

# Holy Night



# GATHERING US IN

## PRELUDE

*Duet Fantasy on Joy to the World*  
G.F. Handel, arr. Robert D. Vandall

Rachel Williams &  
Sue Ruby, piano

## WELCOME

Rev. Jim Cochran

## GATHERING

*Silent Night*  
Franz Gruber, arr. Mike Cornick

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

The Decker Family

## ADVENT PRAYER

God of Christmas joy, we celebrate the birth of Jesus today, born so long ago, but present with us this very day. You sent Jesus to show us how to live, how to love, and how to best be human. But even on this day of celebration, we know there is hunger in the world—hunger for hope, peace, joy, and love.

Today, as we say, “Merry Christmas,” we also remember those who do not feel merry today. Help us keep the promises we have made to help those around us.

When we wake up and it isn’t Advent anymore—when we aren’t singing the carols, and Christmastide has passed—keep our minds set upon compassion and justice. We will remind ourselves and each other that the work is not yet accomplished. Show us how we might be a part of feeding the world for the rest of the year and the rest of our lives. Amen.

## † Carol #133

### **O Come, All Ye Faithful** (vss 1, 3 & 4)

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;  
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!  
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!  
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!  
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

## PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Sheila Sheldon, CRE

Almighty God, tonight the stars and angels call us away from our daily lives to celebrate how you entered the world as a tiny child. At your birth, shepherds traveled far to worship you. Magi followed a bright star to discover your light and love.

We ask that you would speak to us again through the Child of Bethlehem. Continue in our lives the mystery of Christmas. Let your Son come to us, so that we may reveal you to our world all the days of our lives. Holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in. Be born in us today. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE READING

*Luke 2:1-7*

Sheila, Sheldon, CRE

## † Carol #115

### ***Away in a Manger*** (vss 1 & 2)

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,  
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,  
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

## SCRIPTURE READING

*Luke 2:8-14*

Sam Sheldon

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*Eastern Caravan*  
arr. Valerie Stephenson

Janelle, Beth, & Janet Carlson  
Brandon Novy

## SCRIPTURE READING

*Luke 2:15-20*

Connor Gottschalk

## † Carol #147

### ***The First Nowell*** (vss 1 & 6)

The first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,  
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

### **Refrain:**

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord  
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
and with his blood our life hath bought. **(Refrain)**

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE****THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER****INVITATION TO THE TABLE****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.

**SHARING OF THE BREAD & CUP****MUSICAL REFLECTION**

*Coventry Carol*  
arr. Carrie Kraft

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

We give You thanks, O God, that You have come to us through Jesus Christ, in the midst of time and history, in the city of Bethlehem, and in the gifts of bread and wine. Send us into the world rejoicing, ready to share Your love with the people we meet; through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**LIGHTING THE CANDLES**

*\*\*The church is darkened and the light from the Christ candle is passed around. Hold burning candles upright. Tip unlit candles towards lit candles to receive your neighbor's flame.\*\**

**† Carol #122*****Silent Night, Holy Night!***

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright  
`round yon virgin mother and child!  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heaven a far,  
heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia:  
Christ the savior is born; Christ the savior is born!"

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
with the angels let us sing  
Alleluia to our King:  
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.

**TOLLING OF THE BELLS****THE GOSPEL OF JOHN**

*John 1:1-5, 14*

*\*\*Please extinguish your candles as the lights are turned on.\*\**

**† Carol #134**

***Joy to the World*** (vss 1, 2 & 4)

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Go Tell It On the Mountain*  
arr. Gilbert M. Martin



**\*AFTER WORSHIP TONIGHT\***

Please bring home any poinsettias you sponsored.



# 2025 Poinsettia



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



## Two Christmas Offering Opportunities

**Valley's Christmas Offering** will be split between our mission partners **PRISM** and **Every Meal**. Our gifts at this time are critical for many, and we are grateful that the Valley family always responds with generosity! Checks should include "VCPC Christmas Offering" in the memo line, or you can use our online giving platform and select "Christmas Offering."

**The PC(USA)'s Christmas Joy Offering** is a denomination-wide undertaking that supports retired clergy and their families, as well as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) folks pursuing educational opportunities. Those who receive offering boxes from Valley can find a designated envelope for this offering. Checks sent to Valley should include "PCUSA Christmas Joy" in the memo line, or you can use our online giving platform and select "Christmas Joy." **Click [HERE](#) to give online or scan the QR code!**



# 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 or scan the QR code:



# 2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES

PICK UP AT CHURCH

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9AM-3PM - OR - SUNDAYS BEFORE/AFTER WORSHIP

Help the church save on postage by picking up your envelope box (and maybe another member's box who lives near you)!

# Volunteer Opportunities in 2026!

## VALLEY COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN DONATING BLOOD AT VALLEY?

Sunday  
January 4, 2026  
12:00 - 4:00 PM

Scan to Register for 1/4/26



Valley will now be a recurring Memorial Blood Centers donation site!

Mark your calendars for the following dates and spread the word!

January 4th, 2026

March 8th, 2026

May 10th, 2026

July 12th, 2026

September 6th, 2026

November 8th, 2026

 Valley Community

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 2026  
MLK JR. DAY



12 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

6440 Wilryan Ave, Edina, MN 55439

Sign up in Fellowship Hall.  
Contact Andrew Pitan with questions!



# 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  
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!