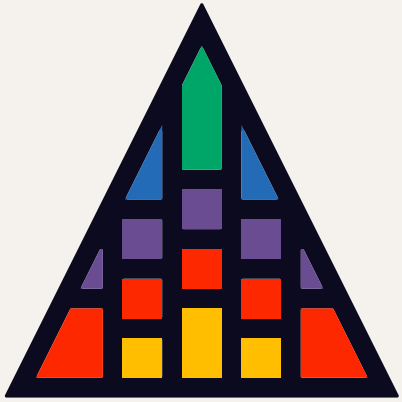

# Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Sunday, April 19, 2026

# GATHERING US IN

**PRELUDE**

*Air*
J.S. Bach

Taichi & Robin Chen
Melinda & Richard Marshall,
strings

*Overture in B Minor, Rondeau*
J.S. Bach

**LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY**

**GATHERING MUSIC**

*Overture in B Minor, Sarabande*
J.S. Bach

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Christ is risen!
**People: He is risen indeed!**
Leader: God is alive! Let the earth be glad!
**People: The Spirit is at work, renewing the creation.**
Leader: Alleluia! Let us worship the living God.

**† Hymn #254** ***That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright***

That Easter day with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored,
the apostles saw their risen Lord.

He bade them see his hands, his side,
where yet the glorious wounds abide,
the tokens true which made it plain
their Lord indeed was risen again.

From every weapon death can wield,
your own redeemed forever shield;
O Lord of all, with us abide
in this our joyful Eastertide.

† Please rise in body or spirit.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Pastor Sheila Sheldon, CRE

Creator God, you have filled the world with beauty and abundance, yet we often take your gifts for granted. We exploit the earth's resources and fail to care for the land, the waters, and all living things. Forgive us for our neglect and greed, for treating your creation as ours to own rather than a trust to steward. Renew us, O God. Restore us to right relationship with creation, with one another, and with you. Empower us to care for your world and share your love, so that all may know your abundant life. 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 #240** ***Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks!***

Alleluia, alleluia!
Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Give praise to his name (Repeat)

## HEARING THE WORD

**TIME WITH YOUNG WORSHIPPERS**

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

**SPECIAL MUSIC** *You Are Holy* — Valley Choir
Per Harling, arr. John Helgen — Taichi Chen, violin
Hsu-hu Wang, conductor

**SCRIPTURE READING** Luke 24:13-35 (CEB)

**SERMON** *On the Road to Emmaus* — Rev. Kyle Sandison

† Please rise in body or spirit.

# RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**† Hymn #252** ***Day of Arising***

Day of arising, Christ on the roadway,
unknown companion walks with his own.
When they invite him, as fades the first day,
and bread is broken, Christ is made known.

When we are walking, doubtful and dreading,
blinded by sadness, slowness of heart,
yet Christ walks with us, ever awaiting
our invitation: Stay, do not part.

Lo, I am with you, Jesus has spoken.
This is Christ's promise, this is Christ's sign:
when the church gathers, when bread is broken,
there Christ is with us, in bread and wine.

Christ, our companion, hope for the journey,
bread of compassion, open our eyes.
Grant us your vision, set all hearts burning
that all creation with you may rise.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**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** *Earth Care Sunday* Cynthia Malinowski

**OFFERTORY** *Overture in B Minor, Boureé*
J.S. Bach

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Creator God, we offer these gifts as gratitude for your abundance, and as a way to honor your call to care for creation and each other. May these offerings support the work of your church: to nurture faith, protect the earth, and share your love with all people. Amen.

† Please rise in body or spirit.

## SENDING US OUT

**† Hymn #543** ***God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me***

God, be the love to search and keep me;
God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Bind to myself the Name of Holy,
great cloud of witnesses enfold;
prophets, apostles, angels witness:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight,
flashing of lightning, strength of wind,
depth of the sea to soil of planet:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Walking behind to hem my journey,
going ahead to light my way,
and from beneath, above, and all ways:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Christ in the eyes of all who see me,
Christ in the ears that hear my voice,
Christ in the hearts of all who know me:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** *Overture in B Minor, Menuet*
J.S. Bach

**The Worship Has Ended. The Service Begins.**

**Chancel Flowers**
Sunday, April 19
Sponsored by Catherine Lenagh
*In memory of James Byron Sandison*
Sign up for Chancel flowers in Fellowship Hall!

† Please rise in body or spirit.

# Joys and Concerns

**Paul Minter** offers praise that **Jennie** and Emily are home from the hospital and doing well! Pray that they heal quickly and get back to normal strength. Pray also for Jennie as she acclimates to her new pill regimen.

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.

**Taichi Chen:** https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/taichichen

**Janet & Rick Carlson:** Janet's medical team had difficulties with her PICC line and she has a low white blood count so will be in the hospital possibly through the weekend.

