### ATITUDE OF GRATITUDE

The Fourth of July is a day deeply etched into the consciousness of the American people, a vibrant celebration of independence and the birth of a nation. The Declaration of Independence, signed on July 4, 1776, by men of faith and courage, was first publicly read on July 8, 1776, accompanied by the ringing of bells throughout Philadelphia. One of these, the iconic Liberty Bell, bears an inscription from Leviticus 25:10: "Proclaim Liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." This verse, announcing the biblical Year of Jubilee, when all who had lost freedom were to be set free, powerfully foreshadows the ideals upon which America was founded.

Independence Day is not only a celebration of national freedom, but it also provides us with a profound opportunity to reflect on the divine gift of liberty. The Bible teaches that all people are created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27), and the ideals upon which America was founded—freedom, justice, and the inherent dignity of each individual—resonate deeply with this foundational truth. As we commemorated July 4th, we recognize God's universal "law of liberty" (James 1:25), and are reminded to steward our freedoms wisely and prayerfully, understanding them as a sacred trust.

Furthermore, Independence Day calls believers to profound gratitude—not only for the physical freedoms enjoyed in America, but even more so for the spiritual freedom found in Jesus Christ. Just as the nation celebrates liberty from earthly tyranny, Christians celebrate deliverance from the bondage of sin. As Galatians 5:1 reminds us, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free." Jesus Himself declared, "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" (John 8:36). This parallel inspires us to live lives marked by righteousness, using our earthly freedoms to serve others and proclaim the Gospel boldly. It is a freedom that liberates us from the power of sin, enabling us to live for God's purposes.

Lastly, this holiday is a crucial time for prayerful intercession for the nation. Our country has a dark past, where freedoms were regrettably denied or taken from people who had every right to be free, even as our forefathers fought for their own liberation. As we continue to learn from our past mistakes and strive for a more just society, let's aspire to be more and more like the ideals expressed in God's Word and our nation's Constitution. 1 Timothy 2:1-2 urges believers to pray for "all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." As we enjoyed fireworks and festivities, we are called to be light in the nation—championing justice, loving our neighbors, and seeking God's will for the land so many call home. In doing so, we raise the bar of our country's character, and fulfill our higher calling as citizens of the Kingdom of God.

### **DIVINE WORSHIP SERVICE**

| Prelude                           | Jerusalem, My Happy Home (arr. Shearing) Organ                                 |   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Introit                           | Alpha and Omega  | Vallejo Drive Worship                           |  |
| Welcome & Invocat                 | ion  | Pastor Aivars Ozolins                           |  |
| Songs of Worship                  | Eternal Father, Strong to Save #85<br>House of the Lord<br>Promises            | Chorister & Organ<br>Vallejo Drive Worship      |  |
| Garden of Prayer                  |  | Jella Greaves                                   |  |
| Congregational<br>Prayer Response | Into My Heart<br>(please remain kneeling)                                      | Congregation, Piano, &<br>Vallejo Drive Worship |  |
| Children's Feature                |  | Michelle Geldres                                |  |
| Pastor's Corner                   |  | Pastor Jonathan Henderson                       |  |
| Worship in Giving                 | Local Church Budget  | Erin Stone                                      |  |
| Offertory                         | God and God Alone (Kartsonakis)  | Matt Daley, piano                               |  |
| Responsive Reading                | Jeremiah 1:5-9   | Michael Chase                                   |  |
| Musical Feature                   | Shepherd (Bethel Music)  | lan Luna, voice and guitar                      |  |
| Sermon                            | "Discipleship 101: Chosen"   | Pastor Jonathan Henderson                       |  |
| Postlude                          | Fantasia on "America, The Beautiful"<br>(arr. Koury)<br>(please remain seated) | ' Organ   |  |

Organist/Pianist: Haesung Park, DMA Praise Team Director: Matt Daley, DMA

### PREACHING SCHEDULE

July 12, 2025: Pastor Jonathan Henderson July 19, 2025: Pastor Jonathan Henderson July 26, 2025: Pastor Jonathan Henderson

### **CHURCH LIFE**

#### **WELCOME AND HAPPY SABBATH!**

Thank you for choosing the Vallejo Drive Church as your place of worship. We pray that you will be blessed today.

#### **PASTORAL SCHEDULE & CHURCH OFFICE UPDATES**

Pastor Anthony will be supporting Camp Cedar Falls through July 12. If you are in need of support, please contact Pastor Jonathan, Pastor Aivars, Pastor Cindy, Pastor Ben, or Anne Leah at the church office. Anne Leah will be available via email only from July 7-14, 2025.

