

Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, February 1, 2026

Annual Meeting Today
Following Worship

GATHERING US IN

PRELUDE

Spiegel im Spiegel
Arvo Pärt

Rachel Williams, piano
Matthew Dosland, cello

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

GATHERING MUSIC

10 Duos, Op. 53: No. 1. Commodo
Reinhold Glière

Rachel Williams, cello
Matthew Dosland, cello

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God calls us to life, to wholeness, to compassion.

All: We come, eager and hesitant, confident and uncertain.

Leader: Christ declares blessing where the world sees none.

All: We come to be renewed, challenged, and loved.

Leader: The Spirit moves among us now.

All: Let us worship God together.

Hymn #451

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me.

Place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear.

And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere.

Open my heart, and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my heart; illumine me, Spirit divine!

Merciful and loving God, you know us completely, and you love us still. We acknowledge that we do not always live into your vision for us or for the world. We miss opportunities to do justice, we turn away from kindness, and humility does not always guide our choices or our words. Yet your grace is larger than our shortcomings. Forgive what has been, heal what is broken, and free us for what may yet be—so that, strengthened by your Spirit, we may live with courage, compassion, and joy. In 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.

SUNG RESPONSE #466***Come and Fill Our Hearts***

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

Alleluia!

HEARING THE WORD**TIME WITH YOUNG WORSHIPPERS**

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

Amani Utupe
Patsy Ford Simms

Valley Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:1-12

SERMON

Blessed in the In-Between

Sheila Sheldon, CRE

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† Hymn #769

For Everyone Born

(vss. 1, 3, & 5)

For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead,

Refrain:

and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!

For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong, **(Refrain)**

For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free, **(Refrain)**

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

Thaïs
Jules Massenet

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, we thank you for feeding us with this holy meal, for meeting us with grace and love we cannot measure. Strengthen us by what we have received, that we may live as your people. Send us out in your peace to share your love with the world. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

SENDING US OUT

Hymn #761

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.

Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,
blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,
help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.

Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,
bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life
that surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.

Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,
messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Bist du bei mir

J. S. Bach, transcribed by Jane Firmunn Hollander

The Worship Has Ended. The Service Begins.

Chancel Flowers

Sunday, February 1

Sponsored by [Pete and Mariah Messer](#)

Happy belated 11th Birthday to Aurora Marie!

"Hey, Rory, guess what?" "What?!" "I love you more."

Sign up for Chancel flowers in Fellowship Hall!

Joys and Concerns

We hold our communities, state, immigrant friends and neighbors in our hearts in this time of fear and uncertainty and we pray for the safety of those lifting up their voices against injustice all around the country.

Arlene Freeberg asks for prayers of safety for the Karwans.

Tom Magill has been discharged from the hospital! **Pam** says thank you for your prayers, cards and well wishes. Let the real recovery begin at home!

Prayers for **Dawn Hill** who has an appointment on 2/6 to discuss a path forward with her health.

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:

Doug Smith is receiving hospice care at home.

Carole Martens continues to manage her CLL.

Karen Harms had her last full dose of chemo on Weds, January 28. She got to ring the bell! She will have a follow up scan in March. She thanks everyone for the prayers and is excited to be back at church with her Valley family!

Taichi Chen: Taichi's scan revealed that his cancer is not "under control." Pending insurance approval, he will start a targeted drug soon. Taichi just passed the 7 year diagnosis anniversary (Jan 4) and all of that "bonus time" has been an amazing gift.

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

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

Susie Potter: Susie's PET scan showed some cancer progression and her cancer marker number went up. She will discuss these results with her oncologist in February.

<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, February 1 | Communion

9:30 am Worship

10:45 am Annual Meeting

Monday, February 2

11:30 Lunch Bunch

7:00 pm 12-Step Meeting

Tuesday, February 3

1:00 pm Bible Fellowship

6:30 pm Bell Choir Practice

Wednesday, February 4

6:00 pm Joy of Recovery OA Group

Thursday, February 5

5:30 pm 12-Step Unity

Friday, February 6

Saturday, February 7

10:00 am-2:00 pm Craft & Connect

12:00 pm Cookie Bake for Cookie Sale

Sunday, February 8

Rev. Kyle Sandison's first Sunday!

9:30 am Worship

10:30 Fellowship Hour - **Cookie Sale!**

11:30 Sugarcane Follow Up Discussion

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!

Pastor & Head of Staff

Rev. Kyle Sandison (beginning 2/2/26)

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

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

January 18: 229 (106 in-person)

January 25: 248 (112 in-person)

Valley Lunch Bunch

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND
11:30 AM

50s
GRILL

First Monday of every month!



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, FEBRUARY 7, 2026
10 AM - 2:00 PM



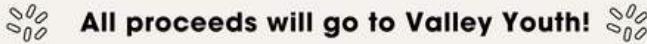
YOUTH COOKIE SALE!

CALLING ALL BAKERS!

Valley Youth are hosting their **Annual Cookie Sale on Sunday, February 8th, 2026** to raise money for Youth Mission work and other special projects.

If you would like to donate some goodies to be included in the Cookie Sale, please contact

Katie Decker

 All proceeds will go to Valley Youth! 

YOUTH

COOKIE SALE 2/8

Don't Miss It!

*a fundraiser for
Youth & Teams programs/mission*



Fridays in the Valley Presents:

Momoko Tanno,
soprano &
Joseph Hagedorn,
lute/guitar



Friday, February 13, 2026 | 7:00 PM

FREE-WILL OFFERINGS BENEFIT
CEAP MEALS ON WHEELS



Valley Community



Clearwater Chrysalis Women's Retreat

FEBRUARY 20-22, 2026
PRESBYTERIAN CLEARWATER FOREST

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

TO REGISTER VISIT

CLEARWATERFOREST.ORG/CLEARWATER-CHRY SALIS

CONTACT 218-678-2325



Save The Date!

**24th Annual
Y.E.S. Tea**



Saturday, March 21 | 2 pm

Interested in hosting a tea table?
Talk to Sheila or Mariah!

Happy Birthday Valley Family!

Bonnie Goslinga

Bill Holman

Alexander Malinowski

Kristin Oney

Joan Chenoweth

Katie Hestness

Connie Freeman

Pat Hoehn

Diane (Stueven) Knox

Warren Linc

Anna Parks

Donna Hewitt

John Zieska

Dawn Hill

Craig Gottschalk

Valerie Robinson

Scot Michael

Jay Tracy

Todd Decker

Connor Craven

Juanita Loubert

Sharon Olson

Veronica Freeberg

Bennett Goiffon

Sarah Fadell

Beverly Collins

Doug Malecha

Don Roach

Sam Rudeen

David Dechaine

Anna Zieska

Richard Gibson

Diane Morningstar

Judy Rathje

John Nyongkah

Colston Rude





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!