



Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, December 28, 2025

GATHERING US IN

PRELUDE

Go Tell It On the Mountain
J. Wayne Kerr

Jane Nienaber,
organ

In December Bleak and Cold
Michael Bedford

Variations on Sussex Carol
Raymond H. Haan

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

GATHERING MUSIC

Angels from the Realms of Glory
J. Wayne Kerr

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.

All: *Glory to God in the highest!*

One: To us is born in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.

All: *Glory to God in the highest!*

One: Let us worship God!

† Hymn #132

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came to be among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not always welcomed the light, or trusted the good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ. 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

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

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Felix Mendelssohn

Janelle, Beth & Janet
Carlson, Brandon Novy,
and Justin Toering

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:41-52

SERMON

The Work of Christmas

Rev. Jim Cochrane

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION

A New Year for Valley

OFFERTORY

He is Born!
arr. John Carter

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.

VALLEY CAROL SING

As we celebrate Christ's birth this morning, we invite you to open the hymnals in the backs of the pews in front of you to find the hymns celebrating Christ's birth (numbers 108-156). Shout out hymns we might sing together as a community of faith and let us lift up our hearts and voices in joy for the gift He has given to all the earth!

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

CLOSING PRAYER

God of mystery and might, we thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate anew each year. By your Spirit, make our hearts burn with thanksgiving, that our whole lives might be gifts of praise to you. As Christ came into the world in human flesh all those years ago, be born again in us this day. In Christ we pray. Amen.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

O Come, All Ye Faithful
Herbert Sumsion

The Worship Has Ended. The Service Begins.

Chancel Flowers

Sunday, December 28

Sponsored by Carol and Rick Martens

Happy New Year Wishes for 2026!

Sign up for Chancel flowers in Fellowship Hall!

Joys and Concerns

The **Gottschalk** family asks for prayers for **Connor** who will have surgery on December 30 for his leg length discrepancy.

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:

Margie Deutsch began hospice care at N.C. Little Memorial Hospice in Edina. She welcomes cards, emails, texts, and phone calls. Prayers of comfort from her Valley family are always appreciated. Also, Margie's birthday was on Sunday, December 21!

You may mail cards to: Margie Deutsch
c/o N.C. Little Memorial Hospice
7019 Lynmar Lane
Edina, MN 55435

Doug Smith is receiving hospice care at home.

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

Karen Harms recently had her second chemo treatment last week and appreciates prayers from her Valley family.

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, December 28

9:30 am Worship

10:30 am Thank You Brunch for Pastor Jim

Monday, December 29

6:30 Session Meeting

7:00 pm 12-Step Meeting

Tuesday, December 30

No Bible Fellowship This Week

6:30 pm Bell Choir Practice

Wednesday, December 31

6:00 pm Joy of Recovery OA Group

Thursday, January 1

Office Closed - New Year's Day

5:30 pm 12-Step Unity

Friday, January 2

Saturday, January 3

Sunday, January 4 | Communion Sunday

9:30 am Worship, Rev. Bill Davnie, preaching

10:30 Fellowship Hour (Cornerstone Room)

12:00-4:00 PM Blood Drive (Fellowship Hall)

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

Faith Formation Lead

James 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

December 14: 367 (195 in-person)

December 21: 197 (108 in-person)

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>



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)



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



Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery
Private Tour with Megan Werner, GMCN Liaison
Wednesday, January 7, 2026 at 11:00am.
4544 4th Ave. South, Minneapolis

**Visit this lively place and see just how Valley's
Mission support (and support from you
individually) is put into action.**

Sign Up in Fellowship Hall or call the office to reserve your spot.

JOIN THE FAITH COMMUNITY SCREENING TOUR

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTARY FILMS

SUGARCANE



SUGARCANEFILM.COM

The VCPC Indigenous Justice Task Force invites you to a screening of the award-winning film "Sugarcane" at Valley Community Presbyterian Church!

**Sunday, January 18, 2026
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

(optional Info Session on Sunday, January 11, 2026 @ 11:00 AM)



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 2026: MLK JR. DAY



8-12 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

**6440 Wilryan Ave
Edina, MN 55439**

Contact **Andrew Pitan** or
Valley for sign-up instructions.

4 VOLUNTEERS ALSO NEEDED TO PROVIDE & DELIVER LUNCH TO THE WORK CREW AROUND NOON

Valley Craft & Connect

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

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

Kids welcome: if you sign up in advance, Rachel will make sure there is something for kids to do!

***Optional:** Bring a dish to share for lunch at 12 PM. If you're unable to bring anything, please don't let it keep you away!



SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 2026
10 AM - 2:00 PM



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

- Charlotte Davnie
- Mary Wilkens
- Jennie Minter
- Paul Minter
- Ann Roach
- Don Roach

BAKERS & TREAT-BRINGERS

- Charlotte Davnie
- Ann Roach
- Sam Schellhaas
- Mary Ann Winter





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!