



Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, February 16, 2025

GATHERING US IN

PRELUDE

Bridge Over Troubled Water
Paul Simon

Rachel Williams, piano

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

GATHERING MUSIC

By the Still Waters
Amy Beach

Rachel Williams

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Spirit and the church say, "Come."

All: The people of the Word say, "Come."

One: Let everyone who is thirsty come here.

All: Let us receive the gift of the water of life!

One: Let us worship God!

† Hymn #399

God Welcomes All

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sheila Sheldon, CRE

Almighty God, you welcome us in with love and mercy and beckon us to return to right relationship with you and with one another. Forgive us for the times when we would rather seek our own way, when we think we know better than by following your way. It is our nature to seek our own preservation instead of trusting in your providential care, and we do not trust your creative presence when we look at what is to come. Plant us next to your river of life, that we might be filled with your love and flourish for the benefit of the world. 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.

***There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* (verse 1)**

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.

HEARING THE WORD

TIME WITH YOUNG WORSHIPPERS

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

Hymn of Promise
Natalie Sleeth

Valley Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 1; Jeremiah 17:5-10

SERMON

A Tale of Two Trees

Rev. Jim Cochran

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† Hymn #816

***If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee* (verses 1 & 3)**

If thou but trust in God to guide thee,
with hopeful heart through all thy ways,
God will give strength, whate'er betide thee,
to bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
builds on the rock that nought can move.

Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways,
but do thine own part faithfully,
Trust the rich promises of grace;
so shall they be fulfilled in thee.
God never yet forsook at need
the soul secured by trust indeed.

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.

OFFERTORY

Day by Day
Arr. by Craig Courtney

Rachel Williams

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of abundant life, we give you thanks and praise for this place where we are reminded of your love. You are the source of our blessings, so we ask that you take our gifts and use them to transform your world. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SENDING US OUT

† Hymn #767

Together We Serve

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.

We welcome the scarred, the wealthy, the poor,
the busy, the lonely, and all who need care.
We offer a home to those who will come,
our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare.

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.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus
William J. Kirkpatrick, Arr. by Bill Wolaver

Rachel Williams

The Worship Has Ended. The Service Begins.

.....

Chancel Flowers

Sunday, February 16

Sponsored by Scott & Valerie Robinson
In honor of Heart Health Month!

Sign up for Chancel flowers in Fellowship Hall.

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† Please rise in body or spirit.

Joys and Concerns

Continued prayers for **Phillip Robinson** who is waiting in the ICU at the U of M for a heart transplant. Please keep his wife **Amy** and their three children, **Rowan, Claire** and **Annabelle** in your prayers as well. To visit his Caring Bridge go to:

<https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/philliprobinson>

Continued prayers for **Susie Potter** as she underwent a PET scan in December, the results of which were all clear! She began immunotherapy on January 7th. She is feeling good and filled with gratitude. 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** as he works with his care team to keep him healthy. 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, February 16

9:30 am Worship Service
10:30 am Fellowship Hour
4:00 pm Youth & TEAMS Group

Monday, February 17

6:30 pm Session Meeting
7:00 pm 12-Step Meeting

Tuesday, February 18

11:00 am Valley's Men Luncheon Group
1:00 pm Bible Fellowship
6:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, February 19

Thursday, February 20

10:00 am Meals on Wheels
5:30 pm 12-Step Unity

Friday, February 21

Clearwater Chrysalis Women's Retreat

Saturday, February 22

Clearwater Chrysalis Women's Retreat

Sunday, February 23

Clearwater Chrysalis Women's Retreat

9:30 am Worship Service -
Sheila Sheldon, CRE, preaching
10:30 am Fellowship Hour
2:00 pm Confirmation Class
4:00 pm Youth & TEAMS Group

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 381 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

February 2 : 214 (98 in-person)
February 9 : 231 (108 in-person)



Emerson Village

-- Diaper Drive --



-NOW THROUGH FEBRUARY 23-

VALLEY IS COLLECTING BABY ESSENTIALS FOR RESIDENTS MOVING INTO BEACON INTERFAITH HOUSING'S EMERSON VILLAGE!

WHAT WE NEED:

- diapers (all sizes)
- Aquaphor
- burp cloths
- diaper rash cream
- blankets
- pacifiers
- wipes
- onesies
- bibs



As new residents begin moving into Emerson Village, the organization has reached out to Valley to let us know that baby items are in short supply. We can help with that! **Bring your items to Valley by February 23rd!**

• DRIVERS NEEDED •

Meals on Wheels

3RD & 4TH THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

• FEB 20 & 27 •

ROUTES INCLUDE:

Crystal
New Hope
Robbinsdale
Golden Valley



CONTACTS:

Gail Smith - 3rd Thur
Marge Thurston - 4th Thur
use your directory
or call the office.



Valley Community

Ash Wednesday 2025

JOIN US FOR
ASH WEDNESDAY
MARCH 5 | 7:00 PM

*Service will be available in-person
and live-streamed.*

**A worship service with communion
and marking of the ashes.**

 Valley Community

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

MARCH 12 - APRIL 9 | 6:00-7:15 PM

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

**Join us for Wednesdays in Lent! We will
enjoy a potluck meal together, followed
by a short worship service and time for
fellowship and discussion.**

 Valley Community



**2025
CONFIRMATION CLASS
GRADES 9 & 10**

BEGINS FEBRUARY 23, 2025 | 2:00-4:00 PM

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

Tickets On Sale Now!

*Youth Education
Scholarship Tea*

**Saturday, March 22
2 pm**

Adults \$35

Kids (10 & under) \$20

Purchase tickets in Fellowship Hall or contact Sheila by email
Sheila.Sheldon@valleychurch.net or call her at 763-588-0831

Easter Flowers

Order by March 24 | Fellowship Hall

Easter Lily (white) \$12 each
Asiatic Lily (pink) \$12 each
Azalea (bicolor) \$25 each
Tulip \$12 each
(purple, pink, yellow)
Mum (yellow) \$12 each



**Fridays in
the Valley
Presents:**



Boom Island String Quartet

Friday, March 14, 2025 | 7:00 PM

FREE-WILL OFFERINGS BENEFIT
MINNESOTA FOODSHARE

 Valley Community





Happy Birthday Valley Family!



Bonnie Goslinga 2/1

Bill Holman 2/2

Alexander Malinowski 2/3

Kristin Oney 2/4

Joan Chenoweth 2/4

Katie Hestness 2/4

Connie Freeman 2/5

Pat Hoehn 2/5

Diane (Stueven) Knox 2/5

Warren Linc 2/5

Egbe Nti 2/6

Anna Parks 2/7

Donna Hewitt 2/10

Carolyn Kaehr 2/10

John Zieska 2/10

Dawn Hill 2/12

Craig Gottschalk 2/14

Valerie Robinson 2/14

Evan Smith 2/16

Scot Michael 2/17

Jay Tracy 2/17

Todd Decker 2/18

Connor Craven 2/19

Juanita Loubert 2/19

Sharon Olson 2/19

Karen Gillett 2/20

Veronica Freeberg 2/21

Bennett Goiffon 2/21

Sarah Fadell 2/22

Beverly Collins 2/23

Doug Malecha 2/23

Don Roach 2/23

Sam Rudeen 2/23

David Dechaine 2/25

Anna Zieska 2/25

Richard Gibson 2/26

Diane Morningstar 2/26

Judy Rathje 2/26

John Nyongkah 2/27

Colston Rude 2/27

Charles Kovacovich 2/29



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!