

The Vine

I am the vine; you are the branches...John 15:5

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

April 2025

Every Easter we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Without the death and resurrection of Jesus, we couldn't be saved. Our salvation is a gift of grace from God.

Romans 3:23-25 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jesus died to pay for our sins. That is a gift of grace. He rose that we can have life in him. A gift of grace.

In the Old Testament, you don't see the word grace very often. You do see the word gracious a lot. God's grace is a relational word. We don't really say God is grace the way we say God is omnipotent or holy. God is the latter whether he chose to create the universe or not.

If God had not created man, he would not have a call to be gracious. We can say God is love for two reasons. The Bible says it. Also, when you think about it, even if God had not created us, love would still exist between the three persons of the trinity.

However, within the godhead, grace is not needed. Between God the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, there is nothing to forgive. There is no gift one could give the other that he doesn't already possess or need.

The New Testament ancient Greek word for grace is *charis*. The word often used for gift is *charisma*. The root word for gift is grace! That is what he gives in his relationship toward us. If a gift is earned or expected, it really isn't a gift. Wages, payments, and trades are earned. Grace is simply undeserved favor.

God gave us the underserved gift of eternal life. It is a gift we couldn't begin to pay back even if we wanted to. As we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the grave, and the life we have

through faith in him, let's focus on God's grace this month.

Even though God has lavished his grace upon mankind, we must remember we have to accept this gift by faith. Our faith is in the death and resurrection of Jesus. There is no other way to be saved.

We are also called to show grace to others. We give them an example of Christ, and tell them how to receive God's grace through faith in Jesus.

Mike

Grace

- Apr 1: Exodus 33:17-23; 34:6-9
- Apr 2: 2 Chronicles 30:7-9
- Apr 3: Psalm 67
- Apr 4: Psalm 86
- Apr 5: Joel 2:12-14
- Apr 6: Matthew 11:25-30
- Apr 7: John 1:1-5, 14-18
- Apr 8: Romans 3:21-26
- Apr 9: Romans 6
- Apr 10: Romans 8:31-39
- Apr 11: Rom 12:3-8; 1 Pe 4:7-11
- Apr 12: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10
- **Holy Week**
- **Apr 13:** Matthew 21:1-11
- **Apr 14:** Matthew 23
- **Apr 15:** Matthew 25
- **Apr 16:** Matthew 26:1-13
- **Apr 17:** Matt 26:14-35; Zech 12:10
- **Apr 18:** Matthew 27
- **Apr 19:** Matthew 28:1-10
- **Apr 20:** Luke 24:1-12
- Apr 21: Galatians 5:1-6
- Apr 22: Ephesians 2:1-10
- Apr 23: Ephesians 4:25-32
- Apr 24: Colossians 4:2-6
- Apr 25: 2 Timothy 2:11-15
- Apr 26: Titus 2:11-15
- Apr 27: Titus 3:3-7
- Apr 28: Hebrews 4:14-16
- Apr 29: James 4:1-10
- Apr 30: 1 Peter 5:5-11

ANNUAL GARAGE SALE: Coming in May so NOW is the time to start pulling and marking your treasures to sell. It will be here before you know it!

GRADUATES: We will recognize our graduates on Sunday, May 18th during the worship service. If your child (or you) is graduating from the 8th grade, high school, technical school, or receiving a 2 year, 4 year or post-graduate college degree, turn those names in to Mike or email: office@valleyfallsc.org by April 20th. It is essential to have these in a timely manner so we can order gifts for our graduates.

CONGRATULATIONS: Welcome Hallie Jo Baker, 9lbs. 5oz, born March 21 at 8:40pm to Levi and Tannah Baker.

EASTER /RESURRECTION SUNDAY:
APRIL 20 Sonrise Service, lead by the youth group, will be at 8am. The men and boys will prepare breakfast to be served right after the service. To volunteer for food and or to help cook and serve, please see Stan Farr. Cooks need to be at the fellowship hall by 7am.

BRIDGIT SMITH from Insight Women's Center, Lawrence, was here to share about their ministry on Sunday, March 23. Their mission is to reach out and serve the community and surrounding areas with Jesus' love. By providing evidence-based education, pregnancy help services, and parenting support in a safe environment, they empower women and men to make well-informed and confident pregnancy decisions. There is more information on the bulletin board in the foyer if you, or someone you know, needs help.

