



Valley Community



Sunday, December 7, 2025

Second Sunday in Advent

GATHERING US IN

PRELUDE

O Come, O Come Emmanuel
Arr. Gwyneth Walker

Rachel Williams,
piano

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The wolf shall dwell with the lamb;

All: The leopard shall lie down with the kid.

One: The calf and the lion and the fatling will lie down together,

All: And a little child shall lead them.

One: Come, all you faithful,

All: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

One: Let us worship God!

GATHERING MUSIC

Take My Life and Let it Be Consecrated
Arr. Phillip Keveren

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: Hope, Peace

Valley Youth

ADVENT PRAYER

Dear God, we know that Jesus is the Prince of Peace. He was born in a quiet manger surrounded by peaceful animals. His parents, Joseph and Mary, were kind and loving people. They trusted that God would lead them on peaceful paths as they raised their family in Nazareth. We pray that you will help all of us to build bridges of connection in world. We pray in the name of the Child who was born on the first Christmas Night. Amen

† Hymn #82

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Promised Christ, we are a world at war and our peace depends on your coming. We are full of good intentions, but bad at keeping promises. Our only hope of doing God's will is that you should come and show us your way. Have mercy on us, and lead us into your promise of peace; not just an absence of conflict, but wholeness for all of creation. Our world – we – wait on your peace, forgiveness, and grace. Through 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.

RESPONSE TO GOD'S PROMISE IN ADVENT

Light Shines in the Darkness

by Dakota Road

Oh the light shines in the darkness and the light will not be overcome
In this world broken and scattered, the light will not be overcome

HEARING THE WORD

TIME WITH YOUNG WORSHIPPERS

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

O Come, O Come, Immanuel
Arr. Natalie Sleeth

Valley Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 11:1, 5-9; Luke 1:26-38, 46-56

SERMON

Mary's Song

Rev. Jim Cochrane

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† Hymn #129

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse's lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung.
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright she bore for us a Savior, when half spent was the night.

This flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
Enfleshed, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us and lightens every load.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

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

MUSIC REFLECTION

Oh, Holy Night
Arr. Lorie Line

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Generous and loving God, we thank you for the many blessings in our lives. As you have so freely given us your love in Jesus Christ and welcomed us to your table, may we freely share your love and welcome with others. May the gifts we offer to you and others be signs of our devotion to you and our willingness to love in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SENDING US OUT

† Hymn #100

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

vss. 1, 3, 4

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain:

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.

Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.

The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread; every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn. **Refrain**

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:

God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.

This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around. **Refrain**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

O Come, All Ye Faithful
Harmonized by J. Reading

The Worship Has Ended. The Service Begins.

Chancel Flowers

Sunday, December 7

Sponsored by Marge & Chuck Thurston

In loving memory of our grandson, James E. Bailey

Sign up for Chancel flowers in Fellowship Hall.

Joys and Concerns

We hold our immigrant friends and neighbors in our hearts, especially those from Somalia and Afghanistan, in this season of persecution and uncertainty.

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 CaringBridge profiles here:

Bev Collins has been discharged to Covenant Living rehab. Please pray for strength and healing. Phone calls and cards welcome, but please, no visitors for the time being.

Margie Deutsch recently had a biopsy and port placement. Her first chemo treatment was this week. All prayers gladly accepted.

Doug Smith is receiving hospice care at home.

Diane McCunn is receiving hospice care at Urbana Place in Brooklyn Park.

Carole Martens was recently diagnosed with CLL. She'll have a follow up test in January.

Karen Harms' first round of chemo went well and she is sleeping a lot.

Taichi Chen: "More bonus time!" Taichi and Robin are grateful for 8 more weeks of immunotherapy & uplifting relationships! <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, December 7

2nd Sunday in Advent

9:30 am Worship Service

10:30 am Fellowship Hour

5:30 pm Holiday Dinner

7:00 pm *Sunday* in the Valley concert:
Above Average Tuba Quartet

Monday, December 8

7:00 pm 12-Step Meeting

Tuesday, December 9

1:00 pm Bible Fellowship

6:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 10

6:00 pm Joy of Recovery OA Group

Thursday, December 11

PRISM Toy Shoppe Set Up

5:30 pm 12-Step Unity

Friday, December 12

PRISM Toy Shoppe Set Up

Saturday, December 13

8:00 am-5:00 pm Toy Shoppe event

2:00 pm Pageant Rehearsal

Sunday, December 14

9:30 am Worship Service - **Pageant Sunday!**

10:30 am Congregational Meeting

11:00 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 Pena-Gallegos

Upper Elementary Sunday School Leader

Jamese Decker

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

November 23: 201 (96 in-person)

November 30: 220 (116 in-person)

INTRODUCING PASTORAL CANDIDATE **KYLE SANDISON**

Kyle Sandison grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan, attended Calvin University, then moved east to work at New City Kids, an after-school center in Jersey City, New Jersey. He then served at City Grace Church, a church plant in lower Manhattan, where he met his wife, Hanne.

