ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD

"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

– Isaiah 43:2

February 28, 2021 | Second Sunday of Lent | 10:40 a.m.

"Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price."

Prelude — What a Friend We Have in Jesus — arr. Hobby
Ms. Lisa Barry, organ

Welcome

* Responsive Call to Worship — Isaiah 55:6-7

Seek the Lord while He may be found;
Call upon Him while He is near;
Let the wicked forsake His way,
And the unrighteous man his thoughts;
Let him return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on him,
And to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

* Hymn — How Firm a Foundation — FOUNDATION

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said,
To You who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed;
For I am your God, and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call you to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
And sanctify to you your deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply;
The flame shall not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine."

* Affirmation of Faith — Heidelberg Catechism

Q. What is your only comfort, in life and in death?
A. That I belong—in body and soul, in life and in death—not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ, who at the cost of His own blood has fully paid for all my sins and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil; that He protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that everything must fit His purpose for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

* Congregational Response — FOUNDATION

"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

* Prayer of Adoration

"'Comfort, comfort my people,' says your God. 'Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned.'"

Old Testament Lesson — Isaiah 51:17-23

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

General Prayer of Confession

Almighty Father, in the gospel, You offer to remove the cup of Your wrath and invite us to drink from the cup of Your salvation. If left to ourselves, we confess that we would choose the cup of wrath and continue to stagger in our sin. Yet You have not left us to ourselves. Knowing this, we seek forgiveness and salvation through the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, who pleads for us. In His name we pray. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Prayer of Intercession

Assurance of Pardon — Pastor Jim Bachmann

* Hymn — He Will Hold Me Fast — Merker

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last;
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied, He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast
'Till our faith is turned to sight when He comes at last!

"Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?"

God's Tithe and Our Offerings

Anthem — For the Beauty of the Earth — Rutter
Stephens Valley Church Choir

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies. Lord of all, to Thee we raise this, our joyful hymn of 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 joyful hymn of 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 joyful hymn of 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 joyful hymn of praise.

"So shall My word be that goes out from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose."

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Lesson — Mark 14:32-42

All flesh is grass, and all its loveliness is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever.

Sermon — Going to Gethsemane — Pastor Heath Cross

Prayer of Supplication

"On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food."

Words of Institution

Breaking the Bread — O Sacred Head Now Wounded — arr. Bedard
Ms. Lisa Barry, organ

Sharing the Cup

* Hymn — What a Friend We Have in Jesus — WHAT A FRIEND

What a Friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry ev'rything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry ev'rything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged: take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness—take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.

* Benediction

* Postlude — Jesus, Still Lead On — Manz
Ms. Lisa Barry, organ

* congregation standing

– ANNOUNCEMENTS –

Greetings: We warmly welcome everyone to our service this morning. If you are visiting today, you are encouraged to stop by and meet one of our pastors in the lobby after the service. The flowers in the Fellowship Hall today are given in loving memory of Martha Jane Peeples Avery by her family.

Sign In: We ask that everyone register their attendance this morning by signing the black attendance booklets available on the tables in the vestibule. For our virtual attenders, you will find a link to our virtual attendance pad underneath the video.

Sympathy: We express our sympathy to Robert Pennekamp due to the recent passing of his mother, and to John Avery in the recent passing of his mother.

IN MEMORIAM

Martha Jane Peeples Avery

May 21, 1927—February 24, 2021

Thank You: "Terry and I thank all of you for your continuing prayers and numerous expressions of caring during my recent surgery and ongoing healing. We have been blessed beyond measure as your prayers have carried us through these days and weeks. We are most grateful to be part of such a loving church family." — Beverly Warren

Thank you for your donations to our warm clothing drive! Thus far we have donated FIVE car loads full of coats, scarves, gloves, etc. We will continue to collect and deliver to the Nashville Rescue Mission through Sunday, March 14.

Wednesday Night Bible Study and Dinner: Make plans to attend dinner and Bible study this Wednesday, March 3, at 5:15 p.m. The cost is $10/person with a cap of $30/family. Reservations are required and can be made through the church website. The menu for 3/3 is poppyseed chicken, squash and cheese casserole, baked apples, fresh broccoli salad, yeast rolls, and caramel cake.

Pictures: In order to populate the online church directory, we need to take your picture. Look for Deena Russell in the lobby over the next several weeks. She will take your picture and the church office will upload it to the directory. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

The Council has called a corporation meeting for Sunday, April 11, immediately following the worship service to amend Article IV, Section 3 of our by-laws in the following manner: "The terms of the members of the Council shall be staggered. There shall be three (3) relatively equal classes serving three (3) years each. The classes will be ordered in such a way that one third of the Council membership completes a term of service each year. *Elders in their first year of service are not eligible to serve on the Council.* Following a completed term of service on the Council the members of that class will ~~take a one (1) year sabbatical. During the sabbatical year the Elder will~~ be in reserve and will not be required to attend Council meetings although he may attend Council meetings and be heard regarding any item of business or discussion. He may, however, continue service on Council committees *while in reserve* ~~during his sabbatical year~~ as may be mutually agreed upon between the Elder and the Council." Please speak to one of our pastors or your shepherding elder if you have any questions.

– THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR –

Today, 9:00 a.m.	Officers' Prayer Time
Today, 9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
Today, 10:40 a.m.	Worship service
Today, 3:00 p.m.	DivorceCare (online via Zoom)
Today, 5:00 p.m.	GriefShare (online via Zoom)
Monday, 9:00 a.m.	Sabbatical Search Career Group
Monday, 2:30 p.m.	SVC Missions meeting
Tuesday, 9:00 a.m.	SVC Women's Bible Study leaders (Rutherford Room)
Tuesday, 10:00 a.m.	SVC Women's Bible Study
Tuesday, 4:00 p.m.	Sweet Half Hour of Prayer (St. Paul Chapel, first floor)
Wednesday, 4:30 p.m.	Prayer Time (Room 201A)
Wednesday, 5:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Dinner
Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.	Wednesday Night Bible Study
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.	Choir rehearsal
Friday, 9:00 a.m.	SVC Men's Bible Study (Café)

Financial Report

Weekly Offering Needed	$32,966
February 21 General Fund Offering	$20,235
Total February General Fund Offering	$65,205
Current 2021 General Fund Deficit	$131,858
February 21 Building Fund received	$4,860
February Building Fund received	$7,079

CHURCH STAFF

S. James Bachmann Jr., Senior Pastor
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Stephens Valley Church (SVC) cleans regularly with products designed specifically to neutralize COVID-19, including weekly cleaning of all public spaces used during worship, and more frequent cleaning of common areas used intermittently during the week. In addition, SVC conducts temperature checks upon entry, provides hand sanitizer and masks, and encourages social distancing, handwashing, and other means of personal protection. We have also restructured our communion, offering, and attendance pad process to avoid person to person handling. Davidson County lists an exception to its mandatory mask requirements when attending a worship service by referring to Governor Lee's voluntary guidelines. Based on the Governor's recommendation to wear a face covering, we recommend wearing a mask as well, but this is a recommendation for voluntary compliance, which is a decision to be made by each individual. Despite these efforts, an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place or meeting where people are present as well as other inherent risks and dangers associated with public meetings. By your presence at SVC, you knowingly and voluntarily, accept, and assume responsibility for, each of these risks and dangers, including but not limited to COVID-19, and all other risks and dangers that could arise out of, or occur during, your use of the facilities at Stephens Valley Church.

Stephens Valley Church

Biblical, Reformed, Independent

Going to Gethsemane

February 28, 2021

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stephensvalleychurch.com