

### **New Year's Prayer**

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are every with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

Thomas Merton

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

#### **Name Tags**

*Welcome to 2023!* You will notice a blank name tag in your bulletin, if you could write your name on it and put it on, that would help all of us to welcome visitors and assist the rest of us to remember each other's names.

#### **Welcome Janet Russell**

We are blessed to have Janet Russell as our new Pastor. She will be available Monday-Wednesday via email. And she will have office hours Monday and Tuesday from 9:30 am–3:00 pm. Janet will preach the first three Sundays each month. Dorothy Bentley will be preaching on January 22, and Todd Misfeldt will be preaching on January 29.

#### **Morgan Murray's Address**

You can reach Morgan at his new work address: Saxe Gotha Presbyterian Church, 5503 Sunset Boulevard, Lexington, South Carolina (SC) 29072-9162.

We want to enjoy many fellowship opportunities in 2023! 😊 Please let us know your ideas, and what you would like to sponsor.

#### **◆ Upcoming Fellowship Activities: Plan to join us. Save these Dates!**

1. Saturday, **December 31**: The Refuge Homeless Ministry, contact the Madeleines.

#### **◆ Coffee & Donuts**

(One carafe of coffee & 2 dozen donuts)

January 1 – Norm P.

January 8 –

January 15 –

January 22 –

January 29 –



Communion Sunday, January 1, 2023  
9:30 am Service  
West Valley Presbyterian Church

# Welcome

## Call to Worship – Hardy Hemphill

Psalm 34:1-3, 8-9, 12-14

Leader: I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.

People: I will glory in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and rejoice.

All: Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt his name together.

Leader: Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

People: Fear the Lord, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing.

Leader: Whoever of you loves life and desires to see many good days, keep your tongue from evil and your lips from telling lies.

People: Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

All: Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt his name together.

Song 1

Song 2

Song 3

## Greetings & Announcements – Pastor Janet Russell

### Prayers of the People – ?

Song 4 – Turn, Turn, Turn

### Scripture

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 NIV

- 3 *There is a time for everything,  
and a season for every activity under the heavens:*
- 2 *a time to be born and a time to die,  
a time to plant and a time to uproot,*
- 3 *a time to kill and a time to heal,  
a time to tear down and a time to build,*
- 4 *a time to weep and a time to laugh,  
a time to mourn and a time to dance,*
- 5 *a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,  
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,*
- 6 *a time to search and a time to give up,  
a time to keep and a time to throw away,*
- 7 *a time to tear and a time to mend,  
a time to be silent and a time to speak,*
- 8 *a time to love and a time to hate,  
a time for war and a time for peace.*

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 continued

9 *What do workers gain from their toil? 10 I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. 11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. 12 I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. 13 That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God. 14 I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that people will fear him. 15 Whatever is has already been, and what will be has been before; and God will call the past to account.*

Matthew 11:16-19 NIV

16 *“To what can I compare this generation? They are like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling out to others: 17 “‘We played the pipe for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’ 18 For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ 19 The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.’ But wisdom is proved right by her deeds.”*



## Seasons in Our Lives

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

Matthew 11:16-19

Janet Russell

## The Lord's Supper

Song 5

## Benediction