

Pastor D's Letter May 29, 2022

In John 10:15-18 Jesus said:

I lay down my life...
No one takes it from me,
But I lay it down of my own accord.

On this Memorial Day weekend, we remember those who lay down their lives to give us freedom. We are thankful for their sacrifice. We respond to their sacrifice by holding dear the freedom they won for us at such a great cost. In the same way we should be thankful to God for Jesus laying down His life to give us freedom from sin and death. And, we should live holding dear the new life Jesus gives to us.

Last week I shared about the Hymn "In Christ Alone." I shared that this Hymn balances the wrath of God with the grace of God. When we sing it at Sierra Vista Presbyterian Church, we turn it into a Medley. A Medley is when you combine two or more songs. When we sing, "In Christ Alone", we add the chorus of the Praise song, "The Stand" after the last verse. So, after singing:

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

We add:

So I'll stand with arms high and heart abandoned

In awe of the one who gave it all
I'll stand, my soul Lord to You surrendered

All I am is Yours
(Repeat)

I like this Medley. It is a fitting response to God's grace. Once you have professed faith and commitment to the God who saves, you can't help but respond with worship of that God. Our response to God's grace is to stand in awe of God and surrender all we have to God, even our very selves.

Standing with you, in awe of God's grace.

Dr. D

P.S.

An update and thank you to all who sponsored me in this year's KCFY 108 hole tournament. I did not play well, but SVPC was well represented. Tyler Claar (Brian's son and leader of "Total Recovery") took second place and won the long drive contest. Congratulations to Esteban Escobar who won the tournament. The total amount raised for the station by the event was \$45,742.40. With your help, I raised \$12,260 for the station. Thank you for all your support.

NEWS UPDATES

- Join us for **Fellowship after Church**.
- The church office will be **closed Monday** in honor of Memorial Day.
- **MASKS ARE OPTIONAL** IN WORSHIP! Be considerate of those who choose to wear masks and maintain social distance.
- If you cannot come in person, we continue to broadcast our **SERVICE LIVE** every Sunday at 9 a.m. on <https://www.facebook.com/SierraVistaPresbyterianChurch/>. Our account is public. **YOU DO NOT NEED A FACEBOOK ACCOUNT TO WATCH**. If you come to worship in person or watch at home, **invite a friend to join you**. **Worship sheets** are available on our website at <https://www.sierravistayuma.com/> under the NEWS Tab.
- If you wish to receive the monthly **newsletter** or know someone who wants to receive **Pastor D's Letter**, contact the church office with your email information.
- **THANK YOU for your CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT** of the church by giving in person, mailing a check, or giving ONLINE.