

COMMUNITY CHURCH *of the Verdes*

April 19, 2026



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Time for Centering

New Sermon Series: Jonah — Running from God, Found by Grace

Today we begin a four-week journey through the book of Jonah—a story that is far more than a great fish. It is a story about God’s relentless grace and our persistent tendency to run from His call.

In Jonah, we encounter a prophet who is sent by God but chooses to go the opposite direction. We see a storm that reveals both the seriousness of disobedience and the surprising reach of God’s mercy—not only toward Jonah, but even toward pagan sailors caught in the chaos. From the very first chapter, we are reminded that we can run from God’s will, but we cannot outrun His presence.

Week 1 (Jonah 1) invites us to consider where we may be resisting God’s call in our own lives. Like Jonah, we often choose comfort over obedience, avoidance over trust. Yet even in our running, God is at work—pursuing, interrupting, and drawing us back to Himself.

As Tim Keller writes, “The story of Jonah is not about the fish—it’s about a God who will not let go of us, even when we run from Him.”

Together we will explore what it means to hear God’s voice, wrestle with obedience, and discover that even in our resistance, God’s grace is greater than we imagined.

Pastor Steve

Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Introit

Come Now to Worship the Lord

(Besig)

Call to Worship

Pastor: The word of the Lord comes to us.

People: Sometimes we hear-and sometimes we turn away.

Pastor: Yet the Lord is gracious and merciful.

People: He does not abandon us when we run.

Pastor: Come, let us turn toward the Lord.

People: Let us worship the God who calls us again.

**Hymn of Praise*

We've a Story to Tell to the Nations

#484

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (spoken in unison)

Merciful God, You call us to follow, yet we often turn away. Like Jonah, we resist Your will and choose our own way. Forgive us for our disobedience, our fear, and our reluctance to trust You. Turn our hearts back to You, and give us courage to follow where You lead. In Your mercy, receive us again, 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

**Please stand as you are able*

**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

Hymn of Peace

(McDonald)

**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

Jonah 1:1-17

¹ Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, ² "Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it, for their wickedness has come up before me." ³ But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord.

⁴ But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, and such a mighty storm came upon the sea that the ship threatened to break up. ⁵ Then the sailors were afraid, and each cried to his god. They threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten it for them. Jonah, meanwhile, had gone down into the hold of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep. ⁶ The captain came and said to him, "What are you doing sound asleep? Get up; call on your god! Perhaps the god will spare us a thought so that we do not perish." ⁷ The sailors said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, so that we may know on whose account this calamity has come upon us." So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. ⁸ Then they said to him, "Tell us why this calamity has come upon us. What is your occupation? Where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?" ⁹ "I am a Hebrew," he replied. "I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." ¹⁰ Then the men were even more afraid and said to him, "What is this that you have done!"

Tellers: Carol Horonzy and Frank Green
Ushers: Tom & Lisa Young, Suzanne Blanchard and Larry Hay
Road Signs: Bill Hickman and Ric Doerflinger

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 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 **265** in person; **190** joined online.

Today's flowers were donated by: Cheryl Wenthe & Family: In memory of Wayne.

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 are held every other Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the library. Next meeting is **April 28th**. Questions? Contact Greg & Weezy Smith at lift5800@gmail.com.



SPIRITUAL THEME IN LITERATURE

The Spiritual Theme in Literature book discussion will be led by Winnie Leathers. The Book Club meets the second Thursday of each month in the Library @ 10:00am. The book for **April**-Crying in the H Mart by Michelle Zauner; **May** - Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate. All are welcome.

BIBLE STUDY



Thursday Bible study with Ed Carpenter is held in Founders' Hall at 7:30am and 4:00pm. Both sessions are covering the same material. The subject is the Gospel of John. All are welcome.

From the Mission Committee: Food Donations

We are grateful for your past donations to our food collection efforts and would like to notify you of some upcoming changes.

The **Fountain Hills Christian Ministerial Association** informed us they are ending their Food Closet Program, so we will no longer collect food for them. **Extended Hands Food Bank**, is undergoing some exciting changes with a new location, multiple drop-off sites and new programs. As a result, the Mission Committee determined the impact of our support can be most effective by focusing our collections during the month of October on their **School Pantry Food Drive** program that will serve schools in Fountain Hills.

Therefore, **the last collection in the Little Red Wagon will be on April 30th.** Beginning May 1st, if you would like to donate food before you leave for the season, there will be a bin for Extended Hands in the Post Office managed by the Rotary Club of the Verdes.

If you would like to support **Extended Hands Food Bank** throughout the year, visit their website ehfb.org, indicate your affiliation with Community Church of the Verdes and we will be notified of your donation.

