



Wineville
Baptist Church



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

JANUARY 24, 2021

Ann Caldwell, organist

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Prelude	<i>Meditation on BEECHER</i>	arr. Glyncannon
Welcome and Invocation		Angela Blizzard
Scripture Reading	Psalm 27:1-5	Leigh Halverson
Hymn 633	<i>All the Way My Savior Leads Me</i>	ALL THE WAY

All the way my Savior leads me; what have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt His tender mercy, who though life has been my guide?
Heavenly peace, divinest comfort, here by faith in Him to dwell!
For I know whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well;
For I know whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well.

All the way my Savior leads me; cheers each winding path I tread,
Gives me grace for every trial, feeds me with the living bread;
Though my weary steps may falter and my soul athirst may be,
Gushing from the Rock before me, lo! A spring of joy I see;
Gushing from the Rock before me, lo! A spring of joy I see.

All the way my Savior leads me; oh, the fullness of His love!
Perfect rest to me is promised in my Father's house above:
When my spirit, clothed immortal, wings its flight to realms of day,
This my song through endless ages: Jesus led me all the way;
This my song through endless ages: Jesus led me all the way.

Children's Sermon		Leigh Halverson
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The Lord's Prayer	<i>We invite everyone to stand as we all say the Lord's Prayer together.</i>	
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Ministry of Music	<i>Is He Worthy?</i>	Matthew Smith Angela Blizzard
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Scripture Reading	Romans 8:26-28	Leigh Halverson
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Pastoral Prayer		Richard Kremer
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Hymn of Reflection	<i>When We Are Tested</i>	SLANE
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When we are tested and wrestle alone,
Famished for bread when the world offers stone,
Nourish us, God, by Your word and Your way,
Food that sustains us by night and by day.

When we have struggled and searched through the night,
Sorting and sifting the wrong from the right,
Savior, surround us with circles of care,
Angels of healing, of hope, and of prayer.

Scripture Reading Mark 1:9-13 Richard Kremer

Sermon “Immediately” Richard Kremer

Hymn 619 *Blessed Assurance* ASSURANCE

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of his Spirit, washed in His blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect communion, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight.
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [Refrain]

Perfect submission, all is at rest.
I in my Savior am happy and blessed,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love. [Refrain]

Celebrations and Concerns Richard Kremer

*Pastoral Benediction Richard Kremer

*Postlude *Rondo in G* John Bull

FROM THE PASTOR

The Staff Guinea Pig

Guinea pigs have played an important role in scientific research since the 1600s, when biologists deemed them excellent subjects for anatomical studies. Great scientists like Louis Pasteur used guinea pigs as prime subjects for study as they made crucial strides in understanding germ dynamics, infectious diseases, and the development of vaccines. Oddly enough, guinea pigs also played a crucial role in helping scientists make great strides in vitamin C research. They have even been employed as astronauts: when the USSR sent some of their Sputnik satellites into orbit, guinea pigs were their only breathing cargo.

All of this explains why, for more than a century, the term “guinea pig” has been commonly used as a metaphor for a subject of scientific experimentation. To be a “guinea pig” is to be one who is willing to offer themselves as a test subject for a particular medical study. I guess I am the “staff guinea pig,” because I am the first on our Vineville Baptist Church staff to receive the COVID-19 vaccination, or at least the first dose of it.

I had not planned to sign up for the vaccine so early, since I knew supplies of the vaccine, particularly in Georgia, are limited, and I felt others deserved to be in line ahead of me. But Kathy Kendrick alerted several eligible (i.e. “old”) church members of an opportunity to make a vaccine appointment, and Melissa decided that I needed to be included in their number. So, like the dutiful husband that I am, I complied with her request.

