



Valley Community

PC(USA)

Sunday, March 10, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Lent

GATHERING US IN

PRELUDE

Open The Eyes Of My Heart
by Paul Baloche

Rachel Williams, piano

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

GATHERING MUSIC

My Tribute
by Andrae Crouch

OPENING SENTENCES

† Hymn #401

Here In This Place (verses 1, 2 & 4)

Here in this place the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young; our lives are a mystery. We are the old who yearn for your face.

We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away;
here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Jim Cochrane

Holy God, we often find ourselves moving through a world that does not make sense. Like Peter, we want to yell out, "This should not happen!" We want to control scenarios beyond our reach. We want to hold your world in our hands. Forgive us for the moments when we lead with declarations instead of curiosity. Forgive us for arguing when we could listen. Forgive us for fixating on one truth, when we could open ourselves up to many. Soften our hard edges and teach us how to listen. With hope in our hearts we pray. 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 #837

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

HEARING THE WORD

TIME WITH YOUNG WORSHIPPERS

Rev. Jim Cochrane

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

Jesus, Lover of My Soul/Fairest Lord Jesus
arr. by Ruth Elaine Schram

Valley Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 16:21-23

SERMON

Standing In Our Own Way

Sheila Sheldon

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† Hymn # 720

Jesus Calls Us

Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth saying, "Christian, follow me."
Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more."

In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."

Jesus calls us: by thy mercies, Savior, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thy obedience, serve and love thee best of all.

PRAYER 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

Celebrate the Gift of Women

Rev. Rebecca Tollefson

OFFERTORY

Nothing but the Blood
by Robert Lowry, Arr. by Glenda Austin

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, from the overflowing of your love, we have been given abundance upon abundance. Today, O Lord, we give of our gifts abundantly and ask that you receive our offerings and bless them. May they be used to bring light and love to those in our community and around the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING US OUT

† Hymn #837

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine (verses 2 & 3)

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain:

Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
leaning on the everlasting arms. (Refrain)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Wondrous Love
Arr. by John Carter

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 10

Sponsored by **The Grosshuesch Family.**

In memory of Betty Allabough. Happy birthday on 3/1/24!

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

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for **Tom Magill** who will have a knee replacement on 3/12/24 at Mercy Hospital and prayers for **Pam Magill** who will have an angiogram on 3/15/24 at North Memorial. Tom will have an overnight stay after surgery and Pam may need to stay.

Prayers for **Mark Toering**, who had back surgery on Thursday 3/7/24.

Prayers for **Andrew Pitan** and his family as they mourn the loss of their beloved grandma who passed peacefully on Tuesday 3/5/24, she was 93 years old.

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. She had her first radiation appointment on February 27 to treat the tumors on her brain. She is still waiting results of her most recent scan and is grateful to have such an amazing care team that really cares about her, not just as a patient but as a person. 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** who is happy to be home after a recent stay at the hospital to treat C-DIFF. 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 to set up withdrawals directly from your account.
You can always adjust the amount.

This Week at Valley

Sunday, March 10

9:30 am Worship Service

Fourth Sunday of Lent

10:30 am Fellowship Hour

4:00 pm Youth / TEAMS Group

Monday, March 11

Tuesday, March 12

6:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 13

6:00 pm Lenten Dinner

Thursday, March 14

10:00 am Bible Fellowship

7:00 pm Gentle Yoga

Friday, March 15

7:00 pm Fridays in the Valley

Saturday, March 16

10:00 am Craft Day

Saturday, March 17

Fifth 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

March 3: 223 (124 in-person)

February 25: 170 (88 in-person)



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. Karla will talk about the Mexican border (she was just there last week) and about the repatriation they are doing in Guatemala. 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



Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Adult Education | March 17 | 11:00 AM

INTERNET CULTURE AND DISINFORMATION

BRANDON SCHORSCH - JEWISH COMMUNITY ACTION

In this session **Brandon Schorsch**, Combating Hate Organizer at Jewish Community Action, will walk us through a brief history of internet cultures, how the structure of today's internet creates opportunities for violent extremism, and introduce several resources for building a healthy digital literacy toolbox.

