

# COMMUNITY CHURCH *of the Verdes*

*May 17, 2026*



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

## *Time for Centering*

*This morning we begin a new 20-week sermon series on the book of Acts. Together we will follow the powerful work of the Holy Spirit as the gospel spreads from Jerusalem to the ends of the earth and the early church grows in faith, courage, and mission. Along the way we will encounter stories of prayer, transformation, persecution, generosity, and bold witness, discovering how the same Spirit who guided the early church continues to lead God's people today.*

*Today's sermon, based on Acts 1:1–14, focuses on Jesus' final words to His disciples, His ascension, and the calling of the church to wait prayerfully for the coming of the Holy Spirit. As the disciples gather together in hope and expectation, we are invited to consider what it means to live as people who trust God's promises and prepare for His work among us.*

# Order of Worship

## *Prelude*

## *Welcome & Announcements*

## *Introit*

*Spirit of Comfort*

*(Nolan)*

## *Call to Worship*

*Pastor: Come, all who are weary and all who are hopeful.*

***People: We come seeking the presence of God.***

*Pastor: God's ways are higher than our ways, and God's mercy is wider than our imagining.*

***People: Yet God welcomes us with grace and love.***

*Pastor: In joy and in sorrow, in certainty and in doubt, God calls us together.*

***People: We come to worship the Lord with open hearts.***

*Pastor: Let us praise the One who is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.*

***People: We will worship God with thanksgiving and praise.***

***All:***

## *\*Hymn of Praise*

*I Love to Tell the Story*

**#480**

## *Call to Confession*

### *Prayer of Confession (spoken in unison)*

*Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved You with our whole heart. We have been impatient with others, resistant to Your ways, and quick to hold onto anger and judgement. Too often we want mercy for ourselves while withholding it from those around us. Forgive us Lord. Soften our hearts where they have become hard. Open our eyes to the wideness of Your grace. Teach us to trust You even when we do not understand, and lead us again in the way of compassion, humility, and love.*

*Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.*

*\*Please stand as you are able*

## *Silent Confession*

### *Prayer Response*

*Hear Our Prayer, O Lord*

#306

*Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord, incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace, Amen.*

## *Assurance of Pardon*

### *\*Congregational Response Gloria Patri*

#35

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

## *\*Passing of the Peace*

## *Call to Offering*

### *Offertory*

*Blessed Assurance*

(arr. Hayes)

### *\*Doxology*

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

#46

*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*

## *Pastoral Prayer and 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.*

## *Scripture*

Acts 1: 1-14

<sup>1</sup> In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach <sup>2</sup> until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup> After his suffering <sup>[a]</sup> he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup> While staying <sup>[b]</sup> with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with <sup>[c]</sup> the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you



*Volunteers assisting with worship today:*

**Communion Table:** Rockee Coalson

**Refreshment Stewards:** Judy Dorwart, Jody Anschutz and Linda Smiley

**Flower Committee:** Sharon Severson, Jennifer Ristau, Linda Paulos

**Lector:** Rod Gray

**Tellers:** Ina Spaeth and John Cole

**Ushers:** Denny & Terri Meyers

**Road Signs:** Bill Hickman and Ric Doerflinger

## **Pastor Steve's upcoming Sermons**

### **May 24th**

**Title: The First Fruits of the Spirit**

**Scripture: Acts 2:1-21**

### **May 31st**

**Title: A Two-Legged Gospel**

**Scripture: Acts 3:1-10**

### **June 7th**

**Title: Holy Boldness**

**Scripture: Acts 4:1-14**

### **June 14th**

**Title: One Heart, One Mind**

**Scripture: Acts 4:32-37**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome members and guests!** If you are visiting for the first time, please stop by our badge table for a welcome gift. Visit our website [www.verdefaith.org](http://www.verdefaith.org) for additional information. **Please complete the Fellowship Pad** at the end of each pew; pass it along, and back. **Fellowship is held following worship** in Founders Hall.

**Attendance** at last Sunday's service was **136**; **180** joined online.

**Today's flowers were donated by: Wendy Patry** in loving memory of Bill Patry.

**Stephen Ministers** are trained, ready to listen, care, encourage, pray, and help through a crisis or difficult time. Contact one of our leaders, Donna Angiolillo, Glenda Hage, Debbie Etcheson, John Pasnau, Dan or Judy Villanueva.

**In need of prayers for you, your family, or friends?** Contact Joan Brunner at 480-471-7274, or Pastor Steve with requests, or if you would like to serve on the team.