Our new church office hours are Monday to Friday, 9 am to 1 pm, 2 pm to 6 pm.

### MEMBERSHIP TRANSFERS (First Reading):

<u>Out:</u> Torres, John to Richardson SDA Church in Richardson, TX
Torres, Rebecca to Richardson SDA Church in Richardson, TX
Nwachuku, Christine to Mountain View Japanese SDA Church in Mountain View, CA

<u>In:</u> Bazan, Jocelyn from Central Filipino SDA Church in Los Angeles, CA Bazan, Johanna G. from Central Filipino SDA Church in Los Angeles, CA Bazan, Jorge from Central Filipino SDA Church in Los Angeles, CA

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for Jacqueline Baptiste, Makena, Petra Rodriguez, Philip De Rivaz, Collins family, Susan Lindner, Pratik, Roger Lindner, Wesley family, Birmingham family, Mattesi family, Danlag family, and for our members affected by the SoCal fires.

HAVE YOU SUPPORTED OUR ANGEL TREE PRISON MINISTRY? Please help us update our records with your name and how many years you have helped Angel Tree. Form located at Hostess Desk. For more information, contact Alma Wesley.

SCC OFFERING SCHEDULE: scc.adventist.org/treasury
July 12: GC Session Offering: Digital Strategy for Mission
July 26: SCC Media Production Studio

#### 9:30 am SABBATH SCHOOL & 10:15 am MISSION FEATURE in CHAPEL

July 3: Justin Khoe: "Empty Pew to a Million Views"

July 12: Elder Gerald Babeneshad: "Reaching out to our Muslim Friends"

#### **HOME AGAIN LA**

We need food! Contact Maite and Andrew Cervik on how you can help feed families in need on July 14-16, Aug 25-27, Sept 15-17, Oct 13-15, and Dec 8-10.

### WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Secret Sister Adventure is coming this summer. Please look for our display for info & registration in the foyer in June. All aboard!

#### VBS @ GAA:

Please see Kelly Fontamillas to sign up your child this summer! Volunteers needed July 14-18. Busy that week? Scan the QR code on this program for our Wishlist!

#### **GAA NEWS**

The 2025-2026 Worthy Student Educational Assistance application is posted on our website under Contact, then Forms. Please send to office@ vallejodrive.church, along with 2024 Income Tax Return and any other income documentation. Deadline is Monday, July 7, 2025.

Please continue to support our constituent school, Glendale Adventist Academy, their faculty, staff, and students. 818-244-8671.

### **CHURCH EVENTS**

| Sab, Jul 5   | Violin Concert: Hayden Wiseman | 7 pm, Sanctuary       |
|--------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Thu, Jul 12  | Memorial Service: Naomi Jabola | 2 pm, Sanctuary       |
| July 14-18   | Vacation Bible School at GAA   | Glendale Academy      |
| Fri, July 25 | Communion: Agape Feast         | 7 pm, Fellowship Hall |

### MINISTRIES AND OUTREACH

#### LAUNDRY LOVE MINISTRY

For those in need of laundry services: every 3rd Tuesday at 1157 N Pacific, Glendale For more info, contact Doug at 818-935-4317 or Pastor Cindy

**ADVENTURERS & PATHFINDERS** Adventurers (PreK-4th grade) and Pathfinders (ages 10+) meet on the 2nd and 4th Sabbaths, from Sept to June. adventurers@vallejodrive.church or text 818-571-2038

**TEENS4CHRIST:** T4C Hangout--A Friday after-school activity with games, snacks, and vespers for 7th and 8th graders. Fridays at 3 pm. vallejodrive.church/T4C

YOUNG ADULTS: 1st Sabbath of month: Afternoon Bible Study | 2nd Sabbath: Social Event | 3rd Friday: Joint Vespers with Eagle Rock SDA Church

#### **EXERCISE OPPORTUNITIES**

Come exercise with our Adventist Fitness Clinic! Sundays at 7am, Verdugo Park. Contact Irvin for more information.

During the week, join AHG LiveWell's Exercise program Mon-Wed <u>here at church!</u> Contact Sara at (818)409-8354 for dates and times.

