



# Valley Community

PC(USA)

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**Sunday, March 3, 2024**

Third Sunday of Lent

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# GATHERING US IN

## PRELUDE

Vocalise  
Sergei Rachmaninoff

Rachel Williams, cello  
Paul Kovacovic, piano

## LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

GATHERING MUSIC *Arabischer Tanz & Mazurka* from Peer Gynt  
Edvard Grieg

## OPENING SENTENCES

### † HYMN #409

*God Is Here!* (verses 1, 2 & 3)

*God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,  
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.  
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts  
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.*

*Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace;  
here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place.*

*Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,  
here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.*

*Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;  
here, as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.*

*Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore  
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sheila Sheldon

Holy God, some days we are quick to declare your goodness. We see you in our midst and we are confident in our faith. Other days we are distracted and uncertain, desperate for answers. Forgive us for losing sight of you. Some days we are quick to trust your blessings—trusting that we are called, that we can make a difference. Other days, our praise falls silent and doubt creeps in. Forgive us for losing sight of ourselves.

We know that fear and doubt are part of the journey of faith. But for the days when we are far from you and far from ourselves, we ask for your tender grace. Pull us closer toward you. Remind us of the mountaintop moments of our faith. Amen.

## MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

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

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

## RESPONSE TO THE GOOD NEWS #409

*Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt  
keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.*

*Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive:  
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!*

## HEARING THE WORD

### TIME WITH YOUNG WORSHIPPERS

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

### SPECIAL MUSIC

*Impressions on Green*  
Kevin Olson

### SCRIPTURAL LESSON

Matthew 16:13-20

### SERMON

*Upon This Rock*

Rev. Jim Cochrane

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### † HYMN #465

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

*What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit; O what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!  
Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.*

### MINUTE FOR MISSION

*PRISM and MN FoodShare*

Jackie Goiffon

## SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

### 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.

#### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

#### SHARING OF THE BREAD & CUP

#### MUSICAL REFLECTION

*Symphony No. 3, Mvt. 1*  
Camille Saint-Saens

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God, we bring you our praise for the wonderous love you freely give to us. We have received the gift of your abiding presence in this time of communion, and your Spirit has connected our hearts to our family of faith. Keep our lives open in the days ahead so that we might proclaim your saving love. Amen.

† Please rise in body or spirit.

# SENDING US OUT

† HYMN #634

*To God Be the Glory*

*To God be the glory; great things he has done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.*

Refrain:

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory: great things he has done!  
Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
but purer and higher and greater will be  
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (Refrain)*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Ma Mere L'Oye - Le jardin feerique*  
Maurice Ravel

The Worship Has Ended. The Service Begins.

Portions of liturgy adapted from prayers by Rev. Sarah A. Speed  
A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

## Chancel Flowers

Sunday, March 3

Sponsored by **Brian & Rachel Hole.**

In memory of Tyler John Hole who would have been 35.

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

† Please rise in body or spirit.

# Joys and Concerns

Prayers for **Dawn Hill** who was taken to North Memorial on Feb. 27 after having difficulty breathing. The medical team found a pulmonary embolism and are putting together a care plan for her.

Continued prayers for **Charlotte Davnie** as she continues her chemotherapy treatment for breast cancer. She had her recent infusion on 2/7/24 followed by radiation.

Continued prayers for **Lisa Kummer** for her ongoing management of her breast cancer. Her new chemotherapy regimen began in late December, and the results are promising. The tumors are shrinking or stable, her coughing has been greatly reduced, her use of Tylenol to manage symptoms has completely evaporated, and the tumor markers in her blood have dropped 25 points.

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

Continued prayers for **Taichi Chen** who had a scan on 1/30/24 and the results showed that things are stable. Taichi's next scan is in 4 weeks. The Chens are focusing on their gratitude for all the love, support, and people through this journey.

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

Continued prayers for **Rick Carlson** as he returned to Abbott Hospital on Feb. 26. They acknowledged low blood pressure, but C-DIFF didn't help. Doctors are working to determine an alternative to the pace maker and ensuring he stays hydrated.

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.