Hosted in The Cornerstone Room



Easter Flower Dedications



- Mary Ann Winter**.....In honor of our children and grandchildren
- Greg & Mary Rom**.....In memory of Michael Hnatko, Betty Hicks,
Ray & Barbara Rom,
and Paul Hicksm
- Terry & Bonnie Goslinga**.....In honor of our new grandson, Wayne W. Goslinga
- Betsy Nichols**.....In memory of Doug & Trudy Nichols
- Mandy Lund**.....In memory of Donovan & Julie Lund
- Peggy Neibling**.....In memory of Betty Brooking
- Scott & Valerie Robinson**.....In memory of Gordon Robinson
and Derald Sullivan
- Margie Deutsch**.....In memory of Manfred Deutsch
- Sarah Fadell**.....In memory of Donald Fadell
- Rev. Nancy Phillips**.....In memory of Nellie Ireland Phillips
- Susie Potter**.....In memory of Jan & George Potter
- Brad & Sharon Pleimling**.....In honor of a peaceful world
- Beverly Mattin**.....In memory of my husband Charles Mattin
- Mark & Shirley Toering**.....In loving memory of our parents
- Carole & Rick Martens**.....In honor of Martens & Wendorf families
- Jim Parks**.....In loving memory of Karla Parks,
Delbert & Lorraine Parks,
and Melbert & Shirley Holzer
- Rev. Jim & Diane Cook**.....In honor of the Friendship Class
- Jan Fedora**.....In memory of Tom Fedora, husband
and Richard Woodbury, brother



Easter Flower Dedications



- Roger Michael**.....In memory of Marian Michael
- Brian & Rachel Hole**.....In memory of Rev. Howard Skulstand,
Bob Kreutzian
and Tyler Hole
- Kerrie Deef**.....In memory of grandparents Martie & Bob Siegler
and in-laws Marge & John Deef
- Gwyn Lang**.....In honor of my mother Margaret Faber
- Roger Graphenteen**.....In memory of my parents Palmer & Dorothy
and daughter Allyson Rose
- Karen Harms**.....In honor of my mom, dad, and sister Cindy
- David & Helen Dechaine**.....In memory of George & Dorothy Marchant
and Albert & Opal Dechaine
- Becky Brooking and Jacob LaBelle**.....In honor of Rev. Jim Cochrane
and Rev. Richard Buller
- Les & Arlene Freeberg**.....In honor of our grandchildren
- Ruth & Rev. Aron Wilterding**.....In memory of our daughter
JoAnna Wilterding Albers
- Jim & Lisa Tarbell**.....In memory of James Tarbell Sr. and Sherrill Mixer
- Lois Robinson**.....In memory of Gordon Robinson
- Mariah & Pete Messer**.....In honor of our parents & grandparents
- Jan & Joe Sacco**.....In honor of our grandchildren
August, Roman, and Estelle
- Cheryl Smith**.....In loving memory of my parents Ken & Gay Smith
- Sheila & Hunter Sheldon**.....In loving memory of Jack Sheldon

A Letter from Rev. John McCall

Serving in Taiwan Spring 2024



My Foot Washing Teacher

Dear friends,

After 27 years of living in Asia, I am often struck by the fact that the Bible is an Asian book. As I live among the Taiwanese, I see how the culture of this continent has shaped the culture of the Bible. Jesus was Middle Eastern, not Western, and he lived in an Eastern culture.



The story of Jesus washing his disciples' feet on the last night of his life is told from an Asian perspective. Peter is an Asian student who knows that his teacher should not be washing his feet. Often Taiwanese Christians will describe themselves as students of Jesus.

So, Peter protests and Jesus understands his protest by saying, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand" (John 13:7). It is hard to break out of our cultural view.

But Jesus constantly breaks through the view of the world and brings in a new culture, the culture of God's Kingdom.

This is a beautiful story because it once again shows the freedom of Jesus. Hierarchy and status were of great importance in Jesus' Asian culture, just as they are equally important today.

One of the worst things in Taiwan is to "lose face." You don't want anyone to look down on you. But because Jesus knew who he was as a beloved child of God, because he knew that God had put all things into his hands, because he knew that he would be returning to his place of honor in heaven, he was free to do the work of a servant. He shattered Asian cultural norms by kneeling and washing the feet of his students.

