

ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD		
"In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps." – Proverbs 16:9		
April 25, 2021	Morning Worship	10:40 a.m.
"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you."		
Prelude	At the Name of Jesus Ms. Lisa Barry, organ	Phillips
Welcome		
Call to Worship		
* Responsive Call to Worship		
Glorious are You, more majestic than the mountains of prey. The stouthearted were stripped of their spoil; they sank into sleep; all the men of war were unable to use their hands. At Your rebuke, O God of Jacob, both rider and horse lay stunned. But You, You are to be feared! Who can stand before You once Your anger is aroused? From the heavens you uttered judgment; the earth feared and was still, when God arose to establish judgment, to save all the humble of the earth. Surely the wrath of man shall praise You; the remnants of wrath You will put on like a belt. Make your vows to the Lord your God and perform them; let all around Him bring gifts to Him who is to be feared, Who cuts off the spirit of princes, who is to be feared by the kings of the earth.		
* Hymn		
Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to His feet your tribute bring; Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who, like me, His praise should sing? Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.	Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven	ANDREWS
Praise Him for His grace and favor to our fathers in distress; Praise Him, still the same forever, slow to chide and swift to bless. Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in His faithfulness.		
Father-like, He tends and spares us; well our feeble frame He knows; In His hands He gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes. Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely as His mercy goes.		
Frail as summer’s flow’r we flourish, blows the wind and it is gone; But while mortals rise and perish, God endures unchanging on. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the High Eternal One.		
Angels, help us to adore Him; you behold Him face to face; Sun and moon, bow down before Him, dwellers all in time and space. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.		

* Prayer of Adoration

"I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no Savior."		
Gospel Lesson	Matthew 28:16-20	
This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!		
General Prayer of Confession		
Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we humbly ask Your forgiveness of our many sins. We understand that You are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and mercy. Show us Your mercy, Lord God. Wash us in the blood of Christ and purify us from all uncleanness. Sanctify us and use us to spread the gospel of life far and wide, that you may receive glory and honor, for the sake of Your dear Son, our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.		
Silent Prayers of Confession		
Prayer of Intercession		
The Lord's Prayer		
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.		
Assurance of Forgiveness	Pastor Heath Cross	
Hymn	Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It!	ADA
Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it! Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb; Redeemed through His infinite mercy, His child and forever, I am.		
Redeemed, redeemed, redeemed by the blood of the Lamb; Redeemed through His infinite mercy, His child and forever, I am.		
Redeemed and so happy in Jesus, No language my rapture can tell; I know that the light of His presence with me doth continually dwell.		
I think of my blessed Redeemer, I think of Him all the day long; I sing, for I cannot be silent; His love is the theme of my song.		
"You shall eat the wealth of the nations, and in their glory you shall boast."		
God's Tithe and Our Offerings		
Anthem	My Song in the Night	Wilberg
Stephens Valley Church Choir		

the desert Thy face to see, my comfort and joy, my soul's delight, O Jesus my Savior, my song in the night.		
* Presentation of Gifts	OLD HUNDREDTH	
Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise Him all creatures here below Praise Him above ye heavenly host Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.		
* Prayer of Dedication		
"Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food."		
Prayer for Illumination		
Old Testament Lesson	Esther 3:1-15	
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	The Evil Empire	Pastor Jim Bachmann
Prayer of Supplication		
"Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come buy and eat!"		
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper		
Words of Institution		
Breaking the Bread	The King of Love My Shepherd Is Mrs. Mary Margaret Culpepper, solo Mr. David German, piano	arr. Forrest
The King of love my Shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am His and He is mine forever. Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul He leadeth, and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love He sought me, and on His shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing brought me. And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never; Good Shepherd may I sing Thy praise within Thy house forever.		
Sharing the Cup		
* Hymn	Lift High the Cross	CRUCIFIER
Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim, Till all the world adore His sacred name.		
Come, brethren, follow where our Savior trod, Our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God.		
O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, As Thou hast promised, draw men unto Thee.		

Thy kingdom come, that earth’s despair may cease
Beneath the shadow of its healing peace.

For Thy blest cross which doth for us atone,
Creation’s praises rise before Thy throne.

* Benediction

* Postlude

CRUCIFIER

Ms. Lisa Barry, organ

arr. Manz

* congregation standing

– ANNOUNCEMENTS –

Welcome: We warmly welcome everyone to our service this morning and wish you a joyful time of worship! In particular we welcome our visitors and encourage you to stop by and meet our pastors if you have not already done so. The pastors will be greeting in the lobby and available to answer any questions you may have.

COVID protocol: Please be advised that the Rutherford Room is a “mask required” room. Worshipers who prefer to sit in the Rutherford Room or the Solid Rock Café will not pass offering plates, attendance pads, or communion trays. The plates and pads will be available in the room and communion will be served by an usher. If you need assistance or directions, please speak to one of our ushers.

Sympathy: We extend our sympathy to Don Dozier due to the recent passing of his daughter, Maria.

Starting Point: All visitors are invited and encouraged to attend our Starting Point class taught by Pastor Jim. The class will meet on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. through May 16 in the conference area of the office suite. Greeters will be happy to direct you when you arrive.

National Day of Prayer: In observance of the National Day of Prayer (May 5), the elders invite all members and visitors to gather in the Solid Rock Café at 9:00 a.m. next Sunday, May 2, for a time of prayer for our nation and other matters. We will conclude by 9:30 a.m. in time for Sunday School.

SVC Men's Bible Study: SVC Men's Bible study resumes on Friday, May 7 at 9:00 a.m. in the Solid Rock Café. We will be studying Colossians, Philippians, and Philemon and focusing on the fellowship of the Gospel and the supremacy of Christ. All men are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Craig Valentine.

Choir: Spring is a wonderful time to add your voice to our growing choir. We have plenty of room for more singers and invite you to check us out on Wednesday evening from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the choir room. It's a great place to serve the Lord and make some new friends. For more information, contact David German.

Mediterranean Study Cruise: Ligonier Ministries is sponsoring a study cruise of Greece, Turkey, Israel, and Cyprus aboard the Celebrity Apex October 17-29, 2022. Speakers include Steven Lawson, Robert Godfrey, and Burk Parsons. For further information, visit the Ligonier's website or contact the church office.

– 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
Monday, 9:00 a.m. Sabbatical Search Career Group
Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. Sweet Half Hour of Prayer (St. Paul Chapel, first floor)
Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal

Financial Update

Weekly Offering Needed	\$35,164
April 18 General Fund Offering	\$17,746
Total April General Fund Offering	\$121,885
Current 2021 General Fund Deficit	\$18,706
April 18 Building Fund received	\$87,535
April Building Fund received	\$94,740

CHURCH STAFF

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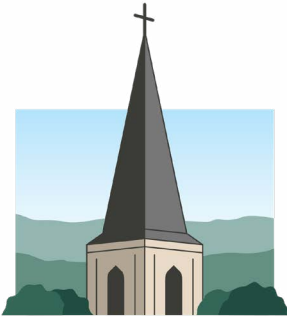
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Stephens Valley Church (SVC) cleans regularly with products designed specifically to neutralize COVID-19, including weekly cleaning of all public spaces used during worship, and more frequent cleaning of common areas used intermittently during the 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

The Evil Empire

April 25, 2021

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