



Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, September 28, 2025

GATHERING US IN

PRELUDE

Two Preludes on "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"
arr. by John Behnke and Edwin Childs

Jane Nienaber,
organ

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

GATHERING MUSIC

Invocation
by Felix Mendelssohn

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, all who are weary and heavy-laden,
All: For our tears are welcome in the presence of God.
One: Come, all who hunger for hope,
All: For Christ is the resurrection and the life.
One: Come, all who long for joy,
All: For the Spirit is making all things new.
One: Let us worship God with honesty and with rejoicing,
All: For sorrow and joy meet in the house of the Lord.
One: Let us worship God!

† Hymn #12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rachel Hole

Merciful God, You know the sorrows we carry, the griefs we do not speak aloud, and the despair that sometimes takes hold of us. We confess that we often let fear rule our lives. We despair when hope is hard to see. We forget the power of your resurrection. Forgive us, Lord. Teach us to lament with honesty, but not to lose sight of your promises. Fill us with the joy of Christ, so that we may live as Easter people in a Good Friday 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.

SUNG RESPONSE #837

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

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.

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

Bound for Glory
Arr. by Tammy Waldrop

Valley Bell Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 (CEB)

SERMON

These Days

Sheila Sheldon, CRE

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† Hymn #630

Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
O thou of God to earth come down,
thee will I cherish, thee will I honor,
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring.
Jesus is fairer; Jesus is purer,
who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
and all the twinkling, starry host.
Jesus shines brighter; Jesus shines purer,
than all the angels heaven can boast.

Beautiful Savior, Ruler of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine!

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

Peace and Global Witness Offering

OFFERTORY

Interpretation on Praise to the Lord
arr. by Wayne Wold

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, all that we have is a gift from you — life and breath, laughter and tears, children who remind us of your kingdom, and the joy of resurrection that sustains us. Receive these gifts we return to you. Use them to comfort those who mourn, to nurture our children and youth, to strengthen this community of faith, and to proclaim to the world that Christ is risen and your Spirit is making all things new. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

SENDING US OUT

† Hymn #839

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect communion, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight.
Angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. **(Refrain)**

Perfect submission, all is at rest.
I in my Savior am happy and bless'd,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. **(Refrain)**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Tuba Tune
by C.S. Lang

The Worship Has Ended. The Service Begins.

Chancel Flowers

Sunday, September 28

Sponsored by Peggy Niebling

In memory of my mother, Florence Niebling

Sign up for Chancel flowers in Fellowship Hall!

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of thanksgiving and joy for the **Bonner family**, as **Liam** is making progress and was able to be discharged on Tuesday night.

Continued prayers for **Valley Members** in their ongoing health journeys. Updates can be found here as they are made. For those who have them, stay up-to-date by following their Caring Bridge profiles here:

Tom Magill who continues daily radiation treatments.

Karen Harms who is moving forward in a treatment plan for lung cancer and will have surgery in the coming weeks.

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

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

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 28

9:30 am Worship
10:30 am Fellowship Hour
11:00 am Adult Education
5:30 pm Teams & Youth Group

Monday, September 29

7:00 pm 12-Step Meeting

Tuesday, September 30

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

Wednesday, October 1

6:00 pm Joy of Recovery OA Group
7:00 Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 2

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

Friday, October 3

1:30 pm - Fall Festival Set-Up

Saturday, October 4

5:00 pm - 8:00 pm **FALL FESTIVAL!**

Sunday, October 5

9:30 am Worship
10:30 am Fellowship Hour
11:00 am Adult Education
5:30 pm Teams and Youth 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

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

September 14: 238 (126 in-person)
September 21: 259 (154 in-person)



Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Adult Education | September 28 | 11:00 AM

COFFEE, CONVERSATIONS & CONNECTIONS

HOSTED BY VCPC EDUCATION TEAM



Pull up a chair in the Cornerstone Room and join us for a Coffee Chat that's not your typical fellowship hour! We're brewing up Caribou Coffee, serving yummy treats, and stirring in plenty of laughter. Come ready to meet someone new, share a story or two, and discover fun facts about your Valley friends you never knew before. Think of it as a warm blend of conversation, connection, and community—served with a smile! Come for the coffee... stay for the friendships.

Hosted in The Cornerstone Room



VCPC CHOIR

VALLEY IS EXCITED TO ENJOY
OUR CHOIR ON SELECT SUNDAYS!

PERFORMING

Sunday, October 5 | Wednesday, October 1
Sunday, October 19 | Wednesday, October 15
Sunday, November 2 | Wednesday, October 29
Sunday, November 16 | Wednesday, November 12

REHEARSING

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



THANK YOU!

To all those in the Valley community who gave of their time, talents & treasures this month to make sure Valley Fellowship Hour on Sunday mornings was caffeinated and extra delicious!

COFFEE HOSTS

- Paula Landis
- Sam Schellhaas
- Charlotte Davnie
- Ann Roach
- Don Roach

BAKERS & TREAT-BRINGERS

- Charlotte Davnie
- Bonnie Goslinga
- Ann Roach



Fall Festival

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

Silent Auction is LIVE! BID NOW!



More than 50 amazing items:

- Gopher sports & Timberwolves tickets
- Baskets for Valley mission partners
- Granite City Dining experience
- Wide variety of services and experience
- 1-Hour Massage & other luxury items
- AND MUCH MORE!



Get your tickets now!

\$15 ADULT
\$10 KIDS



Scan the QR codes or visit:

Tickets: <https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/2025-vcpc-fall-festival>

Silent Auction: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/valley-community-presbyterian-church-fall-festivals-silent-auction>



Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Adult Education | October 5 | 11:00 AM

HOW'S THE WATER? DRINKING WATER EDITION
WITH VALLEY MEMBER JULIE WESTERLUND

Valley member Julie Westerlund is the One Watershed, One Plan Coordinator for the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources and is our resident water expert. Where does my drinking water come from? Is it safe? What is happening to make sure we have enough safe drinking water in the future? Join Julie for an exploration of these questions and more about our most precious natural resource.

Hosted in The Cornerstone Room

**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



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

James 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 WIN
(SISSETON WAHPETON DAKHÓTA
AND OJIBWAY)

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Scan to give online!