



Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, May 3, 2026

GATHERING US IN

PRELUDE

In Whatever Time We Have from Children of Eden
Stephen Schwartz

Rachel Williams,
piano

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

GATHERING MUSIC

Seek Ye First
Karen Lafferty

Jay Tracy, guitar & vocals
Mariah Messer, vocals

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Do not let your hearts be troubled.

People: We come trusting in God, who makes a way where there is none.

Leader: In a world of uncertainty, Christ calls us forward.

People: We follow the Way of love, justice, and hope.

Leader: In every place of fear and division

People: God prepares a dwelling place of peace.

Leader: In Christ, there is room for all. At this table, there is bread for every hunger, and peace for every storm.

All: Thanks be to God! We worship with glad and grateful hearts!

† Hymn #405

Praise God for This Holy Ground

vss. 1-4

Praise God for this holy ground,
place and people, sight and sound.

Refrain:

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
God's goodness is eternal.

Praise God in whose word we find
food for body, soul, and mind. (Refrain)

Praise God who through Christ makes known
all are loved and called God's own. (Refrain)

Praise God's Spirit who befriends,
raises, humbles, breaks, and mends. (Refrain)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the journey, you call us to trust, yet we cling to what is familiar and safe. You lead us in the way of Jesus, yet we wander from paths of justice and love. We confess that we have turned away from those in need, from the cries of the oppressed, from the work of justice and peace.

We have doubted your presence when the road was unclear. Still, you do not turn away from us. Forgive us, O God. Draw us back to your heart and re-center us in your love. Lead us to walk in your way—the way of love. In Christ Jesus 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 #698***Take, O Take Me as I Am***

Take, O take me as I am;
 summon out what I shall be;
 set your seal upon my heart and live in me. (Repeat)

HEARING THE WORD**WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS****AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God

SPECIAL MUSIC

Peace I Leave with You
 by Victor L. Jams

Valley Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

John 14:1-14

SERMON

Room Enough

Pastor Sheila Sheldon, CRE

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† Hymn #657

Sing to God, with Joy and Gladness

vss. 1, 3, & 4

Refrain:

Sing to God, with joy and gladness,
hymns and psalms of gratitude;
with the voice of praise discover
that to worship God is good.

God unites the scattered people,
gathers those who wandered far,
heals the hurt and broken spirits,
tending every wound and scar. (Refrain)

God with clouds the sky has curtained,
thus ensuring rain shall fall;
earth, responding, grows to order
food for creatures great and small. (Refrain)

God's discernment never favors
strength or speed to lift or move;
God delights in those who worship,
trusting in God's steadfast love. (Refrain)

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Land Acknowledgement

Jen Biggs

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.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

SHARING OF THE BREAD & CUP

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Sancta Dorothea
Franz Liszt

*From May through August, loose offering collected during worship is designated for **Clare Terrace**.

† Please rise in body or spirit.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, you have fed us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation. Send us now into the world to be the body of Christ—bringing hope where there is fear, justice where there is oppression, and love where there is division. Amen.

SENDING US OUT

† Hymn #726

Will You Come and Follow Me

vss. 1, 2, 4, & 5

“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”

“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?”

“Will you love the ‘you’ you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?”

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

BENEDICTION POSTLUDE

What Does the Lord Require of You?
Jim Strathdee

The Worship Has Ended. The Service Begins.



† Please rise in body or spirit.

Joys and Concerns

Ken Smith was at North Memorial with gastrointestinal issues and was discharged on Friday.

Dawn Hill was in the hospital over the weekend due to high potassium levels and was discharged on Monday.

Richard Marshall is home after a short hospital stay for pneumonia.

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 For the past year, Carole has had a blood draw every 3 months to monitor her CLL. After an appointment on Friday, she is delighted to report that it is holding steady, her numbers are great and she doesn't have to go back for another 6 months! She is so very grateful for all the supportive prayers!

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

Janet & Rick Carlson: Janet had her next round of inpatient chemo this week. Next week, she has outpatient chemo, along with a number of appointments. Friday will be a free day!

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 has two tests on May 11, with a follow up on May 18 with her oncologist to discuss those results. <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.

Meet Valley's New Members!

Stephanie Lake

Stephanie and her husband Josh relocated from Lawrence, Kansas two years ago with their kids, Henry and Elizabeth. She grew up Presbyterian and is excited to be part of a new church community. She and her family live in Golden Valley with two dogs, two cats, and an embarrassing number of houseplants.

Jill Weihrauch

Hi, I'm Jill! I love to crochet, which keeps me busy with all sorts of fun ideas—from my most complicated project, Anxiety from Inside Out 2, to making hats out of scrap yarn for Operation Christmas Child. When I'm not crocheting, you can usually find me out in nature, spending time with the people I care about, or writing—I even have a Substack page! I love finding ways to grow, serve others, and spread kindness wherever I can.

Sam Decker

I'm Samuel, son of Todd and Katie Decker. I've been going to this church since I was little. When I was younger, I struggled to believe in anything as I had a lot of rough times and it was hard to believe that this was a part of God's plan. But now that I'm older I think I understand it better now. I see that sometimes our paths have to start rocky, but I am hopeful that mine will continue to go in a good direction as I begin a new construction apprenticeship.

Kyle Boyd and Audrey Gabe

Our family of 4 moved back to Minnesota last summer after living in Austin, TX for 16 years. Kyle grew up in Spicer, MN, is a software engineer, and enjoys pickleball and board games. Audrey grew up in Plymouth, has practiced social work in various settings, and enjoys working on puzzles and exploring museums. Our oldest son Axel is in 4th grade and likes to draw and develop his own comic book characters. Our youngest son Simon is in 1st grade and likes to run around with friends and make people laugh. Audrey and Kyle were both campers at Clearwater Forest for many summers, and then met when they were on staff together 20 years ago. We're enjoying seeing friends and family more often, and rediscovering the community! Please give us all your restaurant recommendations.