To support the Carlsons, Valley staff set up a Meal Train. Please sign up at https://mealtrain.com/ne11n6. Valley is also planning a gift through Pastor's Discretionary Fund (PDF) to help cover medical costs, lost wages, and other expenses. You may donate to PDF on Breeze. https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/rickcarlson101

**Susie Potter:** Susie will meet with MN Oncology in early May to talk about chemo and next steps. 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, April 19**
9:30 am Worship
10:30 am Fellowship Hour
11:00 am Adult Ed
5:30 pm Youth/TEAMS Group

**Monday, April 20**
7:00 pm 12-Step Meeting

**Tuesday, April 21**
11:30 am Men's Luncheon Group
1:00 pm Bible Fellowship
**6:30 Bell Choir Practice**

**Wednesday, April 22**
6:00 pm Joy of Recovery OA Group
**7:00 pm Choir Practice**

**Thursday, April 23**
10:00 am Meals on Wheels
5:30 pm 12-Step Unity

**Friday, April 24**

**Saturday, April 25**

**Sunday, April 26 - Rev. Kyle's Installation**
9:30 am Worship
10:30 am Fellowship Hour - Brunch
5:30 pm Youth/TEAMS

**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

**Educational Ministries Director**
Pastor 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**
April 5, Easter: 361 (204 in-(person)
April 12: 272 (144 in-(person)

# Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Adult Education | April 19| 11:00 AM

### TENT OF NATIONS: PROTECTIVE PRESENCE IN THE HOLY LAND

REV. BILL DAVNIE

Tent of Nations is a Christian Palestinian-owned farm near Bethlehem, committed to peacemaking and justice. Its existence is being squeezed by Israeli settlers, and the government of Israel, which are trying to drive Palestinians out of their land.

Bill recently spent a month at the farm, part of a Protective Presence effort to discourage seizure of their land. He will talk about Christians in the West Bank, the Palestinian situation in general, and life at the Tent of Nations.

**Hosted in The Cornerstone Room**

# Valley Community

You're invited to celebrate the Installation of
**Rev. Kyle Sandison** as Pastor and Head of Staff at Valley!

**Installation Service** Sunday, April 26th, 2026 at 9:30 AM

Following the service, we'll share in a potluck brunch to honor **Pastor Kyle** as he begins his ministry as our new Pastor and Head of Staff, and to welcome him and his family to the Valley family.

No RSVP needed — but if you'd like to bring something for the brunch, sign-ups are available!
We hope to see you there!

**Sign up for a potluck item in the Fellowship Hall, scan the QR code, or click here:**
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4CA8A92DA1F58-63167764-installation

# UNDERSTANDING CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM

## Faith, Power, and the Soul of America

**Rev. Dan Stark**

**Four Thursday Evenings: May 7, 14, 21, & 28, 7:00–8:30 p.m.**

St. Luke Presbyterian Church | 3121 Groveland School Road, Minnetonka

In our current cultural climate, the lines between religious and national identity are increasingly blurred. Join us for this timely 4-week course as we unpack the history, theology, and modern-day impact of Christian Nationalism. This course provides a foundational understanding to distinguish a healthy love of country from a political ideology that seeks to merge American and religious identities.

**Sponsors**

Edina Community Lutheran Church
Excelsior United Methodist Church
Plymouth Presbyterian Church
St. Luke Presbyterian Church
Unitarian Universalist Church of Minnetonka
Valley Community Presbyterian Church
Wright County Indivisible

Rev. Dan Stark serves as the Minister of Pastoral Care and Adult Education at Wayzata Community Church and is a Chaplain in the Air Force Reserves. Ordained in the United Church of Christ, Dan holds a Master of Divinity from Emory University and two advanced degrees in biblical studies and theology from Luther Seminary.

USE THE QR CODE TO REGISTER
OR CLICK HERE TO ATTEND IN PERSON

or watch the livestream at stluke.mn/news-updates/understanding-christian-nationalism

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Valley Community

# SPRING CLEANUP DAY

SATURDAY, MAY 2*
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**OUTSIDE**

South Lawn
Playground
Patio

SIGN UP IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

*If needed, weather make up day: Saturday, May 9

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Valley Community

# VBC 2026

NEW!

## SAVE THE DATE

## JUNE 16-19

Scan the QR Code to Register!!
Register by May 4th!!

# Fridays in The Valley Presents:

## the paper clips

### motown trombone sound

**Friday, May 8, 2026 | 7:00 PM**

FREE-WILL OFFERINGS BENEFIT
**GREATER MINNEAPOLIS CRISIS NURSERY**

Valley Community

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## VALLEY COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN DONATING BLOOD AT VALLEY?

**Sunday**
**May 10th, 2026**
**12:00 - 4:00 PM**

Scan to Register for 5/10/26

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

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

May 10th, 2026
July 12th, 2026
September 6th, 2026
November 8th, 2026

Valley Community

# Happy Birthday Valley Family!

Larry Johnson
Ben Fadell
Jeanine Miakotina
Colin Poynter
Ray Anderson
Mikum Kunkel
Rob Morrow
Jim Parks
Larry Eklund
Elsie Sandison
Mary Schuette
Tom McKeon
Alexandria Slack
Pat Daily
Jaxon Hein-Smith
Iris Hagelin
Jeff Lewis
Devin Smith
Jacob Labelle
Emmett Soltau
Chelsie Larsen
Leone Johnson
Sam Sheldon
Betty Thorne
Rachel Williams
Becky Grosshuesch

Mike Pinter
Becky Brooking
Betsy Nichols
Mae Rudeen
Dede Hanson
Greg Van Heest
Andres Freeberg
Jeremy Lund
Charlie Rudeen
Camille Pinter
Ben Sheldon
Elsie Grosshuesch
Brian Hole
Missy Rudeen

# 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 WIŊ (SISSETON WAHPETON DAKHÓTA AND OJIBWAY)

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Pastoral Care: 763-445-9665
Phone Ministry: 763-220-1455

Scan to give online!