

# Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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**Sunday, November 26, 2023**

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# GATHERING US IN

## PRELUDE

*Prelude in G-Major*  
G. F. Handel

Jane Nienaber, organ

*All People Who on Earth Do Dwell*  
Johann Pachelbel & J. G. Walther

## LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

### GATHERING MUSIC

*We Gather Together*  
Michael Burkhardt

## OPENING SENTENCES

HYMN #385 *All People Who on Earth Do Dwell* (verses 1, 3 & 4)

*All people that on earth do dwell,  
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell.  
Come ye before him and rejoice.*

*O enter then his gates with praise;  
approach with joy his courts unto;  
praise, laud, and bless his name always,  
for it is seemly so to do.*

*For why? The Lord our God is good;  
his mercy is forever sure;  
his truth at all times firmly stood,  
and shall from age to age endure.*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Richard Buller

Holy God, when we are anxious about the future, we seek out the familiar—hoping to steady our lives. We expect a timeline in life that follows our terms, and we often forget that you have created us as a people full of hope. We often try to hurry through the unknown, forgetting to plant a garden or create a new life in your love.

We confess today that there have been many times we have passed over the gospel promises given to us by your Son. When we worry about the future, plant our feet on solid ground and help us imagine your love being our guide. Call us to be good stewards of our time and to live our lives in service to you. In the name of your son who guides us daily, we pray.  
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 #466

*Come and fill our hearts with your peace.  
You alone, O Lord, are holy.  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace.  
Alleluia!*

# HEARING THE WORD

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Today we celebrate the baptism of **Neiko Griffin & Ne'Von Johnson**.  
Neiko was born 3/29/2019 and Ne'von was born 10/14/2023.  
They are the children of **Monique St. John**.

Sheila: ...Let us welcome this newly-baptized child.

All: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church to share with us in Christ's ministry, for we are all one in Christ. Amen.

## TIME WITH YOUNG WORSHIPPERS

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

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*Jamaican Melody*  
Arr. John Behnke

Handbells

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Jeremiah 29:11-13  
Ephesians 1:15-19

## SERMON

*The Invisible String*

Sheila Sheldon

# RESPONDING TO THE WORD

## HYMN #767

*Together We Serve* (verses 1, 2 & 4)

*Together we serve, united by love,  
inviting God's world to the glorious feast.  
We work and we pray through sorrow and joy,  
extending God's love to the last and the least.*

*We seek to become a beacon of hope,  
a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.  
We learn, year by year, to let love shine through  
until we see Christ in each person we meet.*

*Together, by grace, we witness and work,  
remembering Jesus, in whom we grow strong.  
Together we serve in Spirit and truth,  
remembering love is the strength of our song.*

## 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.

Dawn Schuldt

*Let All Things Now Living*  
Frank Stoldt

God of justice and love, we dream of a world made new, where we strive to love all your children. May our gifts be put to work, seeking to build up your kingdom and bring your message of hope to all. Inspire us to help those who struggle to meet their daily needs. Lead us and guide us as we seek an abundant future for all communities, so that they may enjoy your gifts of peace, hope, and love. Amen.

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord.  
She is his new creation by water and the word.  
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride.  
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore:  
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,  
like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

POSTLUDE *Toccata on The Church's One Foundation*  
Robert Hobby

The Worship Has Ended. The Service Begins.

In memory of her husband Tom Fedora.

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

# Joys and Concerns

Prayers for **Ann Roach** as she recovers from neck surgery she had on Nov 10 at the Mayo Hospital in Rochester.

Prayers for **Charlotte Davnie** who was diagnosed with breast cancer and is recovering from surgery. She will be starting chemotherapy on December 5.

Continued prayers for **Lisa Kummer** who has changed chemotherapy regimens after her latest bloodwork and tests showed some disease progression. Lisa and her doctors are very confident that this new regimen will resume attacking her cancer.

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

Continued prayers for **Taichi Chen** whose scan results included the words stable and decrease! Taichi feels good with no side effects. Weekly appointments will continue for 6 weeks. We are grateful for all the support! 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, November 26**

9:30 am Worship Service

Sheila Sheldon Preaching

10:30 am Fellowship Hour

10:30 am Hanging of the Greens

**Monday, November 27**

6:30 pm Session Meeting

**Tuesday, November 28**

6:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal

**Wednesday, November 29**

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, November 30**

10:00 am Bible Fellowship

**Friday, December 1**

**6:00 pm Richard's Retirement Dinner**

**Saturday, December 2**

9:00 am Bridging Event

**Sunday, December 3**

9:30 am Worship Service

**First Sunday of Advent—Hope**

10:30 am Fellowship Hour

4:00 pm Youth & TEAMS

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 412 members of this  
congregation.