### 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, March 3

9:30 am Worship Service

Third Sunday of Lent

With Communion

10:30 am Fellowship Hour

4:00 pm Youth / TEAMS Group

Monday, March 4

11:30 pm Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, March 5

Voting Day at Valley

6:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 6

6:00 pm Lenten Dinner

7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 7

10:00 am Bible Fellowship

7:00 pm Gentle Yoga

Friday, March 8

7:00 pm Fridays in the Valley

Saturday, March 9

Sunday, March 10

9:30 am Worship Service

Fourth Sunday of Lent

10:30 am Fellowship Hour

4:00 pm Youth / TEAMS Group

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

# Valley Staff

**Ministers**

All 402 members of this congregation.

**Transitional Pastor**

**Head of Staff**

Rev. Jim Cochrane

**Educational Ministries Director**

Sheila Sheldon

**Office Administrator**

Savannah Martinez

**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

February 25: 170 (88 in-person)

February 18: 237 (123 in-person)



# Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Adult Education | March 3 | 11:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY: PETER'S STORY | REV. JIM COCHRANE

Simon Peter is one of the most relatable figures in the Bible for Christians. He is a dedicated follower of Jesus, he is everything we strive to be! But cracks begin to emerge when diving deeper into his story. Peter struggles with his faith: he wants to believe but he is challenged by Jesus' messages and occasionally fails to comprehend the gravity of what is being asked of him. Sound familiar?

**Hosted in The Cornerstone Room**



# Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Adult Education | March 10 | 11:00 AM

CELEBRATING 85 YEARS AND BEYOND OF WELCOME  
KARLA LEITZMAN - GLOBAL REFUGE PHILANTHROPIC ADVISOR

For 85 years, Global Refuge, formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, has lived out our vocational calling of welcoming the stranger. Come learn about the history, present, and future of this ministry of welcome and how you can join us as we live out our mission in an increasingly tumultuous environment.

**Hosted in The Cornerstone Room**

**Fridays in  
the Valley  
Presents:**



# Broadway Swider Duo



**Friday, March 8, 2024 | 7:00 PM**

FREE-WILL OFFERINGS BENEFIT  
**MINNESOTA FOODSHARE**

 Valley Community



# VCPC CHOIR

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

**Sunday, Mar. 10** | Rehearsal Mar. 6 at **7:15pm**  
**Sunday, Mar. 31** | Rehearsal Mar. 27

**Sunday, Apr. 14** | Rehearsal Apr. 10  
**Sunday, Apr. 21** | Rehearsal Apr. 17

**Sunday, May 5** | Rehearsal May 1  
**Sunday, May 12** | Rehearsal May 8  
**Sunday, May 19** | Rehearsal May 15



Wednesday rehearsals take place on the  
Wednesday the same week before the Sundays  
above at 7:00pm unless specified otherwise.



# WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

FEBRUARY 21 - MARCH 20 | 6:00 PM

Join us in-person or virtually for our Wednesdays in Lent Fellowship time.

Join Pastor Jim for Wednesdays in Lent, a time to reflect on our faith both individually and as a community. Dinner will be hosted by Church Committees from 6:00-6:45pm. After dinner, we'll move into a more worshipful moment together. The discussions that we have during the Lenten season will be fodder for the Mission Study Committee in the spring when they will begin collecting information.

Members are encouraged to bring sides and desserts!  
Last names A-L Dessert | M-Z Side dish



 Valley Community

## PACK THE PEWS FOR PRISM

The Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches (GMCC) has announced its 41st March Campaign in partnership with Minnesota FoodShare. That means it's time to **PACK THE PEWS, VALLEY!**

Donation Deadline: **MARCH 24**

### SUGGESTED ITEMS

**Sugar & Flour (5lbs)**   **Pasta Sauce**   **Cereal**   **Canned Vegetables**  
**Cooking Oil**   **Tuna & Chicken**   **Peanut Butter**   **Pasta**





## VALLEY COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN  
DONATING BLOOD THIS SPRING?

Before we can set a date for the  
blood drive, we need to make  
sure there is enough interest!

Sign up online  
[CLICK HERE](#)  
or in the  
Fellowship Hall!

 Valley Community

Save The Date!

22nd Annual  
Y.E.S. Tea

Saturday, April 27 | 2 pm



# 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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Phone Ministry: 763-220-1455



**Scan to give online!**