

COMMUNITY CHURCH *of the Verdes*

August 23, 2026



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Time for Centering

We all make plans. We make plans for our families, our careers, our churches, our futures-and often we assume that if our plans are good, God will bless them. But what happens when God says no?

In Acts 16:6-10, Paul and his companions are eager to share the gospel, but the Holy Spirit repeatedly prevents them from going where they had planned to go. One door after another closes until Paul receives a vision calling him to Macedonia. What first appears to be frustration and disappointment turns out to be God's direction.

Someone has wisely said, "Sometimes God says no to our plans because he has something better in mind than we could ever see." Paul could not see the whole picture. He could only see the doors that were closing. But God could see the people Paul had not yet met and the places the gospel had not yet reached.

Today we will consider what it means to trust God when our plans change, when opportunities disappear, and when the path ahead is unclear. Perhaps a closed door is not God's rejection but God's redirection. When God changes our plans, can we trust the God who sees the road ahead even when we cannot?

Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Introit *Come, Now Is the Time to Worship* (Doerksen)

Call to Worship

Pastor: Come, let us worship the Lord, for God is good.

People: *God's steadfast love endures forever.*

Pastor: Let us come with open hearts and willing spirits.

People: *We come to praise God and to receive God's grace.*

Pastor: Let us worship the Lord together.

**Hymn of Praise We Have Heard a Joyful Sound #479*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (spoken in unison)

Gracious God, we confess that we often lose sight of you. We trust in ourselves rather than in your grace. We allow fear, pride, and busyness to turn our hearts away from you and from one another. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us back into the way of faithfulness. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

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.

*Please stand as you are able

**Passing of the Peace*

Call to Offering

Offertory

God of the Deep

(Forrest)

**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 16:6-10

⁶ They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. ⁷ When they had come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them; ⁸ so, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. ⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Known Only to Him

(Hamblen)

Sermon

"The Best Laid Plans"

Time of Reflection

**Closing Hymn*

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

#628

Charge and Benediction

**Closing Response*

Walk with the Lord

(Thomson)

**Postlude*

Music for today's worship includes:

Prelude: All Are Welcome (Haugen), A Mighty Fortress Is Our God *with* Awesome God (arr. Tornquist),
Deep River Medley (Shackley/Wilhelmi/Gaither/Hayes)

Time of Reflection: As the Deer (Nystrom)

Postlude: Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken (#709)

Trio: Debby Wojtas, Sara Bruton, and Jeffrey Stevens

Volunteers assisting with worship today:

Communion Table: Diane Spang

Refreshment Stewards: Sandra Shanley, Lew Visscher, and Beth Visscher

Flower Committee: Sharon Severson, Jennifer Ristau, Linda Paulos

Lector: Darrel Brenner

Tellers: Jared Reisinger and Bill Hurt

Ushers: Julie Blake and Terri Meyers

Road Signs: Bill Hickman, Ric Doerflinger, Tom Young

Where in the World are Community Church Members?

As you travel this summer, send us a picture that we can share during our pre roll announcements. We want to stay connected and share your joy. Send us a picture on the lake, on the cruise, on the beach, relaxing at home or wherever your summer away takes you. Send pictures to Tami Burke at officemanager@verdefaith.org The pictures that have been sent in so far are wonderful! Hope that all of you are enjoying them as much as we are. Keep them coming!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome members and guests! Visit our website 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 **79** in person; **207** joined online.

Today's flowers were donated Anonymously: In appreciation for our military fighting on foreign soil.

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.



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: Will start again in the Fall.

Community Prayer – Summer Schedule

During the summer months of July and August, our Community Prayer service will be held online via Microsoft TEAMS. Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m.

If you would like to be included, please contact Pastor Steve at sbeard@verdefaith.org for an email invite to join online. It's easy and you are able to participate anywhere you have internet access, phone or computer.

Starting September 2nd—Community Prayer will start back in person in the Chapel at 9:00am every Wednesday.

Pastoral Care Team

The Pastoral Care Team for The Community Church of the Verdes has been formed to assist Pastor Steve Beard in his mission for our church. The team will walk alongside individuals by providing visitation, communion, listening, and prayer to those facing crisis, illness, or life transitions.