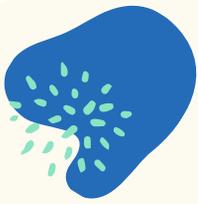
After several years in New York, Hanne and Kyle moved to Boston so Hanne could attend law school while Kyle completed his M.Div. from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. After their first daughter, Elsie, was born, they decided to move to Minnesota to be closer to family (and the State Fair). They now have three children: Elsie (6) loves playing with friends, Arik (4) loves animals (especially giraffes), and Ingrid (1) just learned to walk(!). Kyle enjoys music, reading, coffee, and having his hopes raised and dashed by his favorite Minnesota sports teams.

Since graduating from seminary, Kyle has served in various ministry settings in New Jersey, Louisiana, and Minnesota, in roles ranging from Director of Worship to Lead Pastor. Through these experiences he's discovered a passion for helping build strong and deep relationships within the church and surrounding community.

Kyle sees the church as God's beloved community: "It's the community in which we're beloved by God, cherished by one another, and invited to share God's love with the world around us." For Kyle, this means the church is a place of welcome and belonging, a community that seeks justice and works for the flourishing of all people, and lives into the hope and joy that God is renewing all things. What excites him most about pastoral ministry is walking with people in their faith journey, helping people encounter God's beauty and mystery, and watching a community grow deeper together in our identity as God's beloved.

Kyle and his family are thrilled about the opportunity to call Valley their home church, and they look forward to meeting everyone and getting to be a part of the community.





IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT **MEETING THE CANDIDATE & THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

- A **Meet & Greet** with the candidate and his family will be held on **Saturday, December 13th from 4:30 - 6:00 PM**. Come to Valley to meet the candidate while we enjoy some light refreshments and fellowship together. Meet & Greet will be held in the Cornerstone Room.
 - *Please note that the PRISM Holiday Toy Shoppe will be wrapping up during this time. Attendees are encouraged to enter using the upstairs doors.*
- Candidate will participate in the **worship** service on **Sunday, December 14th at 9:30 AM**
- **Congregational Meeting** will be held **immediately following worship** with the purpose of hearing and acting upon the report of the PNC to elect a new Head Pastor/Head of Staff for Valley Community Presbyterian Church.
 - Members are encouraged to attend in-person but if that is not possible, there will be an option to join the meeting virtually via zoom. An email will be sent out next Wednesday, December 10 with a registration link.



Valley Community

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Purpose: To hear and act upon the report of the PNC to elect a new Head Pastor/Head of Staff for Valley Community Presbyterian Church

Time: Following the 9:30 AM Worship Service

Location: Valley Community Presbyterian Church
3100 Lilac Drive North
Golden Valley, MN 55422



2025 Poinsettia



Roger Michael	In memory of Marian Michael
Greg & Mary Rom	In memory of Michael Hnatko, Betty Hicks Ray & Barbara Rom, and Paul Hicks
Ben Kummer	In memory of Lisa Kummer
Jan & Joe Sacco	In memory of Jack & Carol Rock and Tom & Jean Sacco
Barb & Tom Wasmoen	In honor of Pat & Joan Ingmand
Jim & Diane Cook	In honor of the Friendship Group: Barb, Bobby, & Jeremy In gratitude of the Cochrane Connection - Thanks, Jim!
Rachel & Brian Hole	In memory of Rachel's father, Rev. Howard Skulstad, her Aunt Sue Engel, Brian's brother Tyler Hole, and his Grandpa Bob Kreutzian
Tim & Becky Grosshuesch	In memory of Grandma Maggie Grosshuesch & Gamma Betty Allabough
Valerie Robinson	In honor of our family
Mary & Larry Dunham	In memory of Dale Dunham, Janet Fox, Kenny Fox, Ray Fox & Terry Fox
Katie Decker	In memory of my brother, Carl
Lisa Cawhorn	In memory of Ronald Lybeck & John Cawhorn
Beverly Mattin	In memory of Chuck Mattin
Samantha Schellhaas	In honor of Homebound Members
Bonnie Carlson	In thanks of family, friends and loved ones
Peggy Neibling	In memory of Betty Brooking
Len Biggs and Jennifer Biggs	In memory of Janet Biggs
Dave & Helen Dechaine	In honor of our 4 wonderful grandchildren



2025 Poinsettia



Bonnie & Chuck Ulmer

In honor of our grandchildren

Mandy Lund

In memory of Donovan, Jeff Lund, and Julie Lund

Kelsie & Kevin Hagelin

In honor of Great Grandma Irene

Margie Deutsch

In memory of Manfred Deutsch

Jeanine Miakotina

In memory of my grandparents, Robert & Maymie Peters

Mary Ann Winter

In honor of our grandchildren,
Logan, Maeve, Quinn, Kyra & Annika Winter

Jim & Lisa Tarbell

In memory of Sherrill Mixer and Jim Tarbell Sr.