When we know who we are as beloved children of God, we are also free to serve with joy and abandon. When we know that our eternal destiny is in God's hands, we don't have to worry about our status.

Our status does not come from how many people like our posts on social media, but our status, our worth, comes from the God who creates us and redeems us and loves us with an unconditional love.

Peter needed his worldview shattered. He spent his days with Jesus, but most of the time he did not understand this kingdom which Jesus was ushering in. Peter's value system was shaped by Asian culture, but Jesus is a firm teacher, "If I don't wash your feet, you can't be part of what I am doing." If you hold on to the old-world view, you can't walk in my way and love with my love. And Peter, with all of his shortcomings, is open to change. "Not just my feet but wash my head and my hands too!"

One Holy Week I designed a Maundy Thursday service for our seminary community at Taiwan Seminary. The students in my class were the leaders of this service. When it came time for the foot washing, I had asked an Indigenous student named Isa to wash the feet of his classmate. The liturgy for this service was abundant, and I was paying attention to the time.

But as Isa knelt to wash his classmate's feet, he was in no hurry. He poured the water over the feet and slowly washed them. He not only washed them; he began to massage them. He lovingly caressed the feet of his classmate seemingly oblivious to the time or the rest of us in that chapel. I was transfixed and said to myself, "here is your teacher of how to wash feet in the name of Jesus." In the past, I had poured water and then casually dried the feet of the one I was serving. But Isa gave me a new vision. "Whatever you do, do it with love."



Now when I wash feet, I am never in a hurry. I do it in the name and spirit of Jesus. My student became my teacher, which has happened more times than I can remember.

I've often thought that foot washing should be one of our sacraments, for Jesus told us to do it, just as he had done it. And when we do it, we are changed into the likeness of Jesus, who served with such freedom because he knew that he was loved by God and would return to God. As children of this same God, we can serve with that daring freedom. We can, as the hymn says, "be lost in wonder, love, and praise," as I was when I saw the way Isa washed his classmate's feet.

Gratefully,
John

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

FEBRUARY 21 - MARCH 20 | 6:00-7:15 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



Valley Craft Club!

Spend the day crafting without distractions! **The featured activity of the month will be birthday and greeting card making.** We learned how to make holiday cards last fall so this month we will get to practice those skills again and improve our techniques! 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.



MARCH 16, 2024
10 AM - 2 PM
CRAFTING DEMO AT 12 PM





EASTER EGG HUNT

VALLEY COMMUNITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 23, 2024
@ 2:00 PM

Cookie decorating & refreshments in
Fellowship Hall following the egg hunt.

*Event will be held outdoors this year,
weather permitting.



Valley Community



Holy Week in the Valley



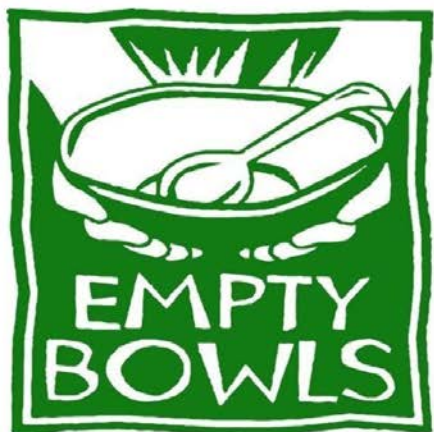
Sunday, March 24 | 9:30 AM Palm Sunday Worship

Thurs, March 28 | 7:30 PM Maundy Thursday

Tenebrae service with communion

Sunday, March 31 | 9:30 AM Easter Sunday Worship

14TH ANNUAL EMPTY BOWLS EVENT



Donations Benefit PRISM & NEAR Food Shelves

The 14th Annual Empty Bowls event is scheduled for Tuesday, March 19, 2024! Mark your calendars to help support PRISM and NEAR food shelves!



TUESDAY, MARCH 19 | 5:00-7:30 PM | COOPER HIGH SCHOOL

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

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Open Hearts • Open Minds • Opening Lives to God

—Established May 20, 1951—



LOGO DESIGN BY WÓOKIYE WIN
(SISSETON WAHPETON DAKHÓTA
AND OJIBWAY)

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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Golden Valley, MN 55422

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Office: 763-588-0831

Phone Ministry: 763-220-1455



Scan to give online!