



# Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

---

Sunday, October 8, 2023  
Indigenous Peoples Sunday

---

# GATHERING US IN

## PRELUDE

*Wichoni Song (Dakota for Life)*  
Dakota ("life"): WICHONI  
Ojibwe ("life"): BIMAADIZIWIN

Jim Rock

## VALLEY'S LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Jen Biggs

## LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Sheila Sheldon & Rev. Richard Buller

## GATHERING MUSIC

*Chante Wašhte Ohinniyan*  
(Dakota for Joyful Heart Always)

Rachel Williams  
Missy Rudeen  
Jim Rock, Jay Tracy

## OPENING SENTENCES

Crystal Boyd & Susie Potter

## HYMN #714

*God of the Fertile Fields* (verses 1 & 2)

*God of the fertile fields, shaper of earth that yields  
our daily bread: forth from your bounteous hand  
come gifts your love has planned, that all in every land  
be clothed and fed.*

*We would be stewards true, holding in trust from you  
all that you give; help us in love to share,  
teach us like you to care for people everywhere,  
that all may live.*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We come to you, O God, the people of this generation, who inhabit your earth. You have shaped us in our mother's wombs and created us to be your servant people, stewards of your creation. You created a fragile world in careful balance and ask us to tend to your garden and all its beauty.

But we can lose sight of our calling. We make choices that benefit only ourselves, instead of the greater good. We confess that we are far away from the promise of peace on earth. Help us find a new way, God, to turn from the curse of violence and hatred. Help us turn from pride that leads us astray from your call to love our neighbor. May your love guide us into relationships with friends and strangers to create a human family that is prepared to fulfill your promise of peace. Amen.

## MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

## RESPONSE TO THE GOOD NEWS #441

*Hear the good news of salvation:  
Jesus died to show God's love.  
Such great kindness! Such great mercy!  
Come to us from heaven above.  
Jesus Christ, how much I love you!  
Jesus Christ, you save from sin!  
How I love you! Look upon me.  
Love me still and cleanse within.*

## HEARING THE WORD

TIME WITH YOUNG WORSHIPPERS

Julie Westerlund

Congregational Blessing: You are God's beloved child.  
With you God is well pleased.

SPECIAL MUSIC

*Wakantank Taku Nitawa  
(Many and Great, O God, Are Your Works)  
Dakota Hymn—Joseph Renville*

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 21:33-46 (Common English Bible)

Jan Fedora

SERMON

*The Earth Belongs to God*

Rev. Richard Buller

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN #713

*Touch the Earth Lightly* (verses 1 & 3)

*Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently,  
nourish the life of the world in our care: gift of great wonder,  
ours to surrender, trust for the children tomorrow will bear.*

*Let there be greening, birth from the burning,  
water that blesses and air that is sweet,  
health in God's garden, hope in God's children,  
regeneration that peace will complete.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

*Indigenous Peoples Sunday*

Crystal Boyd

OFFERTORY

*O God the Creator*  
Elizabeth Haile & Cecil Corbett

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Thank you, Creator, for all that You have given us. Thank you for the beauty of the universe: the trees, the sky, the mountains, the rain. All things hold beauty and touch our lives daily. May we walk gently upon the earth, nurtured by your love and open to the wind of your Spirit. May we take only what we need, always open to the needs of others. Show us, O God, how to live generously. Amen.

## SENDING US OUT

HYMN #715 *The Earth Belongs to God Alone* (verses 1, 3 & 4)

*The earth belongs to God alone; hard clay, rich soil, fine sand.  
Give thanks wherever food is grown on borrowed holy land.*

*All life belongs to God alone, in wilderness and fields.  
From fallow land, or plowed and sown, God gives the good it yields.*

*Till God endows the earth once more with Eden's state of grace,  
may we endeavor to restore all land as sacred space.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Zitkada Duta Odowan - Red Bird Song*  
(They gather, fly, call out, and sing together)  
Jim Rock

The Worship Has Ended. The Service Begins.

## Chancel Flowers

Sunday, October 8

Sponsored by **Chelsie & Joel Larsen**

In honor of our daughter Aubrie's 8th golden birthday!

Please click [HERE](#) to dedicate your chancel flowers.

# Joys and Concerns

Prayers for **Carolyn Anderson** who is at home recovering from Covid and the Flu.

Prayers for **Valerie Robinson** who had knee surgery on Sept 28.

Prayers for **Charlotte Davnie** who has been diagnosed with breast cancer and will have surgery on October 17.

