

Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, January 5, 2025

GATHERING US IN

PRELUDE

He Leadeth Me
William B. Bradbury,
Arr. by Tracey Phillips Cooper

Rachel Williams, piano

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

GATHERING MUSIC

Seasons of Love
Jonathan Larson

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Praise the Lord, O you people.

All: We joyfully proclaim Christ is here!

One: The God of all creation gives life to our bodies with the breath of the Spirit.

All: The Lord, the giver of life, has come to dwell among us.

One: Let us worship the God of life together!

† Hymn #375

Shall We Gather at the River (verses 1 & 2)

Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?

Refrain:

Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,
we will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day. (Refrain)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sheila Sheldon, CRE

Gracious God, all year long we pursue money and power, and yet you come in weakness. All season long we seek material gifts, when you alone offer what is lasting. Through the work of Jesus, who comes among us full of grace and truth, forgive us, heal us, and correct us. Then open our lips so that we may sing your praise, and remake our lives that we may witness to your transforming love. 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.

Love Has Come! (verse 3)

Love has come and never will leave us! Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us. Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

HEARING THE WORD

TIME WITH YOUNG WORSHIPPERS

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

Guiding Stars
Mic Chesney

Carlson Ringers

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1: 6-18

SERMON

What is This All About, Anyway?

Rev. Jim Cochrane

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† Hymn #108

Of the Father's Love Begotten (verses 1, 2, 5)

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega; he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!

By his Word was all created; he commanded; it was done:
heaven and earth and depths of ocean, universe of three in one,
all that sees the moon's soft shining, all that breathes beneath the sun,
evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heaven, adore him. Angel hosts, his praises sing.
Powers, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent; every voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore!

MINUTE FOR MISSION

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

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken
Franz Joseph Haydn, Arr. by Melody Bober

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us at your table and united us with Christ. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING US OUT

† Hymn #20

All Things Bright and Beautiful (verses 1, 4)

Refrain:

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors; God made their tiny wings. (Refrain)

God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well. (Refrain)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

O Worship the King
Johann M. Haydn, Arr. by Melody Bober

The Worship Has Ended. The Service Begins.

Chancel Flowers

Sunday, January 5

Sponsored by Peggy Meyer.
Remembering Chuck

Sign up for Chancel flowers in Fellowship Hall.

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for **Connie Freeman**, as her sister, **Pam** passed away peacefully on Wednesday.

Continued prayers for **Susie Potter** as she underwent a PET scan last Friday, the results of which were all clear! She will begin immunotherapy later in January.

To visit Susie's Caring Bridge go to: <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/susiepotter>

Continued prayers for **Taichi Chen** whose test results remain stable and continues to live in gratitude for the love everyone has shared each and every day.

To visit Taichi's Caring Bridge site go to: <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/taichichen>

Continued prayers for **Rick Carlson**, who has returned home and is currently on the mend. He continues to give thanks for all the support and prayers he has received.

To visit Rick's Caring Bridge site go to: <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/rickcarlson101>

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 visiting: <https://valleycommunitypresbyterianchurch.breezechms.com/give/online> 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, January 5

9:30 am Worship Service
10:30 am Fellowship Hour

Monday, January 6

11:30 am Lunch Bunch
7:00 pm 12-Step Meeting

Tuesday, January 7

1:00 pm Bible Fellowship
6:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, January 8

Thursday, January 9

10:00 am Bible Study
5:30 pm 12 Step Unity

Friday, January 10

[Snow Camp](#)
7:00 pm [Fridays in the Valley](#)

Saturday, January 11

[Snow Camp](#)

Sunday, January 12

[Snow Camp](#)
9:30 am Worship Service
10:30 am Fellowship Hour

Notice of Recording: Please note that services are broadcasted via live stream and digitally recorded on our YouTube Channel.

Special thanks to our Stream Team: Katie Decker, Roger Graphenteen, Myron Jones, Larry Johnson, Joel Larsen, Brandon Novy, Janet Triplett, and Kurt Wheeler for broadcasting the services!

