



# Valley Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Dear Friend in Christ,

I am happy to share with you this Sunday the fourth installment of my Lenten sermon series, “We Were There: Lenten Edition,” developed in consultation with Lola Kiser. We adapted the first-person format of Valley’s lovely Advent devotional book, “We Were There,” picking out fourteen eyewitnesses to Holy Week. Some of their voices will be in our Holy Week devotional, and some are in this sermon series. Today’s voice is that of the anonymous centurion at the cross, who declares Jesus’s divinity (and, in Luke’s Gospel, innocence). That one declaration opens all sorts of possibilities that we will unpack on Sunday.

Please use following phone numbers and links between 10:15am and 10:30am. You can join in one of two ways:

**By computer, smart phone or tablet:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86757133623?pwd=OTFUQWJvU21MMmR6bkY5SitpelR1UT09>

**By Phone:** 1 (312) 626 6799 ID 867 5713 3623, Passcode 205879

(If you need a live link to the Worship link, you can go to the homepage of our website at [www.vccbhm.org](http://www.vccbhm.org) with the passcode 205879 OR click on “Links to Zoom” then the Sunday Worship link.)

I look forward to seeing you on Sunday!

Christ’s and yours,  
Pastor Eric

# Valley Christian Church

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 14, 2021

### PRELUDE

*"God So Loved the World"*

*Margaret Cox  
Pianist*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The one who came by water and blood is Jesus Christ. Not by water only but water and blood.  
People: The Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.  
Leader: The three are testifying—the Spirit, the water, the blood. The three are united in agreement.  
People: And this is the testimony: God gave eternal life to us, and this life is in his Son. The one who has the Son has life.

*Peggi Zinser  
Worship Leader*

(1 John 5:6-8 & 11-12, CEB)

### HYMN OF PRAISE

*"Were You There"*

*Were you there when they crucified my Lord  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord  
Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord*

*Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree  
Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree*

*Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb  
Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb*

### INVOCATION

*Peggi Zinser  
Worship Leader*

### SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

### PASTORAL PRAYER

Immortal God, we give thanks to you for our own lives and livelihoods, and we confess that in our sinfulness we are more prone to ways of death than life. We turn to you in confession and repentance, but also knowing that we must rely upon you to do what we cannot. We pray to you because we ourselves are limited, but you are everlasting to everlasting. We pray to you for the people we have named aloud and the people and places who are in the silence of our souls, as we lift up to you the ones who we have named aloud at this time...

*Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson*

### SPECIAL MUSIC

*"What Wondrous Love is This"*

*Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson*

### SCRIPTURE

Mark 15:33-39

*Peggi Zinser  
Worship Leader*

### MESSAGE

"The Centurion"

*Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson*

### HYMN

*"The Old Rugged Cross"*

*On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross  
The emblem of suffering and shame  
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best  
For a world of lost sinners was slain*

*Refrain*

*So I'll cherish the old rugged cross  
Til my trophies at last I lay down  
I will cling to the old rugged cross  
And exchange it someday for a crown*

*To the old rugged cross I will ever be true  
Its shame and reproach gladly bear  
Then He'll call me someday to my home far away  
Where His glory forever I'll share*

*Refrain*

### SHARING OUR OFFERING WITH GOD

Share your financial offering with the church by mail or bring it by the church office. Thank you for your love gifts.

*Peggi Zinser  
Worship Leader*



**OFFERTORY  
PRAYER**

**CALL TO  
COMMUNION**

May we remember that our proclamations of faith take place not only in our words, but in our spiritual rituals, especially the meal that takes place around this table.

**COMMUNION  
HYMN**

*“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley”*

*Jesus walked this lonesome valley  
He had to walk it by Himself  
O nobody else could walk it for Him  
He had to walk it by Himself*

*We must walk this lonesome valley  
We have to walk it by ourselves  
O nobody else can walk it for us  
We have to walk it by ourselves*

*You must walk this lonesome valley  
You have to walk it by yourself  
O nobody else can walk it for you  
You have to walk it by yourself*

**COMMUNION  
PRAYER**

Conclude by praying together the Lord’s Prayer

**WORDS OF  
INSTITUTION**

Hear the words of Jesus when He said, “Take and eat, this is my body, broken for you. Take and drink, this is the cup of the covenant poured out for you.”

*As the Words of Institution are spoken, you are invited to partake in the bread and juice, or whatever is available to you.*

**BENEDICTION**

May the Lord who led you to the cross lead you further into the world to share the cross and bear the cross, and may the blessing of the Lord be with you always, amen.

**POSTLUDE**

*“My Jesus, I Love Thee”*

*Peggi Zinser  
Worship Leader*

*Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson*

*Sarah Draper  
Elder*

*Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson*

*Margaret Cox  
Pianist*

*You are warmly invited to remain in our Zoom worship space for some online fellowship time following the postlude.*