Several of our older members have already had their first COVID-19 shot, too, as have several of our members who work in the medical community. So I am not the only church guinea pig. But if my experience is any indication, getting this shot is no big deal. I mean by that statement that even those of you who dislike needles (like me) will find this shot no worse than the pin prick you receive when giving blood. As I compose this column, a day after having my shot, I have only a slight soreness at the site of the injection, and have experienced absolutely no after-effects. In fact, I did a couple of hundred pushups and situps the night after having the shot and felt no discomfort at all.

What I am saying is, when it is your turn to be eligible for this vaccine, take it! Take it not only for your sake, but for the sake of the community, for the sake of *our* community. What makes this COVID-19 virus so diabolical is that you can have the disease, have absolutely no symptoms, and pass it on to someone else and kill them in the process. The one-year anniversary of the diagnosis of the first U.S. case of COVID-19 happened this week. Within that year, this disease has killed 400,000 people in our country, a carnage that is almost unimaginable.

Yes, I know of folks who have had COVID-19 and suffered few symptoms. But I have also had several firsthand conversations with friends and neighbors who testified that they have never been so devastated by any illness in their life. I have firsthand knowledge of young people, some of them healthy teenagers, who have shaken off this coronavirus, yet still suffer lingering consequences three months later.

I know that particularly in Georgia the rollout of this vaccine has been incredibly slow. But all indications are that the new administration and the Center for Disease Control are committing significant resources to making this vaccine more readily available to the general public. When your time comes, take advantage of it. I received my shot at the Navicent Health Wellness Center, and I can testify that the staff there has the shot-giving routine down to an efficient process. From the time I arrived at the Center to the time I received my shot and spent the requisite fifteen minutes in the observation area afterward, the entire process took less than 25 minutes.

I don't know when what we have always called "normalcy" will return. But I know that we should be grateful for the amazing work of the medical researchers who created this vaccine in record time and for the pharmaceutical manufacturers who are working overtime to produce it in large quantities. Availing ourselves of this vaccine is one small step that each of us can take to help create a safe and healthy society. Let us do it.

A word from your pastor,
Dr. Richard Kremer

SINGLES BIBLE STUDY

All singles are invited to participate in Bible Study. To participate in the current session, studying "James," please contact Leigh Halverson. The group will meet every other Tuesday evening beginning at 7:00 pm. Estimated start date is February 2.

SYMPATHY

We extend Christian sympathy to Yolanda Abarca and her family in the death of her son-in-law, Neil Mullen.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Ash Wednesday: February 17

Easter: April 4

Spring Forward: March 14 (Daylight Savings Time Begins)

May 10: Mother's Day

Palm Sunday, March 28

July 22- 24: Church River Trip at the Nantahala

Holy Week Services: March 31 – April 2

October 1-2: Church Fall Bazaar

Easter Egg Hunt: April 3

STEWARDSHIP REPORT AS OF JANUARY 17

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Offering	\$10,611
Following Christ 2 (YTD)	\$223
YTD Budget Contributions	\$30,046

A CONVENIENT OPTION FOR GIVING



The QR code can be scanned with your smartphone and it will direct you to the VBC giving website.

DEACON OF THE WEEK

The Deacon of the week is Claire Whitaker. Next week is Mark Wood.

OUR STAFF

Richard Kremer	Pastor
Angela Blizzard	Minister of Music & Youth
Leigh Halverson	Minister to Family & Education
Peggy Jones	Financial Administrator
Jody Thornton	Administrative Assistant
Ginny Ferguson	Receptionist
Sandra Head	Music Ministry Coordinator
Tonia Boyd	Weekday Morning School
Kathy McCray	Higher Life

OUR LAY LEADERSHIP

Church Council	Todd Smith	474-6333
Deacon Ministry	Peggy Hindsman	719-5203
Grief Ministry	Nell Jones	960-6195
Homebound	Ann Purser	477-7549
Media Center	Kay Defore	476-9986
Men's Ministry	Todd Smith	474-6333
Missions	Claire Whitaker	955-7323
Senior Adults-XYZ	Jackie Odom	746-1716
Sunday School	Jeane Easom	719-1289