## Pastor & Head of Staff

Rev. Richard D. Buller

## Educational Ministries Director

Sheila Sheldon

## Office Administrator

William Glasper

## Program & Communications Coordinator

Mariah Messer

## Music Coordinator

Rachel Williams

## Choral & Handbell 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

November 19: 282 (142 in-person)

November 12: 252 (109 in-person)



Rehearsals on  
Wed. 7:00 pm

# VCPC CHOIR

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

Sunday, Dec. 3 | Rehearsal Nov. 29  
Sunday, Dec. 17 | Rehearsal Dec. 13

Sunday, Jan. 14 | Rehearsal Jan. 10



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

## BRIDGING DRESSER BUILD

1730 TERRACE DR. ROSEVILLE, MN 55113

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2 | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

8-12 volunteers needed.

Dress comfortably in clothes you can get dirty.

Close-toed shoes required.

**SIGN UP IN FELLOWSHIP HALL | VISIT [BRIDGING.ORG](https://bridging.org) FOR MORE INFO**  
**CONTACT ANDREW PITAN WITH QUESTIONS (507-475-0118)**





# ADVENT 2023 SCHEDULE

**SUNDAY, 12/3**

**9:30 AM • 1st Sunday of Advent • Worship with communion**

**SUNDAY, 12/10**

**9:30 AM • 2nd Sunday of Advent**

Christmas Pageant (during worship) | Baptism of Sam Rudeen

**SUNDAY, 12/17**

**9:15 AM • 3rd Sunday of Advent • Christmas Music Sunday**

11:00 AM | Christmas Cookie Exchange

**SUNDAY, 12/24**

**9:30 AM • 4th Sunday of Advent • Worship Service**

Rev. Kate O'Brien Soltau Preaching

**4:30 PM • Christmas Eve Family Service (music starts at 4:15 pm)**

**9:30 PM • Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with communion**

Advent in  
the Valley



Valley Community





# POINSETTIA SALE



ORDER BY DECEMBER 3

Order forms in the Narthex, Fellowship Hall,  
or email [office@valleychurch.net](mailto:office@valleychurch.net)

'Tis the season to decorate our Valley!

## *Valley Brew Crew*

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3 | 1:00-6:00 PM**

### **PAT DAILY'S HOUSE**

use your church directory or contact the office

**Great craft beverages!  
Test out a new holiday appetizer!**

**CONTACT JAY PERRY FOR DETAILS:**  
763-438-2476 | [j\\_perry3@yahoo.com](mailto:j_perry3@yahoo.com)





**Fridays in  
the Valley  
Presents:**



## **ABOVE AVERAGE TUBA QUARTET**

Friday, December 8, 2023 | 7:00 pm

FREE-WILL OFFERINGS BENEFIT  
**PRISM HOLIDAY TOY SHOPPE**



Valley Community



## **Cookie Exchange**

Sunday,  
December 17  
11:00 am

Fellowship Hall



### **ATTENTION COOKIE BAKERS!**

BAKE 6+ DOZEN OF YOUR FAVORITE COOKIE(S) AND  
BRING THEM TO FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR THE BIG SWAP!

Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or email Katie Decker ([katiebdmn@gmail.com](mailto:katiebdmn@gmail.com))  
or Sheila Sheldon ([sheila.sheldon@vallechurch.net](mailto:sheila.sheldon@vallechurch.net)).

# Happy Birthday Valley Family!

Evan Miller 11/3	Landon Golffon 11/16
Carolina Michael 11/4	Megan Parks 11/16
Ryan Chancellor 11/5	Vonnie Olson 11/17
Jack Halverson 11/5	Mary Dunham 11/18
Joel Larsen 11/5	Larry Melander 11/18
Sara Perry 11/6	Mabel Willey 11/18
Larry Dunham 11/7	Walter Messer 11/19
Miranda Graham 11/9	Jasmyn Swanson 11/21
Jean Ann Buller 11/10	Lisa Tracy 11/21
Lotti Matkovits 11/11	Hsu-hui Wang 11/21
Sue Modert 11/11	Lyn Boyd 11/23
Diane Shenk 11/11	Bob Ripley 11/23
Jessica Smith 11/11	Mary Roback 11/23
Vicki Eklund 11/12	Madeline Wandmacher 11/24
Gary Roback 11/12	Angela Zywicki 11/25
Calvin Buller 11/13	Janelle Carlson 11/26
Allison Wandmacher 11/13	Karen Chancellor 11/29
Chuck Thurston 11/14	Brad Pleimling 11/30
Everett Hagelin 11/15	





# Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Open Hearts • Open Minds • Opening Lives to God

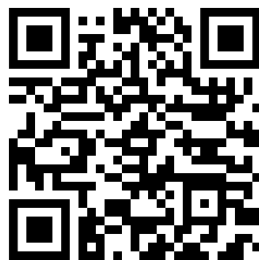
**—Established May 20, 1951—**

## 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.

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