The whole body is designed for action, and unless the physical powers are kept in health by active exercise, the mental power cannot long be used to their highest capacity." (Education, p.207)

#### WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

Mondays 7 pm on Zoom: Koinonia- led by Elder Doug Warner Wednesdays 6pm on Zoom: Seeking Jesus- led by Pastor Mark Papendick Wednesdays 7pm in-person: Bible Study- led by the Pastoral Staff

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Join our Media/AV team & be part of bringing worship to life, both in person and supporting our livestream. Contact Mavis 818-419-4429

WOMEN'S MINISTRY: <u>Baby Quilts</u>: Capable hands needed to complete baby quilts for LA General Medical Center's NICU. **NEXT MEETING: SUNDAY, JUNE 29.**<u>Can't come to quilt?</u> Visit vallejodrive.church/women for a list of needed supplies.

<u>Sponsor a Baby Quilt!</u> \$35 only! Contact Alma 747-215-0611 / Winna 818-919-9228

### MUSIC MINISTRY REHEARSALS--everyone is welcome!

Praise Team: Contact Matt Daley for more info: worship@vallejodrive.church Bell Choir: Fridays at 7:15 pm in the Bell Room. Contact the church office for info Choir: Saturdays at 9:15 am in the Choir Room. Contact the church office for info

VBS @ GAA: Amazon Wishlist



### **CHURCH INFORMATION**

**LISTENING DEVICES** are available at the Hostess Desk for guests who are hearing impaired.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS are available at the Hostess Desk for children ages 1 to 9. Please return them at the end of the service.

HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACES are available for people with disabilities and the proper placards in our two parking lots: 4 spaces in our Holly Drive lot, 3 spaces in our Vallejo Drive lot, and 2 spaces right in front of our Sanctuary.

### **CHURCH FINANCES**

Year-To-Date: July 3, 2025

| Total Local Church Giving                                       | \$517,288.81                 |
|---|------------------------------|
| Total Local Church Spending                                     | \$572,927.79                 |
| Budget Giving (incl. in local) Budget Spending (incl. in local) | \$191,617.18<br>\$239,785.51 |
| Tithes Received 2025  | \$541,854.76                 |
| Tithes Received 2024  | \$527 088 74                 |

### SABBATH SCHOOL

9:30-10:15 am: Adult Sabbath School Lesson Study (Chapel) 10:15-10:45 am: Adult Sabbath School Mission Program (Chapel) 9:45-10:30 am: Fellowship Hall Class (Fellowship Hall) 10-10:45 am: Spanish SS/Escuela Sabática (1st Floor Room 104A) 10-10:45 am: Gospel Conversations (Outside Hallway) 10-10:45 am: Young Adult Sabbath School (Cafe)

# CHILDREN AND YOUTH CLASSES Education Complex KIDS CONNECTION at 9:45 am in Room 106

| Beginners        | Birth - 36 months | 1st floor, Room 116A |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Tiny Tots        | 3 & 4 years old   | 2nd floor, Room 206A |
| Kindergarten     | 5-7 years old     | 2nd floor, Room 204B |
| Primary          | 3rd & 4th grades  | 2nd floor, Room 202A |
| Juniors          | 5th & 6th grades  | 2nd floor, Room 208A |
| T4C (Earliteens) | 7th & 8th grades  | 1st floor, Room 104A |
| VDrive- Youth    | 9th - 12th grades | 2nd floor, Room 202A |

## **CONTACT US**

| Lead Pastor: Jonathan Henderson    | 747-291-8994 | henderson@vallejodrive.church    |
|------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| Teaching/Care: Aivars Ozolins      | 818-928-9230 | pastoraivars@vallejodrive.church |
| Admin/Comm Services: Ben Garcia    | 818-424-4180 | adminpastor@vallejodrive.church  |
| Youth: Cindy Ramirez-Hui           | 818-246-2476 | pastorcindy@vallejodrive.church  |
| Young Adults: Anthony Paschal, Jr. | 818-246-2476 | youngadults@vallejodrive.church  |
| Worship Director: Matthew Daley    | 818-246-2476 | worship@vallejodrive.church      |
| Choir Director: Helene Quintana    | 818-246-2476 | office@vallejodrive.church       |
| Treasurer: Michelle Sharda         | 818-246-2476 | treasurer@vallejodrive.church    |
| Admin Assistant: Anne Leah D. Guia | 818-246-2476 | office@valleiodrive.church       |



OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

A Place Where GRACE is UNCONDITIONAL

July 5, 2025

"Discipleship 101: Chosen"

Pastor Jonathan Henderson

Vallejo Drive Church of Seventh-day Adventists 300 Vallejo Drive, Glendale, CA 91206

Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 9 am-6 pm Phone: 818-246-2476 Fax: 818-246-0157 office@vallejodrive.church www.vallejodrive.church