • “The Holy Kiss” Rev. Brad Allison**

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We come today to our final sermon on the “one another” passages of the New Testament, and our topic today is one that may be a little surprising to some. “Greet one another with a holy kiss.” It’s likely that very few of you have ever heard a sermon on this verse, but that will soon be corrected. In contrast to our relative inattention given to this, the New Testament repeats this command five times. It is a physical and bodily expression of love for one another. Though we only have two sacraments in the church, and this is not one of them (the two being baptism and the Lord’s Supper), there is a sacramental quality to this holy kiss. What I mean by that is that it is an expression or symbol, and an intensifier, of our love for another. I want to point out three features of this holy kiss.

### **I. Love**

### **II. Touch**

### **III. Dependence**

*As an act of  
worship, we give  
back to God a  
portion of our  
many blessings.*

## **GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

### **SONG OF RESPONSE**

#### **“Oh, How Good It Is”**

*“Oh, how good it  
is when the family  
of God dwells  
together in spirit,  
in faith and unity;  
where the bonds  
of peace and  
acceptance and  
love are the fruit  
of his presence  
here among us.”*

Oh, how good it is when the family of God dwells together in spirit, in faith and unity; where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love, are the fruit of his presence here among us. So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord, and with one heart we'll live out his Word, till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has come, for he dwells in the presence of his people. Oh, how good it is on this journey we share to rejoice with the happy and weep with those who mourn; for the weak find strength, the afflicted find grace when we offer the blessing of belonging. Oh, how good it is to embrace his command, to prefer one another, forgive as he forgives. When we live as one, we all share in the love of the Son with the Father and the Spirit.

Words and Music by Keith and Kristyn Getty, Ross Holmes, and Stuart Townend.

## HYMN OF RESPONSE • #111

PLEASE STAND

### “This is My Father’s World”

This is my Father’s world, and to my list’ning ears,  
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father’s world: I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father’s world, the birds their carols raise,  
The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker’s praise.  
This is my Father’s world: he shines in all that’s fair;  
In the rustling grass I hear him pass, he speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father’s world, O let me ne’er forget  
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.  
This is my Father’s world: the battle is not done;  
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heav’n be one.

This is my Father’s world: the battle is not done;  
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heav’n be one.

## BENEDICTION

*Our worship  
concludes with  
God sending us  
into the world  
with his blessing.*

## POSTLUDE

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### WEEKLY BIBLE READING (April 15 - April 21)

1 Samuel 17-18 • 1 Samuel 19-20 • 1 Samuel 21-22 • Psalm 22; 1 Samuel 24 • 1 Samuel 28, 31

# Announcements

**OUR MISSION OF THE WEEK** is Restoration Academy, which provides a quality and Christ-centered education to students from Birmingham's inner-city. Their goal is to restore a legacy of hope and character, and a love for learning in their students, grades K5-12.

- **MEMBERSHIP NIGHT:** Are you thinking about church membership at Altadena? Come to our next Membership Night this Friday, April 19. Dinner is served at 6:00 PM, followed by an informational meeting. You can sign up on the AVPC website. Today is the deadline to register.
- **GHK ART SHOW:** The GHK Art Show Fundraiser will be this Thursday, April 18, at 5:00 PM. Admission is \$10.00 and includes dinner. There will also be a bake sale, silent auction, and activities for the kids. Sign up by using the link in our weekly newsletter or by visiting our church website.
- **CHURCH-WIDE TALENT SHOW:** Join us April 20 from 6:30 to 8:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall for the third annual AVPC Really Has Talent Show, benefiting the summer youth mission trip. All ages are welcome! If you would like to sign up to perform a talent, you can do so on the church website.
- **WOMEN'S LUNCHEON:** The next women's small group luncheon will be next Sunday, April 21. For our small group luncheons, we gather in groups of 6-8, with one person acting as hostess. We hope you join in to establish or renew some connections with your sisters in Christ at AVPC. RSVP to Heather Sommer ([heather@avpc.org](mailto:heather@avpc.org)) by April 15, and please consider volunteering to be a hostess.
- **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** The Session is calling a congregational meeting next Sunday, April 21, at 9:45 AM in the sanctuary. Two items of business will be considered. The first will be to vote on recommending that presbytery dissolve the pastoral relation between AVPC and Brad Allison, effective July 1, 2024. The second will be to vote on a change in Article IX of our by-laws, concerning church trustees. The text of these by-laws changes can be found in the Parlor and Welcome Center.
- **COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE:** Next Sunday, April 21, we are hosting a blood drive through Lifesouth Community Bloodcenters in Altadena Park from 12:30 – 7:00 PM. No appointment is necessary, but you may schedule a time on the Lifesouth website.
- **PRAYER SERVICE:** Next Sunday, April 21, from 5:15 – 6:15 PM the Prayer Ministry Team will be hosting a time of prayer in the Sanctuary. Prayer prompts will be available with an emphasis on the Pastoral transition process. We encourage small groups to attend this service in lieu of their regular meeting. Childcare will be available for children ages 4 and under.
- **SENIOR BRUNCH:** All high school seniors are invited to a brunch at the home of Blake and Danielle Harris (608 Forest Lakes Drive) on next Sunday, April 21 from 12:45 – 2:00 PM.
- **CAMP SOLID ROCK:** Camp Solid Rock camper registration is open! Children from K4 through 5th grade are invited to join us June 10 – 13. We invite kids in our church family to learn timeless truths of the Bible through drama, songs, stories, games, and crafts. Grab a pamphlet from the Welcome Center or Parlor or you can register on our website.

