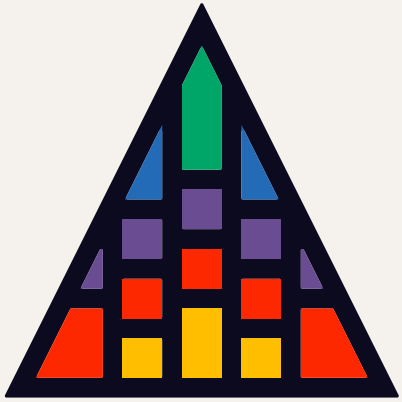

Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, August 16, 2026

GATHERING US IN

PRELUDE — *Appalachia Waltz*, Mark O'Connor — Rachel Williams, piano; Martha McDermott, violin

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

GATHERING MUSIC — *Amourette Op. 1*, *Edgar Thorn*

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,
People: Your faithfulness to the clouds.
Leader: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
People: All people take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
Leader: With you, O Lord, is the fountain of life;
People: In your light we see light.
Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord!

† Hymn #401 — ***Here in This Place*** — vss. 1, 2, & 4

Here in this place the new light is streaming;
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young; our lives are a mystery.
We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage to enter the song.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away:
here in this place the new light is shining;
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

† Please rise in body or spirit.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Jan Fedora

Gracious God, your steadfast love extends to the heavens, but we confess that we have measured your grace by our own narrow expectations. We listen for your voice only from the people we already know and trust, and we fail to hear it from those we have dismissed, overlooked, or judged.

Forgive us for the times we have mistaken our own limits for yours. Open our eyes to see your Spirit moving in the outsider, the stranger, the unlikely one, and give us the humility to receive grace from wherever you choose to send it. In the name of 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 #188 ***Jesus Loves Me***

Jesus loves me! This I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong.
They are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.

HEARING THE WORD

TIME WITH YOUNG WORSHIPPERS

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

SPECIAL MUSIC *Four Romantic Pieces I. Allegro moderato Op. 75*
Antonin Dvorak

SCRIPTURE READING Joshua 2:1-21

SERMON *Unexpected Grace* Rev. Kyle Sandison

† Please rise in body or spirit.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† Hymn #317 ***In Christ There Is No East or West***

In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close-binding humankind.

Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west;
in him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.

MINUTE FOR MISSION Public Education Day Jan Sacco

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.

***OFFERTORY** *Beau Soir*
Claude Debussy

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, your love reaches places we never expect, through people we never expect. We offer these gifts, trusting your economy is wider than ours. Take them, use them in surprising ways, and use us, too, as signs of your boundless grace. Amen.

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

† Please rise in body or spirit.

SENDING US OUT

† Hymn #649 ***Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*** vss. 1, 2, 3 & 5

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *O'Carolan's Draught*
Traditional

The Worship Has Ended. The Service Begins.

Chancel Flowers
Sunday, August 16
Sponsored by Shirley & Mark Toering
In celebration of our anniversary and the joys of family
Sign up for Chancel flowers in Fellowship Hall!

† Please rise in body or spirit.

Joys and Concerns

A very special milestone is approaching! Valley member and former Golden Valley mayor, **Mary Anderson,** is turning **100** on August 26th! To celebrate her century of life and service, her family is gathering birthday cards filled with wishes, stories and memories from the many lives she's touched! If you'd like to make her smile by sending a card, please call the church office for her address.

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:

Carolyn Anderson recent labs showed her leukemia numbers went up and she has restarted her chemo pill. She is hopeful that she will have a positive response with meds.

Carole Martens will have a follow up on her CLL in a few months.

Taichi Chen had another round of traditional chemo this week. Scan will follow in a few weeks. https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/taichichen

Janet (& Rick) Carlson: A recent PET scan revealed a spot of infection on Janet's foot. Everything stem cell related is on hold until that's resolved.

To support the Carlsons, Valley staff set up a Meal Train. Please sign up at https://mealtrain.com/ne11n6. For updates on Janet, please follow **Rick's** CaringBridge: https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/rickcarlson101

Susie Potter will go in for tests on Tuesday, August 11 and then follow up with her oncologist on August 18. 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, August 16
Clearwater Chrysalis
9:30 am Worship
10:30 am Fellowship Hour

Monday, August 17
7:00 pm 12-Step Meeting

Tuesday, August 18
11:30 am Valley Men's Lunch

Wednesday, August 19
6:00 pm Joy of Recovery OA Group

Thursday, August 20
10:00 am Meals on Wheels
5:30 pm 12-Step Unity

Friday, August 21

Saturday, August 22

Sunday, August 23
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

Music Coordinator
Rachel Williams

Interim Choral Director
Hsu-hui Wang

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
August 2: 210 (96 in-person)
August 9: 189 (84 in-person)

Valley

Men's Lunch

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18
11:30 AM

50s GRILL

3rd Tuesday of every month!

SUMMER CHOIR

Love to sing?
Join us for Summer Choir!

Sunday, August 23

8:30 AM Rehearsal

9:30 AM Worship Service

Hsu-hui Wang, conductor
Rachel Williams, piano

Valley Community

HOMECOMING SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 13

HERE'S WHAT YOU HAVE TO LOOK FORWARD TO:

- **Blessing of the Backpacks** for Valley kids
- Funner Brothers donut holes and coffee
- **Bouncy House**
- Directory Info Update Station
- **Registration for the year of youth and kids programming**
- Sign-ups for fall activities and volunteer opportunities

• 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

FALL FESTIVAL

SAVE THE DATE!

BACK TO THE 50'S

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3
5:00 - 8:00 PM

DJ!

Live/Silent Auction!

Food

Kid's Activities

Bounce House • Games • Face Painting

Gift Card Wall

Tickets
$15 ADULT
$10 KIDS
On Sale 8/30 in Fellowship Hall

Clare Housing Supper Club

New Opportunity! Join a 4 x 4 Dinner Group with Clare Housing. Prepare, serve, share and cleanup up after the evening meal for 4 neighbors living in one of Clare Housing's Community Care Homes.

CONTACT:
SARAH FADELL
TO LEARN MORE

Happy Birthday Valley Family!

Michael Deef
Larry Matthews
Ingrid Sandison
Sofie Vogel
Jack Westerlund
Richard Marshall
Rev. Bill Davnie
Donald Carlson
Dawn Williams
Ruth Wilterding
Luke Priem
Jessica Goslinga
Jack Larsen
Sean Linc
Miles Rudeen
Douglas Smith
John Gove

Bennett Gonsior
Finbarr McCarthy
Jennifer Brant
Kelsie Hagelin
James Husnik
Jay Perry
Maddie Pukite
Melissa Gottschalk
Mark Musta
Rev. Jim Cook
Mary Anderson
Alexander Dunham
Ben Brooker
Mildred Davison
Sharon Decker
Arlene Freeberg
Carole Martens

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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Scan to give online!