Continued prayers for **Lisa Kummer** whose last CT scan was stable and some of the cancerous nodes even shrunk! Lisa will continue her chemotherapy.

Click [HERE](#) to visit Lisa's Caring Bridge site.

Continued prayers for **Taichi Chen** who started his clinical trial Sept 26.

Click [HERE](#) to visit Taichi's Caring Bridge site.

Continued prayers for **Rick Carlson** as he continues to exercise, working on building strength and balance while waiting for a new heart and kidney donation.

Click [HERE](#) to visit Rick's Caring Bridge site.

## EASY WAYS TO GIVE TO VALLEY AND/OR COMMUNITY PARTNERS GIVE ONE TIME OR RECURRING

### 1. MAIL YOUR CHECK TO VALLEY

- In the memo of the check, indicate what your donation is for (i.e. Pledge, PRISM, etc.)

### 2. ONLINE GIVING

- Visit Valley's secured online giving by clicking [HERE](#) to make a one-time or recurring gift to Valley or our community partners.

RECURRING GIFTS: Sign in, or create a new account.

ONE-TIME GIFTS: Click "[Quick Give](#)" to send a one-time gift.

### 3. AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWALS FROM YOUR BANK ACCOUNT

- Contact Chelsie Larsen: 507-272-1914 | [chelsie.larsen@valleychurch.net](mailto:chelsie.larsen@valleychurch.net) to set up withdrawals directly from your account. You can always adjust the amount.

# This Week at Valley

Sunday, October 8

9:30 am Worship Service

**Indigenous Peoples Sunday**

10:30 am Fellowship Hour

11:00 am Adult Ed

4:00 pm TEAMS & Youth Group

Monday, October 9

Tuesday, October 10

6:30 pm Hand Bell Rehearsal

Wednesday, October 11

Thursday, October 12

10:00 am Bible Fellowship

Friday, October 13

7:00 pm Fridays in the Valley

Saturday, October 14

5:00 pm Fall Festival

Sunday, October 15

9:30 am Worship Service

10:30 am Fellowship Hour

11:00 am Adult Ed

4:00 pm TEAMS & Youth Group

A special thank you to our  
Worship Team, especially Katie  
Decker, Myron Jones, Larry  
Johnson, Joel Larsen, Janet  
Triplett, Brandon Novy, and  
Roger Graphenteen for  
broadcasting the services.

# Valley Staff

## Ministers

All 414 members of this  
congregation.

## Pastor

Rev. Richard D. Buller

## Educational Ministries Director

Sheila Sheldon

## Office Administrator

William Glasper

## Program & Communications Coordinator

Mariah Messer

## Music Coordinator

Rachel Williams

## Hand Bell Choir Director

Janet M.T. Carlson

## Sunshine Room Leader

James Decker

## Custodian

Hunter Sheldon

## PARISH ASSOCIATES

Rev. Jim Cook

Rev. Bill Davnie

Rev. Kate O'Brien Soltau

Rev. David Phillips

Rev. Nancy Phillips

Rev. Rebecca Tollefson

Rev. Aron Wilterding

## SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

October 1: 229 (100 in-person)

September 24: 270 (99 in-person)



# Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## Adult Education | October 8 | 11:00 AM LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT UPDATES

**Crystal Boyd** and **Jim Rock** will share an update on the 2022 oral history project and new projects that have been inspired by this important work. Then, Jim Rock will share an update on the work happening in Mountain Lake, MN with Makoce Ikikcupi. Makoce Ikikcupi, meaning Land Recovery, is a project of reparative justice on Dakota homelands in Minisota Makoce (Minnesota).

**Hosted in The Cornerstone Room**

## PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS



**Blessed are those who seek to make peace in home, community, and world.**

Peace empowered by joy is at a premium in our world. It is difficult to find and even more challenging to maintain. In our polarized world torn by war, famine, and marginalization of the poor and disenfranchised, we are in desperate need of joyful and brave people willing to ask the hard questions and live with the difficult solutions that make peace possible. Each of us is only one person, but together, we can take a step forward in joy.

Led by Jesus is to be led by peace. We are not alone. Our offering contributions will join countless others who, as we do, believe that peace is possible, and joy is the better way to live.