# Calendar

## SUNDAY (APRIL 14)

8:30 AM      Worship Service  
                  Brad | 2 Corinthians 13:11-14  
 9:45 AM      Sunday School  
 11:00 AM     Worship Service  
 5:00 PM      Youth Group  
                  Kid's Bridge Night  
                  Community Groups  
                  Men's Bible Study - Parker Home

## MONDAY (APRIL 15)

6:30 AM      Men's Bible Study - Fellowship Hall  
 3:00 PM      WTW Bible Study - Klose Home

## TUESDAY (APRIL 16)

7:00 PM      Session Meeting

## WEDNESDAY (APRIL 17)

9:00 AM      WTW Bible Study - Church Parlor  
 5:00 PM      Pastoral Search Committee Meeting  
 6:00 PM      WTW Bible Study - Parker Home  
 6:15 PM      Praise Team Rehearsal  
 6:30 PM      Community Groups

## THURSDAY (APRIL 18)

9:00 AM      Men's Coffee  
 5:00 PM      GHK Art Show

## FRIDAY (APRIL 19)

1:00 PM      WTW Bible Study - Bates Home  
 6:00 PM      Membership Night

## SATURDAY (APRIL 20)

6:00 PM      Church Wide Talent Show

## SUNDAY (APRIL 21)

8:30 AM      Worship Service  
                  Brad | Psalm 1  
 9:45 AM      Congregational Meeting  
 10:00 AM     Sunday School  
 11:00 AM     Worship Service  
 12:30 PM     Women's Small Group Luncheon  
 12:45 PM     Community Blood Drive  
                  Senior Brunch  
 5:00 PM      Kid's Bridge Night  
                  Men's Bible Study - Parker Home  
 5:15 PM      Prayer Service  
 6:30 PM      Fellowship Dinner

**SAVE THE DATE - MORE INFORMATION COMING**

### SPRING 2024 EVENTS

April 21 – Prayer Service                      May 12 – Mother's Day Brunch  
 April 21 – Fellowship Dinner                June 10 -13 – Camp Solid Rock  
 May 5 – Youth Sunday

	<b>Contributions for the Week</b>	<b>Year-To-Date Contributions</b>	<b>Year-To-Date Requirements</b>	<b>Over(Under) Budget</b>
<b>General Fund</b>	\$41,052	\$479,806	\$382,460	\$97,346
<b>Faith Promise</b>	\$3,610	\$88,471	\$73,254	\$15,216

## AVPC VISION

A community of Christ's coming kingdom, bringing hope to a broken world.

## AVPC MISSION

Loving God and loving others as we are transformed by his love.

## PASTORAL STAFF

Bradford E. Allison  
*Senior Pastor*

Stephen Whitner  
*Associate Pastor—Worship*

Michael MacCaughelty  
*Associate Pastor—Outreach/Mercy*

Blake Harris  
*Associate Pastor—Adult Ministries*

## CHURCH LEADERS

### ELDERS

Paul Barber Steve Barley Brian Beckett Grahame Bobo Brent McClenny Jack Morris  
Barry Parker Karl Poythress Thomas Prettyman Danny Wachs John Wimberly

### DEACONS

Woody Armstrong Hunter Boggs Zac Campbell David Coley Steve Driggers Al Foster Trey Holmes Matt Jackson  
Russell Lloyd Tom McCallum Josh Moore John Peters Darren Popwell Josh Putman Drew Russell Bill Sommer Ed Wofford

### WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Heather Sommer  
*Women's Ministry Director*

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Catie Lumpkin Allie Campbell  
*Children's Director Nursery Director*

Mary Frances Snyder  
*Children's Administrative Assistant*

Amanda Amerson  
*Children's Ministry Assistant*

### YOUNG ADULTS & MEN'S MINISTRIES

Blake Harris  
*Associate Pastor*

### YOUTH MINISTRIES

Clint Cvacho  
*Youth Director*

Callen Moyer  
*Girls' Discipleship Director*

Benjamin Lumpkin  
*Youth Worship Intern*

### ADMINISTRATIVE AND FACILITY

Anna Waldrip  
*Church Administrator*

Connor Bingham  
*Administrative Assistant*

Dave Mayhew Heather Sommer  
*Facilities Manager Financial Administrator*

Michael Bobo Hillary Gamble  
*IT Director Kitchen Coordinator*

### WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Heather Sommer  
*Worship Ministry Assistant*

Young jin Jeon  
*Organist*

Carol Apol & Ricky Klose  
*Sound Ministry Directors*