Valley Staff

Ministers

All 382 members of this congregation.

Transitional Pastor

Head of Staff

Rev. Jim Cochran

Educational Ministries Director

Sheila Sheldon, CRE

Office Administrator

Savannah Martinez

Program & Communications Coordinator

Mariah Messer

Music Coordinator

Rachel Williams

Choral & Handbell Director

Janet M.T. Carlson

Sunshine Room Leader

Natalie Peña-Gallegos

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

December 22: 302 (145 in-person)
December 29: 180 (86 in-person)

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES

PICK UP AT CHURCH

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9AM-3PM - OR - SUNDAYS BEFORE/AFTER WORSHIP

Help the church save on postage by picking up your envelope box
and another member's box who lives near you!

SNOW CAMP 2025

GRADES 3RD - 12TH \$175 per camper (youth and adult)

*Snow
Flakes
in His
Hands*

Clearwater Forest Snow Camp 2025
16595 Crooked Lake Rd
Deerwood, MN 56444

January 10-12
Hallett Dining Hall
7-8 PM Drop Off
3-4 PM Pick Up

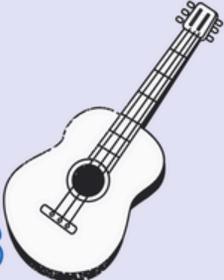
Register Today

office@clearwaterforest.org

Email Sheila or Mariah for a special coupon code to save \$50!

**Fridays in
the Valley
Presents:**



the 
Boston
Imposters 
ft. Alex Nishibun

Friday, January 10, 2025 | 7:00 PM

**FREE-WILL OFFERINGS BENEFIT
NORTHSIDE HEALING SPACE**

 Valley Community

Valley Craft Club!

Spend the day crafting without distractions! Come catch up on a project, start something new or come see what others are working on for inspiration! There will be make and take crafts available. If crafting isn't your thing, come for the fellowship or bring a book to catch up on your reading.

**Bring a dish to share for lunch at
12 PM.**

**SATURDAY
JANUARY 11, 2025
10 AM - 2 PM
LUNCH AT 12 PM**



Habitat for Humanity Work Day

MONDAY,
JANUARY 20, 2025
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

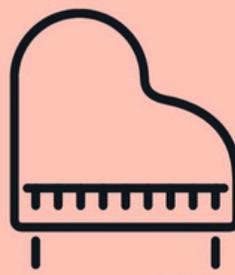


Valley Brew Crew

SATURDAY,
JANUARY 25, 2025
1:00 - 6:00 PM



**Fridays in
the Valley
Presents:**



**Lauren Senden
&**

Mindy Eschedor

Friday, February 14, 2025 | 7:00 PM

FREE-WILL OFFERINGS BENEFIT
MEALS ON WHEELS

 Valley Community

**2025
CONFIRMATION CLASS
GRADES 9 & 10**

BEGINS MARCH 2, 2025

Contact Sheila to learn more and sign up!
sheila.sheldon@valleychurch.net



Happy Birthday Valley Family!

Kerrie Deef
Alannah McCarthy
David Kopischke
Kurt Wheeler
Matt Barbero
Miranda Bangu
Sammuel Decker
William Gonsior
Andrew Desarmeaux
Janette Gove
Gerald Kramer
Nanette Sears
Ashley Bi
Karen Ripley
Keri Wasmoen
Samantha Schellhaas
Joseph Sears
Aurora Brooker
Sullivan Goiffon
Richard Sauter

Ken Smith Jr.
Andy Freeman
Hunter Sheldon
Roy Michael
Adam Chancellor
Rev. Deborah Fortel
Tom Wasmoen
Lois Berhow
Jonathan Marshall
Diane McCunn
Cameron Smith
Diane Cook
Ziggy Barbero
Sadie Macias
Arianna Slack
Susie Potter



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.



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

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Scan to give online!