The church continues to address the crisis of food insecurity with its support of **Harvest Compassion Center** and the **Justa Center**. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Lowe at ntart94@gmail.com or 203-395-9872.





MISSIONS



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



Pad Project Ministry: Monday's at 1:00pm (will start again in the Fall)



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

APRIL MISSION DRIVE



SUPPORT HOPE WOMEN'S CENTER

This month, we are collecting items for **Hope Women's Center**. They provide physical, emotional and spiritual support for vulnerable women and kids. Please help by donating: **full size, new unopened bottles of:**

- ♥ **Shampoo**
- ♥ **Conditioner**
- ♥ **Body wash.**

Items can be placed in the Blue Bin in the Narthex or in the church office doorway. **For easy Amazon ordering**, use the website link and indicate "Community Church of the Verdes" in the gift receipt. Thank you!

GIVING NOTES



Support CCV Ministries & Missions with Online Giving

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

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.

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. Thank you for your faithful giving!!!

Scholarship Fund Important News

The church's Scholarship Fund has provided awards to recipients who have demonstrated academic excellence, commitment, and service with our mission partners. The Board of Directors recently evaluated the fund and voted to terminate it because we have received fewer and fewer qualified applicants over the years. The final recipients are: Erin Louise Chartier, FCA, \$4,000. Dustin Caleb Crenshaw, FCA, \$4,000. Robert Daved Holt, Sunshine Acres, \$4,000. Angelito Alvarado, Sunshine Acres, \$3,000. Christian Family Care, Family Care Kids Preschool scholarship fund, \$8,550.

Please consider these other 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, April 20

8:00am AA Meeting (Library)
9:00am Community Prayer w/ Pastor Steve (Chapel)
1:00pm Pad Project (Sunday School Room)

Tuesday, April 21

9:00am Community Prayer w/Pastor Steve (Chapel)
4:30pm Weekly Rosary St. Dominic (Chapel)

Wednesday, April 22

9:00am Community Prayer w/ Pastor Steve (Chapel)
4:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 23

7:30am Bible Study w/ Ed Carpenter (Founders Hall)
9:00am Community Prayer w/ Pastor Steve (Chapel)
4:00pm Bible Study w/ Ed Carpenter (Founders Hall)

Friday, April 24

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

Saturday, April 25

9:45am St. Dominic Centering Prayer (Chapel)

Sunday, April 26

8:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary)
9:30am Annual Meeting (Founders Hall)
10:00am St. Dominic (Sanctuary)

PLEASE WELCOME DONNA ANGIOLILLO TO OUR CHURCH STAFF

Donna has graciously accepted the position as Director of Caring Ministries. This position is focused on fostering compassionate care within the congregation. Donna's role exists to ensure that members and attendees of the Church are supported through times of illness, grief, transition, and need, reflecting the love and care of Christ in tangible ways alongside of the Pastor. With Donna's background and experience, we are sure that she will be an blessing to this church and an asset to our team. Welcome Donna!



484 We've a Story to Tell to the Nations

1. We've a sto - ry to tell to the na - tions that shall turn their
 2. We've a song to be sung to the na - tions that shall lift their
 3. We've a mes - sage to give to the na - tions, that the Lord who
 4. We've a Sav - ior to show to the na - tions, who the path of

hearts to the right, a sto - ry of truth and mer - cy, a
 hearts to the Lord; a song that shall con - quer e - vil and
 reign - eth a - bove hath sent us the Son to save us, and
 sor - row has trod, that all of the world's great peo - ples might

sto - ry of peace and light, a sto - ry of peace and light.
 shat - ter the spear and sword, and shat - ter the spear and sword.
 show us that God is love, and show us that God is love.
 come to the truth of God, might come to the truth of God.

Refrain

For the dark-ness shall turn to dawn-ing, and the dawn-ing to noon-day bright,

GOD'S CHURCH: CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

and Christ's great king-dom shall come on earth, the king-dom of love and light.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The music ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Refrain (Unison)

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

Harmony

1. Come, Chris - tians, fol - low this tri - um - phant sign. The
 2. Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied bears
 3. O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree, your
 4. So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be: praise

hosts of God in u - ni - ty com - bine.
 on the brow the seal of Christ who died.
 death has brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.
 to the cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

WORDS: George William Kitchin and Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916, alt.
 MUSIC: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1916

CRUCIFER
 10.10 w. refrain



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 — 9:00am — 12:00pm

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 Trustee

Class of 2026

Pat Peterson (President)

Rod Bulcher (Facilities)

Kim Dadlani (Treasurer)

Nancy Lowe (Mission)

Julie Peacock (Education)

Jared Reisinger (Technology)

Nancy Sheppard (Worship)

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"