Support of this Peace & Global Witness Offering is the step we can take today. May we give thanks for our own peace and joy and do what we can to make that possible for others. **Please, mark your joy-filled offering PEACE.**





*LAST CHANCE!*

*Purchase a Wreath  
in Fellowship Hall  
This Sunday!*

*Or contact the office!*



**Fridays in  
the Valley  
Presents:**

**Pavel Jany**  
~and~  
**Dean Harrington**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2023 | 7:00 PM

FREE-WILL OFFERINGS BENEFIT  
**AND NOW SHE RISES - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**



Fall Festival 2023

**COME ON DOWN!**

**October 14 | 5-7 pm**

**LIVE GAME SHOW STARTS AT 5:30P**

**\* FOOD \* GAMES \* SILENT AUCTION \* LIVE AUCTION \*  
BOUNCE HOUSE \* FUN FOR EVERYONE \***

**You are invited to come together with Valley friends of  
all ages and raise funds to paint the Fellowship Hall.**

To volunteer or donate to the auction, contact the Church Office.



Valley Community



**Valley Community**

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



**Adult Education | October 15 | 11:00 AM**

**BREAD FOR THE WORLD**

We have a great opportunity this fall because the **US Farm Bill** is up for reauthorization. Federal nutrition programs, a part of the Farm Bill, provide 10 times as much food assistance as private churches and charities combined. Bread for the **World Volunteers** will show us how to speak up so the government will listen and help feed hungry children and families.

**Hosted in The Cornerstone Room**

# Valley Craft Club!

Valley crafters had so much fun crafting together we decided to make it a regular event & meet more often. **This month's featured craft is holiday card-making!** Carolyn Anderson will demo and share examples. We'll have all the supplies you need - **suggested donation of \$5.** Bring a project (or projects!) to work on and a dish to share. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall.

See you there!

**October 21, 2023**  
**10 AM - 4 PM**



Rehearsals on  
Wed. 7:00 pm

## VCPC CHOIR

**VALLEY IS EXCITED TO ENJOY OUR  
CHOIR AGAIN ON SELECT SUNDAYS!**

Sunday, Oct. 22 | Rehearsal Oct. 18

Sunday, Nov. 5 | Rehearsal Nov. 1

Sunday, Nov. 19 | Rehearsal Nov. 15

Sunday, Dec. 3 | Rehearsal Nov. 29

Sunday, Dec. 17 | Rehearsal Dec. 13

Wednesday rehearsals will be held on the  
Wednesday the same week before the Sundays above.



# Happy Birthday Valley Family!

Lisa Cawhorn 10/1  
Lonnie Johnson 10/2  
Brayden Rude 10/2  
Reid Nichols 10/3  
Margaret Sandberg 10/5  
Gail Smith 10/5  
Rachel Hole 10/6  
Brandon Novy 10/6  
April Kovacovich 10/7  
Cathy LaPoint 10/7  
Valerie Craven 10/8  
Nancy Husnik 10/8  
Aubrie Larsen 10/8  
Karen Sauter 10/10  
Thom Reinert 10/11  
Madelyn Soens 10/11  
Alexander Kara 10/12  
Jack Perry 10/12  
Earl Robertson 10/12  
Max Westerlund 10/12  
Ginger Jackson 10/13  
Benjamin Gillett 10/14  
Myron Jones 10/14  
Chrisdel Nyongkah 10/15  
Cheryl Smith 10/15

Peggy Meyer 10/17  
Eli Matthews Doering 10/18  
Linda Wold 10/18  
Lilianna Schellhaas 10/19  
Andrew Freeberg 10/22  
Les Freeberg 10/22  
Ann Keen 10/23  
Earl Michael 10/24  
Alex Graham 10/25  
Nancy Olson 10/25  
Mary Ann Winter 10/25  
Janet Triplett 10/26  
Myrle Reiswig 10/27  
Catherine Paulson 10/28  
Norman Chervany 10/29  
Ann Van Heest 10/31





# Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Open Hearts • Open Minds • Opening Lives to God

**—Established May 20, 1951—**

## Land Acknowledgement Statement

Valley Community Presbyterian Church sits on the ancestral and contemporary land of the Dakota people, for whom the land holds historical, spiritual, political, and cultural significance.

We acknowledge the ongoing injustices that we have committed against the Dakota people and pledge to interrupt this legacy. We will educate ourselves about Indigenous history and recognize, support, and advocate for our Native neighbors.

3100 Lilac Drive North  
Golden Valley, MN 55422  
[www.valleychurch.net](http://www.valleychurch.net)  
Office: 763-588-0831  
Phone Ministry: 763-220-1455



Scan to give online!