Your Pastoral Care Team members are Donna Angiolillo, Diane Bronson, Julie Dadlani, Debbie Etcheson, Gary Etcheson, Lois Halberg, and Gary Hedstrom.

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: donna.angiolillo@gmail.com.



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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

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. You can expect a high-level snapshot of Receipts, Disbursements, Capital Spending and Fund Balances on a quarterly basis. The first report is available in the office if you missed it in the bulletin.

For comments, suggestions or questions, please contact Kim Dadlani, Treasurer, at 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 internment of the ashes of loved ones.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, August 24

8:00am AA Meeting (Library)

8:00am St. Dominic Weekly Mass (Chapel)

Tuesday, August 25

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

Wednesday, August 26

8:00am St. Dominic Weekly Mass (Chapel)

9:00am Community Prayer w/ Pastor Steve (online)

11:00am Bible Study w/ Pastor Steve (Founders Hall)

Thursday, August 27

8:00am St. Dominic Weekly Mass (Chapel)

Friday, August 28

No activities scheduled

Saturday, August 29

No activities scheduled

Sunday, August 30

8:30am Worship (Sanctuary)

9:30am Fellowship (Founders Hall)

10:00am St. Dominic (Sanctuary)

SUMMER HOURS

MONDAY—THURSDAY: 9AM TO 2PM

FRIDAYS: CLOSED



Upcoming Sermons

August 30th

Title: Friends for the Journey

Scripture: Acts 18:1-11

September 6th

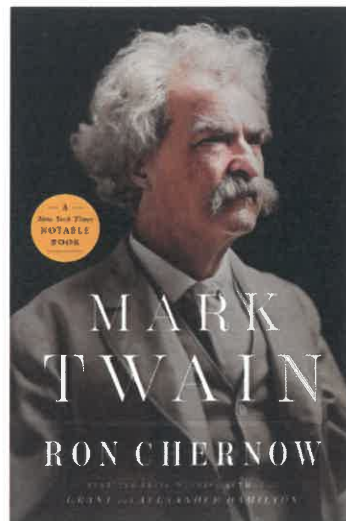
Title: Saying Goodbye

Scripture: Acts 20:17-38



SPIRITUAL THEMES IN LITERATURE

The Book Club will resume on the second Thursday in December (**December 10th**). We will review Mark Twain by Ron Chernow. We will meet on subsequent months on the second Thursday of the month until May 2027. I will send other titles over the summer.



479 We Have Heard a Joyful Sound

1. We have heard a joy - ful sound, Je - sus saves, Je - sus saves;
 2. Waft it on the roll - ing tide, Je - sus saves, Je - sus saves;
 3. Sing a - bove the bat - tle's strife, Je - sus saves, Je - sus saves;
 4. Give the winds a might - y voice, Je - sus saves, Je - sus saves;

spread the glad - ness all a - round, Je - sus saves, Je - sus saves;
 tell to sin - ners, far and wide, Je - sus saves, Je - sus saves;
 by his death and end - less life, Je - sus saves, Je - sus saves;
 let the na - tions now re - joice; Je - sus saves, Je - sus saves;

bear the news to ev - 'ry land, climb the steep, and cross the waves,
 sing, ye is - lands of the sea, ech - o back, ye o - cean caves,
 sing it soft - ly thro' the gloom, when the heart for mer - cy craves,
 shout sal - va - tion, full and free, high - est hills and deep - est caves,

on - ward, 'tis our Lord's com - mand, Je - sus saves, Je - sus saves.
 earth shall keep the ju - bi - lee, Je - sus saves, Je - sus saves.
 sing in tri - umph o'er the tomb, Je - sus saves, Je - sus saves.
 this our song of vic - to - ry, Je - sus saves, Je - sus saves.

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

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1. Pre-cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
 2. When my way grows drear, pre-cious Lord, lin-ger near,
 3. When the dark-ness ap-pears and the night draws near,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
 when my life is al-most gone,
 and the day is past and gone,

through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:
 at the riv-er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:

Refrain
 Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

WORDS and MUSIC: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1932

PRECIOUS LORD
 66.9D

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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

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Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00am-2:00pm

Friday — Closed

Telephone: (480) 471-7239

www.verdefaith.org

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Beard

Pastor's cell: (732)546-5332

Pastor's email: 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"