**AA meetings are held weekly on Mondays at 8:00am** in the library.

**PAL (Parents of Addicted Loved Ones) Meetings will resume in the Fall.** Questions? Contact Greg & Weezy Smith at [lift5800@gmail.com](mailto:lift5800@gmail.com).





## MISSIONS

**Lunch making and delivery for Justa Center:** The third Thursday of the month at 9:00am

**Pad Project Ministry:** Will start again in the Fall

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** 2nd Friday of the month @ 9:00am

## Community Prayer – Summer Schedule

During the summer months, our Community Prayer service will be held on Wednesdays only at 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

If you are away and would like to receive the prayer liturgy by email, please contact Pastor Steve at [sbeard@verdefaith.org](mailto:sbeard@verdefaith.org).



## Care Team Prayers

Our newly created Care Team has begun praying weekly for members of our congregation. We are praying through our membership rolls alphabetically and will pray specifically for a small group of names each week.

If you have a specific prayer request, please email Donna Angiolillo at: [donnaangiolillo@gmail.com](mailto:donnaangiolillo@gmail.com).

## GIVING NOTES

**Online Giving is available!  
It's easy, fast and secure.**



Support CCV Ministries & Missions with Online Giving

**Just scan the barcode or visit the website at [verdefaith.org/give](http://verdefaith.org/give)**

With gratitude for the generosity of church members, we are currently operating within our projected budget. The Finance Committee is focused on keeping you informed of this measure and of other financial results. We are developing a more comprehensive method of reporting this information to you. You can expect a high-level snapshot of Receipts, Disbursements, Capital Spending and Fund Balances on a quarterly basis. The first report will be available in early July.

For comments, suggestions or questions, please contact Kim Dadlani, Treasurer, at [Kim.g.dadlani@gmail.com](mailto:Kim.g.dadlani@gmail.com). Thank you for your faithful giving!!!

**Please consider these funds open to special giving in your estate planning...**

### **Legacy Endowment Fund**

The purpose of the Endowment Fund is to expand and enrich the mission of the congregation, to initiate new ministries or significantly change the scope of existing ministries. No more than 5% of the three-year average fund assets may be distributed in any one year. Historically, this amount was allocated to the Mission Committee to support charitable organizations.

### **Memorial Garden Fund**

The purpose of the Memorial Garden Fund is to provide for the perpetual operation and maintenance of the Memorial Garden. Established in 1990, the Memorial Garden provides a resting place for the interment of the ashes of loved ones.

# WEEKLY CALENDAR

## **Monday, May 18**

8:00am AA Meeting (Library)

## **Tuesday, May 19**

4:30pm Weekly Rosary St. Dominic (Chapel)

## **Wednesday, May 20**

9:00am Community Prayer w/ Pastor Steve

## **Thursday, May 21**

No activities scheduled

## **Friday, May 22**

No activities scheduled

## **Saturday, May 23**

No activities scheduled

## **Sunday, May 24**

8:30am Worship (Sanctuary)

9:30am Fellowship (Founders Hall)

10:00am St. Dominic (Sanctuary)

## SUMMER HOURS STARTING JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>

**MONDAY – THURSDAY: 9AM TO 2PM**

**FRIDAYS: CLOSED**

# MAY MISSION DRIVE CHRISTIAN FAMILY CARE



The May Mission Drive is for **Christian Family Care**, whose mission is to strengthen families and serve at-risk children. Thank you for your overwhelming response to our Kindergarten Backpack supply drive!

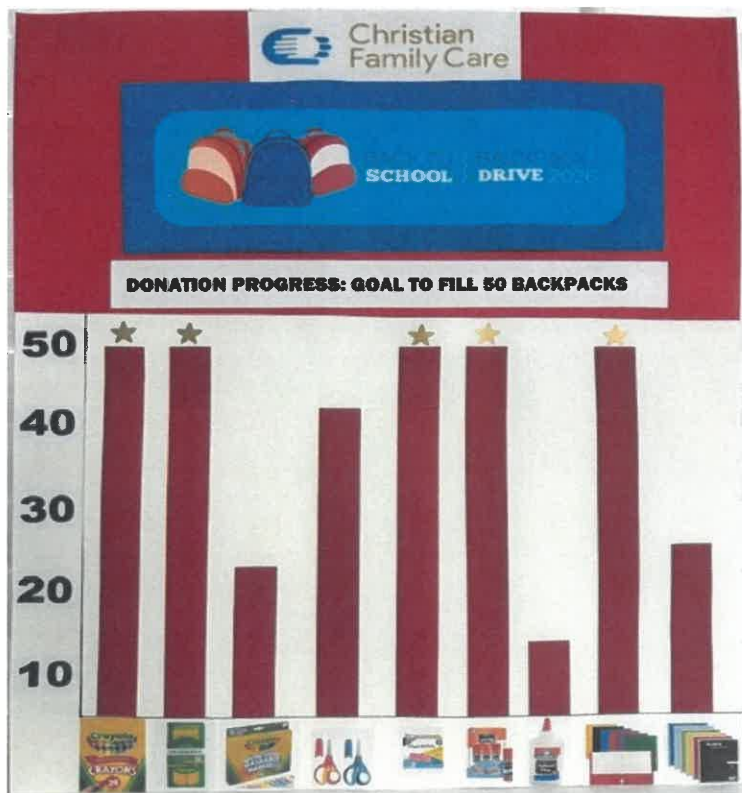
We have already reached our goal on many items, but we still need:

- **Washable Markers**
- **Blunt Tip Scissors**
- **Glue Bottles**
- **Spiral Notebooks**

**NEW ITEM: Pencil Cases**



Items can be left in the blue bin in the Narthex or in the church office doorway. If you order anything from Amazon, please use the church address for delivery.



# I Love to Tell the Story

480

1. I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove, of  
 2. I love to tell the sto - ry; 'tis pleas - ant to re - peat what  
 3. I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best seem

Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love. I love to  
 seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet. I love to  
 hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest. And when, in

tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know 'tis true; it sat - is - fies my  
 tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard the mes - sage of sal -  
 scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song, 'twill be the old, old

long - ings as noth - ing else can do.  
 va - tion from God's own ho - ly word. I love to tell the sto - ry, 'twill  
 sto - ry that I have loved so long.

be my theme in glo - ry, to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

## 517 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1. Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;  
 2. Breathe, O breathe thy lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-ery trou-bled breast;  
 3. Come, al-might-y to de-liv-er, let us all thy life re-ceive;  
 4. Fin-ish, then, thy new cre-a-tion; pure and spot-less let us be,



fix in us thy hum-ble dwell-ing, all thy faith-ful mer-cies crown;  
 let us all in thee in-her-it, let us find thy prom-ised rest;  
 sud-den-ly re-turn and nev-er, nev-er-more thy tem-ples leave.  
 let us see thy great sal-va-tion per-fect-ly re-stored in thee;



Je-sus, thou art all com-pas-sion, pure, un-bound-ed love thou art;  
 take a-way our love of sin-ning; al-pha and o-me-ga be;  
 Thee we would be al-ways bless-ing, servè thee as thy hosts a-bove,  
 changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry, till in heaven we take our place,



vis-it us with thy sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-ery trem-bling heart.  
 end of faith, as its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.  
 pray, and praise thee with-out ceas-ing, glo-ry in thy per-fect love.  
 till we cast our crowns be-fore thee, lost in won-der, love, and praise.



WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1743  
 MUSIC: John Zundel, 1870

BEECHER  
 87.87D



### *Vision Statement*

*To be a Christ centered church that inspires individuals to grow closer to God  
and to serve others with loving and compassionate hearts.*

### *Faith Statement ~ The Apostles' Creed*

*I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.*

*Community Church of the Verdes  
25603 Danny Lane, Suite 1  
Rio Verde, Arizona 85263  
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00am-2:00pm  
Friday — 9:00am — 12:00pm  
Telephone: (480) 471-7239  
[www.verdefaith.org](http://www.verdefaith.org)*

*Pastor: Rev. Stephen Beard  
Pastor's cell: (732)546-5332  
Pastor's email: [sbeard@verdefaith.org](mailto:sbeard@verdefaith.org)  
Director of Music: Tom Wojtas  
Office Manager: Tami Burke*

*A/V Operator: Skyler Evans  
Vocalists: Debby Wojtas, Jeffrey Stevens, Sara Bruton*

### *Board of Trustees*

#### *Class of 2027*

*Pat Peterson (President)  
Nancy Lowe (Mission)  
Jared Reisinger (Technology)*

*Julie Peacock (Education)  
Nancy Sheppard (Worship)  
Kim Dadlani (Treasurer)*

*Rod Bulcher (Facilities)  
Linda Smiley (Fellowship)  
Jackie Williams (Membership)*



*Affiliated with the International Council of Community Churches*



*We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation*



*Find us on Facebook "Community Church of the Verdes"*