



Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, August 24, 2025

GATHERING US IN

PRELUDE

How Majestic Is Your Name
by Michael W. Smith, Arr. by Mark Hayes

Rachel Williams, piano

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

GATHERING MUSIC

Abide With Me
Arr. by Susan W. Henry

Rachel Williams, piano
Jamie Marshall, tenor

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;

All: Let us shout to the rock of our salvation.

One: Let us come before God with thanksgiving;

All: Let us worship God with music and song and praise!

One: Let us worship God!

† Hymn #320

The Church of Christ in Every Age

The church of Christ in every age, beset by change but Spirit-led,
must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.

Across the world, across the street, the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat, and never live before they die.

Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs to be
a partner in Christ's sacrifice, and clothed in Christ's humanity.

For Christ alone, whose blood was shed, can cure the fever in our blood,
and teach us how to share our bread and feed the starving multitude.

We have no mission but to serve in full obedience to our Lord:
to care for all, without reserve, and spread Christ's liberating word.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sheila Sheldon, CRE

Eternal God, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In your great mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

God Is So Good (vs. 1)

God is so good; God is so good
God is so good; God's so good to me.

HEARING THE WORD

TIME WITH YOUNG WORSHIPPERS

Julie Westerlund

Congregational Blessing:

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

What Wonderous Love Is This
Arr. by Stephen DeCesar

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 86; 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

SERMON

The Connections We Need

Rev. Zach Wilson,
Co-Executive Presbyter

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† Hymn #716

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door:
gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone.
Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred:
ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

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.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Fridays in the Valley - a New Season!

Rachel Hole

OFFERTORY

A Simple Song
by Stephen Schwartz and Leonard Bernstein

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Ever-giving God, your ear is always open to our needs. When we cry to you, you hear us and provide for us. With joy we bring our thanksgiving. For all your mercies, we thank you. All that we give, we dedicate to your glory. All that we keep, we commit to your care, because we are only caretakers of all that is. Bless what we give and what we steward, for all is your creation. Amen.

SENDING US OUT

† Hymn #366

Love Divine, All Love Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

What a Friend We Have in Jesus
by Charles C. Converse, Arr. by Martha Sherrill Kelsey

The Worship Has Ended. The Service Begins.

Chancel Flowers

Sunday, August 24

Sponsored by Jim and Diane Cook

Celebrating our 67th Anniversary

Sign up for Chancel flowers in Fellowship Hall!

† Please rise in body or spirit.

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for the loved ones of **Margaret Sandberg**, who passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, August 17. Margaret was visiting her sister in Williston, ND when she became ill and was hospitalized. Margaret was 75 years young and a member of Valley for 41 years. A service will be held on Monday, August 25, at 2:00 PM in Williston, ND, at the Everson-Coughlin Funeral Home. A recording of the service will be available 24-48 hours after her service at:

<https://www.eversonfh.com/obituaries/Margaret-Sandberg?obId=44259133#/obituaryInfo>

The family welcomes cards sent to: The Family of Margaret Sandberg

c/o Jeanne Buschta

10 20th Street W #102

Williston, ND 58801

Continued prayers for **Tom Magill** who is getting stronger every day and feeling good overall. He will begin daily radiation treatments on August 25.

Continued prayers for **Jeff Lund**, who is on hospice, and the **Lund/Minter** families.

Continued prayers for **Valley Members** in their ongoing health journeys. To stay up-to-date be sure to follow their Caring Bridge profiles here:

Taichi Chen: <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/taichichen>

Rick Carlson: <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/rickcarlson101>

Chelsea Gusek: <https://www.caringbridge.org/site/81a19644-2489-11f0-9b0d-15ed645a936d>

Susie Potter: <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/susiepotter>

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, August 24

9:30 am Worship Service

10:30 am Fellowship Hour

Monday, August 25

6:30 pm Session Meeting

7:00 pm 12-Step Meeting

Tuesday, August 26

Wednesday, August 27

Thursday, August 28

8:00am-5:00pm Emerson Village Back to School Bash

10:00 am Meals on Wheels

5:30 pm 12-Step Unity

Friday, August 29

Saturday, August 30

Sunday, August 31

9:30 am Worship - Echo 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

The entire Valley Community!