Jill Reiswig

In loving memory of Myrle Reiswig

Les & Arlene Freeberg

In honor of our grandchildren

Becky Brooking

In memory of Betty Brooking and Robert & Shirley Brooking

Betsy Nichols

In memory of Doug & Trudy Nichols

Gwyn Lang

In honor of my family

Jim Parks

In memory of Karla Parks, Delbert & Lorraine Parks,
and Melbert & Shirley Holzer

Mark & Shirley Toering

In honor of our grandchildren

David & Nancy Phillips

In memory of Nancy's cousin, Tom Vis

Ruth Wilterding

In loving memory of Aron, JoAnna & Mark Wilterding

Kerrie Deef

In memory of grandparents, Marguerite & Robert Siegler and
my in-laws Marjorie & John Deef

Lynn Thier

In memory of my father, Lloyd Pedersen,
my sister, Kristy Oakle, and my grandfather, George Spencer

Roger Graphenteen

In memory of parents, Palmer & Dorothy and
daughter, Allyson Rose



2025 Poinsettia



Brad & Sharon Pleimling

In honor of peace to all the world

Bonnie & Terry Goslinga

In honor of Jessica, Rachel, Ryan, Autumn, and Wayne

The Malecha Family

In memory of Marilyn Eckerle

Susie Potter

In memory of Jan and George Potter

Mary Wilkens

In loving memory of my husband Jerry Wilkens and our parents,
Howard & Gertrude Jilgard and Corny & Vera Wilkens

Bob Tripet

In memory of my mom and dad

Gwen Rouleau Family

In loving memory of our parents and grandparents

Pete & Mariah Messer

In loving memory of our grandparents
In honor of Rory & Walter and their Great Nana Bobbi

Karen Harms

In honor of my loving family and In honor of Valley



Valley Community



**ALTERNATIVE GIFT
CATALOG**

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE
FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO
MAKE AN ALTERNATIVE GIFT
DONATION THIS SEASON!

**SEE ARLENE FREEBERG IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
BEGINNING NOVEMBER 30!**



**ATTENTION
COOKIE BAKERS!**



**Cookie
Exchange**



**Sunday,
December 21
11:00 am
Community Room**



 Valley Community

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE
DECEMBER 21ST, 4:30 PM

The holidays are a time to celebrate and think back fondly on years past, which can be both heartwarming and difficult for those who have lost loved ones. For that reason, Valley will be holding a Longest Night service on **Sunday, December 21st at 4:30pm.**

It will be a service of music and scripture as we remember those we love and name the mixed emotions that come with the season.

**A light meal and time for fellowship
will follow in the Cornerstone Room.**



**A THANK YOU BRUNCH
FOR PASTOR JIM**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28 FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Join us for a potluck brunch following worship on December 28th (Jim's Last Sunday) to celebrate Pastor Jim's time with us at Valley and his dedicated care and leadership of our community.

RSVPs are not necessary, but please sign up if you would like to bring something to contribute to the potluck!

**Sign up for a potluck item in the Fellowship Hall,
scan the QR code, or click here:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4CA8A92DA1F58-60935113-thank>



Advent in the Valley



ADVENT 2025 SCHEDULE



- Sunday, 12/7 | **9:30 AM** **2nd Sunday of Advent | Worship with communion**
Rev. Jim Cochrane, preaching
- Sunday, 12/14 | **9:30 AM** **3rd Sunday of Advent**
Christmas Pageant (during worship)
- Sunday, 12/21 | **9:15 AM** **4th Sunday of Advent | Christmas Music Sunday**
11:00 AM Christmas Cookie Exchange
Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or contact Katie Decker
- Sunday, 12/21 | **4:30 PM** **Longest Night Service**

Christmas Eve Services



LIVE-STREAM & IN-PERSON

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2025

- 4:30 PM | Christmas Eve Family Service
(music starts at 4:15 pm)
- 9:30 PM | Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
with communion



Happy Birthday Valley Family!

John Chancellor
Madeline Lund
Andy Wandmacher
Marisol Freeberg
Betsy Malecha
Aubrey Soens
Brian Parks
Leigh Gautsche
Terry Goslinga
Jill Reiswig
Stephanie Toering-Peters
David Hole
Leo Kummer
Andrew Pitan
Emi Chen
Melinda Marshall
Sydney Kara
Jennifer Malecha
Nikii Minter
Sydney Kara
Jim Tarbell
Sarah Willey
Eda Inman

Rev. David Phillips
William Chancellor
Kurt Modert
Pam Magill
Mary Rom
Marjorie Deutsch
Sheila Sheldon
Michael Craven
Rory Messer
Sharon Pleimling
Ellen Vannucci
Virginia Day
Rick Morisette
Cynthia Malinowski
Beverly Mattin
Evan Jurgensen
Chuck Ulmer
Heather Griffin
K Marshall
Dave McCunn
Theo Morrow
Sara Schiebout
Carrie Priem





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!