Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, September 14, 2025

GATHERING US IN

PRELUDE *I Surrender All* Rachel Williams, piano
by Winfield S. Weeden, Arr. by Victor Labenske

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

GATHERING MUSIC *I Shall Not Be Moved* Matt Weiss, guitar/vocals
by Alfred H. Ackley

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: *The world belongs to God;*
All: ***The earth and all that is in it.***
One: *How good – how wonderful – it is to live together in unity.*
All: ***Love and faith come together; justice and peace join hands.***
One: *Let us worship God!*

† **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)**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you are our strength and our salvation. Yet we confess how often we trust in ourselves. We rely on our own wisdom, chase our own desires, and forget your faithfulness. We speak of grace but live as though others must deserve our love. We cling to control, resisting your Spirit's leading. Forgive us, Lord. Free us from pride, fear, and all that separates us from you. Restore in us a heart that seeks your will first. In the name of Jesus Christ 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.

† Please rise in body or spirit.

SUNG RESPONSE #837 **What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine**

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.

HEARING THE WORD

TIME WITH YOUNG WORSHIPPERS

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

SPECIAL MUSIC *Everlasting God* by Lloyd Larson — Valley Choir

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Timothy 1:12-17 (CEB); Luke 15:1-10 (CEB)

SERMON *Concerning Lost Things* — Rev. Jim Cochrane

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† Hymn #649 ***Amazing Grace*** *vss. 1-3, 5*

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

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.

† Please rise in body or spirit.

MINUTE FOR MISSION *My Peace I Give to You (International Day of Peace)*

OFFERTORY *In the Garden*
by C. Austin Miles

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, we offer these gifts as a response to your grace and goodness in our lives. May they be used to build a world that reflects Your justice, compassion, and peace. Bless the hands that gave and the hearts that long to give, and guide us as a community to steward these offerings with wisdom, courage, and love. Let this act of giving deepen our commitment to the work of Christ in our neighborhood, creation, and all the places crying out for healing and hope. Amen.

SENDING US OUT

† **Hymn #353** ***My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*** *vss. 1, 2, 4*

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale,my anchor holds within the veil. **(Refrain)**

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found,
dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. **(Refrain)**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *This Lonely Road*
by Matt Weiss

The Worship Has Ended. The Service Begins.

Chancel Flowers

Sunday, September 14

Sponsored by Marge Thurston

A heartfelt Thank You to all "MOW" (Meals on Wheels) drivers from Marge Thurston and Gail Smith

Sign up for Chancel flowers in Fellowship Hall!

† Please rise in body or spirit.

Joys and Concerns

Continued prayers for **Karen Harms** who recently learned she has lung cancer. In the coming weeks she will meet with her care team to discuss a treatment plan.

Kirk Bonner asks for prayers for his family - his wife and son. **Nina** is having complications with her pregnancy. She is at 34 weeks and a C-section is planned at 37 weeks. Prayers of safety for Nina and baby.

Continued prayers for **Denise Kara** and her family, as they grieve the loss of her uncle, Al Blowers.

Continued prayers for **Tom Magill** who continues daily radiation treatments.

Former Valley member **Jane Toleno** shares that her husband, Tom, died this week at age 82. He'd be in care at a VA facility. Jane now lives in senior housing near her son in San Antonio, TX. If you'd like to send a card, please contact the office for more information.

Continued prayers for **Valley Members** in their ongoing health journeys. Updates can be found here as they are made. 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: Good-bye Trent Open House at the Wasmoen Home!
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, September 14
9:30 am Worship
10:30 am Fellowship Hour
11:00 am Adult Education Kick-Off
12:00 pm PRISMpalooza!
5:30 pm Youth Group & TEAMS Open House

Monday, September 15
7:00 pm 12-Step Meeting

Tuesday, September 16
11:30 am Valley Men's Lunch Group
1:00 pm Bible Fellowship
6:30 pm Bell Choir Practice

Wednesday, September 17
7:30 am Stewardship Team meeting
6:00 pm Joy of Recovery OA Group
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 18
10:00 am Meals on Wheels
5:30 pm 12-Step Unity
5:30 pm Indigenous Justice Task Force

Friday, September 19

Saturday, September 20
8:00 am Metro Blooms Native Plant Sale
1:00 pm Valley Brew Crew

Sunday, September 21
Confirmation Sunday
9:30 am Worship
10:30 am Fellowship Hour
11:00 am Adult Education

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 31: 216 (90 in-person)
September 7: 225 (108 in-person)

Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Adult Education | September 14 | 11:00 AM

RESILIENCY HUBS- HOW CAN YOUR COMMUNITY HELP?

REV. BUFF GRACE

As weather disruptions and disasters increase and our communities face the consequences, churches have an opportunity to play an important role to care for their members and neighborhoods. For the last year, MNIPL has been researching best practices across the country and is developing a method for creating 10,000 Resilience Hubs across our state. Learn more about this concept and how your congregation might participate.

Hosted in The Cornerstone Room

VCPC CHOIR

VALLEY IS EXCITED TO ENJOY OUR CHOIR ON SELECT SUNDAYS!