Transitional Pastor

Head of Staff

Rev. Jim Cochrane

Educational Ministries Director

Sheila Sheldon, CRE

Office Administrator

Rachel Hole

Communications Director

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

August 10: 156 (81 in-person)

August 17: 200 (95 in-person)

CALL FOR FOOD DONATIONS!



FOOD DRIVE

thank you for your donation



This summer, confirmand Evan will be collecting food donations for the food shelf at PRISM!

He has set a goal of 5-6 bags/week, and needs your help to reach his goal. Fill up an extra grocery bag with pantry staples next time you are at the grocery store and bring it with you to church.

SUMMER 2025

Echo Service

Sunday, August 31st
@ 9:30 AM



CONFIRMANDS ROSE & SYNDY ARE PLANNING A

BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER!

☼ All proceeds will go to Liberty Community Church ☼

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025
HOMECOMING SUNDAY
10:30 AM {AFTER WORSHIP}

Confirmation candidates Rose & Syndy, along with their mentors, are planning a Bake Sale for their Confirmation Project. **If you would like to donate some goodies to be included in the Bake Sale, please contact Katie Decker or Susie Potter!**

Homecoming
Sunday

SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 7, 2025
9:30 AM



**WELCOME
BACK**
**We're glad
you're here!**



**Light the
Way Home**



Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative Light the Way Home fundraising event

Join Beacon as part of a community of support to give generously, introduce newcomers to supportive housing, and advance our vision that all people have a home.

**Tuesday, September 9, 2025
Noon – 1 p.m.**

**Heritage Center of Brooklyn Center
6155 Earle Brown Drive
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430**



Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or call the Valley Office | Contact Carolyn Anderson with questions

**Fridays in
the Valley
Presents:**

incidental trio



**Steve Staruch - viola
Karen Hansen - clarinet
Sue Ruby - piano**



Friday, September 12, 2025 | 7:00 PM

**FREE-WILL OFFERINGS BENEFIT
LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS**



Valley Community

VALLEY MEN'S RETREAT 2025

Clearwater Forest
Camp & Retreat Center
September 26-28

Join other Valley men for a weekend away at the beautiful Clearwater Forest Camp & Retreat Center. Participants will enjoy fellowship and activities. There will also be time to explore topics related to the Presbyterian faith and spirituality through study and discussion.

Sign-Up in Fellowship Hall
-or-
Contact the Church Office

Fall Festival

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4
5:00 - 8:00 PM

\$15 ADULT, \$10 KIDS
(EARLYBIRD DISCOUNT:
\$13 ADULT/\$8 KIDS
ENDS 9/1)



Tacos
&
Trivia
FALL FESTIVAL 2025

Get your tickets now! Scan the QR code or visit
<https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/2025-vcpc-fall-festival>



Happy Birthday Valley Family!



Michael Deef
Larry Matthews
Sofie Vogel
Jack Westerlund
Richard Marshall
Rev. Bill Davnie
Donald Carlson
Dawn Williams
Ruth Wilterding
Luke Priem
Jessica Goslinga
Jack Larsen
Sean Linc
Miles Rudeen
Douglas Smith
John Gove
Bennett Gonsior

Finbarr McCarthy
Jennifer Brant
Kelsie Hagelin
James Husnik
Jay Perry
Maddie Pukite
Melissa Gottschalk
Mark Musta
Rev. Jim Cook
Mary Anderson
Alexander Dunham
Rev. Jim Cochrane
Ben Brooker
Mildred Davison
Sharon Decker
Arlene Freeberg
Carole Martens



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!