

# Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Sunday, May 10, 2026

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# GATHERING US IN

## PRELUDE

*I Surrender All*  
Winfield S. Weeden, arr. Victor Labenske

Rachel Williams,  
piano

## LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

### GATHERING MUSIC

*They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love*  
Peter Scholtes, arr. Mark Hayes

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, let us gather in praise of the one who shows us the way:

**People: The way of Christ is love.**

Leader: Let us gather in thanksgiving for the one who teaches the truth:

**People: That we are all made in God's image and called good.**

Leader: Let us worship the one who gives us life.

**People: Blessed be our God, source of all creation.**

### † Hymn #407

#### ***Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers***

vss. 1, 3, 4, & 5

Spirit divine, attend our prayers,  
and make this house your home.  
Descend with all your gracious powers.  
O come, great Spirit, come!

Come as the fire and purge our hearts  
like sacrificial flame.  
Let our whole soul an offering be  
to our Redeemer's name.

Come as the dove and spread your wings,  
the wings of peaceful love.  
And let the church on earth become  
blest as the church above.

Spirit divine, attend our prayers.  
Make a lost world your home.  
Descend with all your gracious powers.  
O come, great Spirit, come!

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Sheila Sheldon, CRE

God of grace, we know that when your love abides in us, we will keep your commandment to love one another. We are troubled that we are not always faithful to your word; we are afraid that we will fail as bearers of your gift of peace; we are worried that we do not know you as we ought; we are anxious and hold back from embracing others in your love.

Take away our fear and lead us by your Spirit to the healing stream. Abide in us as you abide in Jesus, in whose name 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 #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

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*  
Charles C. Converse

Matt Weiss,  
guitar & vocals

## SCRIPTURE READING

John 14:15-21

## SERMON

*The Advocate*

Rev. Kyle Sandison

# RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† 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!

## **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**

*Indigenous Justice Task Force*

Crystal Boyd

### **OFFERTORY**

*Amazing Grace*  
John Newton

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

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O loving God, we give you thanks that you have placed in the hearts of your faithful people the gift of generosity and the desire to keep your commands. Bless these gifts and use them to reveal to all people your love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

## SENDING US OUT

† Hymn #724

### ***O Jesus, I Have Promised***

vss. 1, 2, & 4

O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;  
be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend;  
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,  
nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

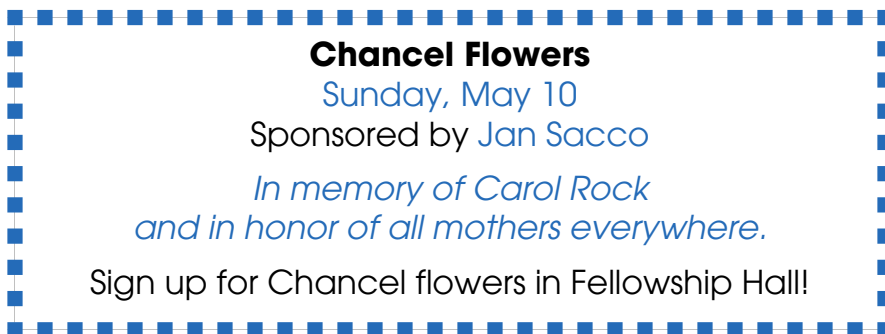
O let me feel thee near me! The world is ever near:  
I see the sights that dazzle; the tempting sounds I hear.  
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;  
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer and shield my soul from sin.

O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee  
that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be.  
And, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;  
O give me grace to follow, my Master and my friend.

## BENEDICTION POSTLUDE

*I'll Fly Away*  
Albert E. Brumley

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



† Please rise in body or spirit.

# Joys and Concerns

Prayers for **Mary Wilkens** was discharged Tuesday from Methodist following a stroke and started occupational and speech therapy this week.

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** has had a blood draw every 3 months for the past year to monitor her CLL. After a recent appointment, 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 is officially halfway through her chemo treatments! She had her last Rituxan IV infusion on Tuesday, took time to rest, and has been feeling good.

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](mailto:chelsie.larsen@valleychurch.net) to set up withdrawals directly from your account. You can always adjust the amount.

# This Week at Valley

## Sunday, May 10

9:30 am Worship

10:30 am Fellowship Hour

## Monday, May 11

7:00 pm 12-Step Meeting

## Tuesday, May 12

1:00 pm Bible Fellowship

6:30 Bell Choir Practice

6:30 Mission Possible

## Wednesday, May 13

6:00 pm Joy of Recovery OA Group

7:00 pm Choir Practice

## Thursday, May 14

5:30 pm 12-Step Unity

## Friday, May 15

## Saturday, May 16

## Sunday, May 17 - Grad Sunday

9:30 am Worship

10:30 am Fellowship Hour

11:00 am Adult Ed

5:00 pm Youth/TEAMS End of Year Celebration

**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 26: 288 (155 in-person)

May 3: 229 (125 in-person)

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](mailto:office@valleychurch.net)

**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)



# Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Adult Education | May 17 | 11:00 AM



## HOW TO BE A GOOD ANCESTOR ELDERS FOR CLIMATE ACTION

The mission of Elders Climate Action is to mobilize elders throughout the United States to address climate change while there is still time to protect the well-being of our grandchildren and future generations. We are dedicated to using the power of our caring, our wisdom and our numbers to push for strong policies that will reduce greenhouse gases in our atmosphere to a level consistent with life thriving on our planet.

**Hosted in The Cornerstone Room**



Valley Community

VBC  
2026

SAVE THE **NEW!** DATE

JUNE 16-19

Scan the QR Code to Register!!

Register by May 4th!!



• DRIVERS NEEDED •

# Meals on Wheels

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

**3RD & 4TH THURSDAY  
OF EVERY MONTH**

## ROUTES INCLUDE:

Crystal  
New Hope  
Robbinsdale  
Golden Valley



**Sign Up on Breeze or  
in Fellowship Hall**

**Volunteer  
Coordinators:**

Gail Smith - 3rd Thur  
Marge Thurston - 4th Thur  
or call the office.



Valley Community

# Valley Men's Lunch

TUESDAY, MAY 19  
11:30 AM

**50<sup>s</sup>**  
**GRILL**



# 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)

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Scan to give online!