Paula Landis

Paula Landis comes here through her grandmother Helen Webb, and aunts Mare (Nikki) McKeon and Lois Schmidt— and cousin Susie Potter. She traveled with Valley on mission trips to Costa Rica in 1998 & 99 and has been here for just over a year singing in the choir, volunteering and enjoying community. Paula is an early childhood teacher trainer with a doctorate in educational leadership. She has 3 children and they all live in St Louis Park.

Hanne Sandison

Hanne and Kyle are thrilled to call Valley their church home. Hanne works as the Immigration Legal Services Director for Advocates for Human Rights, where she has worked since 2019. She enjoys traveling to new places, exploring new restaurants, and spending quality time with her family and friends. Hanne and Kyle have 3 children, Elsie (7), Arik (4), and Ingrid (1).

Anne Mollerus

Anne is excited she found Valley Community Presbyterian Church and has been welcomed so warmly into its community. She retired a year ago and beside volunteering at VCPC, she volunteers at the Animal Humane Society, MN Zoo and the Hennepin County Fix-it Clinic. She enjoys walking her dogs, spending time with her Mom/family and traveling to new places.

Jim Rock

Jim is a semi-retired ethno- and archeoastronomer and life-long educator from Mni Sota Makoche, the land where the water reflects the sky. His Dakota father was also a Presbyterian as was his father. Other Dakota kids even teased Jim's dad as a "P.K."!

Jim loves sciences, languages and music of Turtle Island, and the "Old World" as well.

Welcome to the Valley Family!

This Week at Valley

Sunday, May 3

9:30 am Worship

10:30 am Fellowship Hour

11:00 am Adult Ed

5:30 pm Youth/TEAMS Group

Monday, May 4

11:30 am Lunch Bunch

5:00 pm Community Food Conversation

7:00 pm 12-Step Meeting

Tuesday, May 5

1:00 pm Bible Fellowship

6:30 Bell Choir Practice

Wednesday, May 6

12:00 pm GMCN Formula for Hope

6:00 pm Joy of Recovery OA Group

Thursday, May 7

5:30 pm 12-Step Unity

6:00 pm Taste of the Burbs

Friday, May 8

7:00 pm Fridays in the Valley

Saturday, May 9

Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure

Sunday, May 10

9:30 am Worship

10:30 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!

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 19: 231 (133 in-person)

April 26: 288 (155 in-person)



Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Adult Education | May 3 | 11:00 AM

EXPLORING IMMIGRATION IN MINNESOTA & THE U.S.
HANNE SANDISON

Hanne Sandison will share about her work as Immigration and Legal Services Director with The Advocates for Human Rights. Join her for a discussion of recent issues in immigration enforcement and how it impacts our immigrant neighbors.

Hosted in The Cornerstone Room

Valley Lunch Bunch

MONDAY, MAY 4TH
11:30 AM

50^s
GRILL

First Monday of every month!



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](https://stluke.mn/news-updates/understanding-christian-nationalism)

Fridays in The Valley Presents:



the paper cups motown trombone sound

Friday, May 8, 2026 | 7:00 PM

FREE-WILL OFFERINGS BENEFIT
GREATER MINNEAPOLIS CRISIS NURSERY

 Valley Community



Wednesday, May 6, 2026

Formula for Hope

Hyatt Regency in downtown Minneapolis

CrisisNursery.org/FFH

a benefit event for
Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery



Valley sponsoring a table | Call the office to reserve your spot

Do you have a graduate to celebrate this spring?

**Please join us in honoring our 2026
Valley graduates
Sunday, May 17 at 9:30 am.**

If you or someone you know is graduating from a degree or certification program this spring, please notify the office by May 12 so we can include them in the bulletin. office@valleychurch.net

THANK YOU!

To all those in the Valley community who gave of their time, talents & treasures the last few months to make sure Valley Fellowship Hour on Sunday mornings was caffeinated and extra delicious!

COFFEE HOSTS

- Charlotte Davnie
- Roger Michael
- Mary Wilkens
- Ann & Don Roach
- Ray Anderson
- Revs. David & Nancy Phillips
- Barb & Tom Wasmoen
- Betsy Nichols
- Jackie Goiffon
- Samantha & Jon Schellhaas

BAKERS & TREAT-BRINGERS

- Charlotte Davnie
- Mary Wilkens
- Arlene Freeberg
- Connie Freeman
- Ann Roach
- Karen Harms
- Mary Ann Winter
- Rev. Nancy Phillips
- Rachel Hole
- Samantha Schellhaas



Valley Community

VBC
2026

SAVE THE **NEW!** DATE

JUNE 16-19

Scan the QR Code to Register!!

Register by May 4th!!



Happy Birthday Valley Family!

Gregory Rom
Crystal Boyd
Bob Tripet
Walt Hanson
Annette Nichols
Ana Freeberg
Jackie Goiffon
Earl Shenk
Shirley Toering
Brian Hassel
Susan Tracy
Lucas Kopischke
Elizabeth Brooker
Vivian Bi
Suzan Gibson
Len Biggs
Kevin Hagelin
Amy Matthews
Haley Brooker
Thomas Schuette

Lloyd Olson
Jan Sacco
Herb Nichols
Jennifer Soens
Dan Priem
Carolyn Anderson
Sandra McCarthy
Kiersten Rude
Lynn Thier
Lillian LaBelle





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)

3100 Lilac Drive North
Golden Valley, MN 55422

www.valleychurch.net

Office: 763-588-0831

Pastoral Care: 763-445-9665

office@valleychurch.net



Scan to give online!