PERFORMING	REHEARSING
Sunday, September 14	Wednesday, September 10
Sunday, September 21	Wednesday, September 17
Sunday, October 5	Wednesday, October 1
Sunday, October 19	Wednesday, October 15

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

PRISM

PALOOZA

-COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY-

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

12-4PM

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY VENDORS

GAMES **FOOD** **MUSIC**

FALL PREVIEW SALE

-1220 Zane Ave N, Golden Valley, MN 55422-

PRISM

Valley will be hosting a booth at PRISMPalooza!
If you are interested in volunteering for an hour (or two!), talk to Sarah Fadell or email Mariah Messer (mariah.messer@valleychurch.net)

TEAMS

VALLEY YOUTH

TEAMS/YOUTH GROUP
Grades 4-12

Open House
Sunday, September 14
5:30 - 7:00 PM

NEW! START TIME

- Register at the event, meet your leaders and stay for dinner. Prospective Volunteers and Families are welcome to join us!
- TEAMS Program is for kids entering 4/5 grades
- Youth Group- middle school 6-9 and senior high 10-12

BLUE THUMB

FALL NATIVE PLANT SALE

SAT 20 SEPT | 10 AM – 1 PM

VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
GOLDEN VALLEY, MN

WITH BLAZING STAR GARDENS,
ECOSCAPES NATIVE NURSERY, MNL,
NORTHERN HOLLER NURSERY
FOOD TRUCK + COFFEE CART!

Valley Brew Crew

SATURDAY, SEPT 20 | 1:00-6:00 PM

PAT DAILY'S HOUSE
REFERENCE YOUR DIRECTORY

IT'S CIDER TIME!
Bring apples, pears,
peeling & cutting equipment

PIZZA & POTLUCK
Pat will be firing up her spectacular pizza oven.
Bring sides or snacks to share and your appetite!
Beverages of all kinds | Kids Always Welcome

CONTACT JAY PERRY FOR DETAILS

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 21, 2025 | 9:30 AM

Join us for Sunday morning worship as we celebrate and welcome this year's incredible group of Confirmands.

Elders - please plan to arrive by 8:30 AM to meet with the Confirmands before worship.

Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Adult Education | September 21 | 11:00 AM

PROJECT FOR PRIDE IN LIVING (PPL)

EMILY TERRELL, DIRECTOR OF YOUTH EMPLOYMENT STRATEGIES

Project for Pride in Living (PPL) builds the hope, assets, and self-reliance of individuals and families who have lower incomes by providing transformative affordable housing and career readiness services. Emily Terrell, PPL's Director of Youth Employment Strategies, will speak about their successful work with youth who come from challenged environments through the LEAP (Learn, Earn, Achieve, Potential) initiative. She will have some fascinating stories to share!

Hosted in The Cornerstone Room

• DRIVERS NEEDED •

Meals on Wheels

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

• SEPTEMBER 18 & 25 •

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

Valley Craft & Connect

Craft & Connect is for anyone who enjoys a day crafting, working on a puzzle or just chatting with friends.

Come catch up on a project, start something new or come see what others are working on for inspiration! There will be craft supplies, puzzles & cribbage boards available. Come for the fellowship and stay for the fun!

Bring a dish to share for lunch at 12 PM.

SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 27, 2025
10 AM - 2:00 PM
LUNCH AT 12 PM

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. An event that many participants look forward to all year, the Valley Men's Retreat offers a chance to get to know other members of the VCPC community. Participants will also explore topics related to the Presbyterian faith and spirituality through study and discussion. And all of this while enjoying the splendor of God's amazing creation.

Cost per participant: $140

- Housing: $100 (two nights)
  **deduct $45 if only staying for one night*
- Meals: $30 ($10 x 3 meals)
- Materials: $10

Additional costs (optional):

- Dinner @ Bear Pine Bar & Grill (Fri)
- Golfing @ Cuyuna Rolling Hills
  - 1pm Friday: $50
  - 8am Saturday: $60

IF YOU ARE NEW TO VALLEY OR HAVE NEVER ATTENDED A MEN'S RETREAT BEFORE, NOW IS THE PERFECT TIME!

SIGN UP IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL! | CALL THE VALLEY OFFICE WITH QUESTIONS

Valley Community

Call for Fall Festival Donations & Volunteers!

FALL FESTIVAL IS COMING UP!

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

Can you help make the event a success?

We are currently looking for donations to include in the auction:

- Act of service (cooking, teaching a skill, baked goods, etc.)
- Gift cards that you have not used
- Item that you think would be useful or popular

If you can volunteer before, during, or after the event it would make a huge difference in helping things run smoothly. See the sign up in the Fellowship Hall or reach out to Jay Perry

Fall Festival

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

Get your tickets now!

$15 ADULT
$10 KIDS

Scan the QR code or visit
https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/2025-vcpc-fall-festival

Fridays in the Valley Presents:

St Croix Valley Flute Collective

Friday, October 10, 2025 | 7:00 PM

FREE-WILL OFFERINGS BENEFIT
MISSIONS INC.

Valley Community

CONFIRMANDS ROSE & SYNDY SAY

THANK YOU VALLEY!

WE WERE ABLE TO RAISE OVER $700 AT OUR BAKE SALE LAST SUNDAY

All proceeds will go to Liberty Community Church/21st Century Program

THANK YOU TO OUR MENTORS & VCPC MEMBERS WHO HELPED WITH BAKING TREATS!

Happy Birthday Valley Family!

Frankline Nyongkah
Lennox Mead
Alan Wold
Aaron Craven
Arnold Schellhaas
Pius Nti
Jeff Soltau
Hayden Gautsche
Claire Reinert
Pete Messer
Christine Phelan
Jonathan Schellhaas
Ted Arneson
Steve Bauer
Katie Decker
Gwen Rouleau

Evonne Kirchenwitz
SuAnn Bygd
Mark Freeman
Jamese Decker
Tom Jenson
Mariah Messer
Andrew Westerlund
Helmut Winter
Peter Brant
Paul Minter
Emily Steffel
Sarah Gonsior
Deborah Poynter
Jennifer Biggs
Bellinda Nti

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 WIŊ (SISSETON WAHPETON DAKHÓTA AND OJIBWAY)

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Phone Ministry: 763-220-1455

Scan to give online!