CRAFTY CRAFTERS has been very busy. We delivered crocheted and knitted hats, booties and dozens of blankets; 18 quilted crib and lap-sized blankets. We delivered to 3 pregnancy centers, a hospital, and 2 nursing homes. We welcome anyone who would like to join us and/or contribute to our mission.

Jr. - Sr. High Youth Group - We want to invite all students from 6th - 12th grades to join us Sunday evenings, 5-7 p.m. in the church basement.

Church Email Address - to get items included in the newsletter: news@valleyfallsc.org
Or call or text Cecelia Ragan - (785)-762-2195.

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, April 12th, 8 a.m. Jay is cooking.

Pocket Change for Progress: Every 3rd Sunday, we take a special offering of the pocket change you have been saving. The money is divided between VFCC outreach and youth.

Online sermon opportunity: For those who need to watch at home, church service is live streamed on YouTube (and Facebook). Previous services are also available on YouTube. Subscribe to Valley Falls Christian Church YouTube Channel.

Past sermons are available online at www.valleyfallsc.org.



Sermons

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|----------------------|--|
| 6-Apr | The Danger of Expectations
Luke 7:18-23 |
| 13-Apr | Jesus and Women
Luke 7:41-50 |
| Easter Sunday | |
| 20-Apr | Why the Cross?
Romans 8:5-11 |
| 27-Apr | The Purpose of Parables
Luke 8:4-8 |

April	Greeters	Scripture	Communion Devotion	Servers	Nursery
6	Wistuba	Leane	Brian	Jay/ Stan/ Jarret /Jackson	Debbie/Junior
13	Spencer	Tiffany	Brian	Jay/Stan/ Brian /Nick	Brittany/Malia
20	J Mitchell	Aisha	Brian	Jay/Stan/ Ray /Chad	Tiffany/Dakota
27	Farr	Donetta	Brian	Jay/Stan/ Clinton /Kyle	Leane/Rowdy

April Communion Devotion and Prayer: Brian

Camera Monitor	April 6	April 13	April 20	April 27	
Sunday School	Charles	Jarret	Kevin	Donetta	
Worship	Cecelia	Stephen	Lori	Stephen	

Prayer Requests: Brandi Leake, and Becky, Leah Brown, Elaine Wornor, Christy & Becky Arnold, Dodie Bolz

OUR SOLDIERS: Allison Thomas, Curtis Mitchell, Aaron Cook, Jacob Mitchell, Matthew Branam, Noe Garza, All of our troops and leaders. Our President, our nation and our government. (1 Tim 2:1-2) Decisions being made in our nation's leadership.

If you would like to be included on the text prayer chain, notify Donetta by text at 785-224-3497.

Church Offerings:

Feb 23 \$2,074
 March 2 \$3,169
 March 9 \$1257
 March 16 \$1585
 March 23 \$1504



Gyve on line: Scan the QR code to download the Gyve app.

April Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 4 Betty Smith
- 7 Tannah Baker
- 11 Debbie Gerstner
Jenna Ketcherside
- 12 Aaron and Cheyenne Cook (2016)
- 13 Jozee Thayer
- 21 Destinee Pruitt
- 22 Erin Thomas
- 26 Susan Klawuhn
- 29 Stan Farr



**Return Service
Requested**

Phone: 785-945-6757
Email: office@valleyfallsc.org
On the web: www.valleyfallsc.org
Find us on Facebook!

Mike Kirby, Pastor

You are welcome to join us!

Sunday Service times:

Bible Study (all ages) 9:00 AM
Worship - 10:00 AM
Youth Group (grades 6 -12) 5-7 PM

Wednesday: Bible Study - 7:00 PM

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur/Fri	Sat
		1	2	3/4	5
6 5 p.m. Youth group	7 1:30 p.m. Crafters	8	9 7 p.m. Bible Study	10/11	12 8 a.m. Men's Break- fast
13 Palm Sunday 5 p.m. Youth group	14 1:30 p.m. Crafters	15	16 7 p.m. Bible Study	17/18	19
20 Easter Sonrise Service 8 a.m. Worship 10 a.m.	21 1:30 p.m. Crafters	22	23 Newsletter Items Due 7 p.m. Bible Study	24/25	26
27 5 p.m. Youth group	28 1:30 p.m. Crafters	29	30 7 p.m. Bible Study		