Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, November 22, 2026

GATHERING US IN

PRELUDE *Give Thanks* — Henry Smith, arr. by Mark Hayes — Rachel Williams, piano

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

GATHERING MUSIC *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* — George J. Elvey, arr. by Carol Tornquist

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!
All: We come into God's presence with singing.
One: Know that the Lord is God, who made us and to whom we belong.
All: We enter these gates with thanksgiving and these courts with praise.
One: For the Lord is good, and God's steadfast love endures forever.
All: Thanks be to God!
One: Welcome, friends. Let us worship God.

† **Autumn Carol** **Sing to the Lord of Harvest** Sung to #17

Sing to the Lord of harvest, sing songs of love and praise.
With joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise.
In God the rolling seasons in steadfast order move.
Sing to the Lord of harvest a joyous song of love.

The clouds break forth with raining, the deserts bloom and spring,
The hills leap up in gladness, the valleys laugh and sing.
God fills them with abundance and nature's gifts increase.
The year is crowned with goodness, with plenty and with peace.

Bring to this sacred altar the gifts God's goodness gave,
The golden sheaves of harvest, the souls Christ died to save.
Your hearts lay down in off'ring as at his feet you fall.
With holy lives adore him who gave his life for all.

† Please rise in body or spirit.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Rachel Hole

Gracious God, you have made us and you have blessed us, and still we forget.
We forget that all we have is gift: our breath, our families, our daily bread.
We grumble over what we lack and overlook what we have been given.
We hurry past the blessings in front of us, and we hurry past our neighbors.
We give thanks easily when life is full, and we turn away when thanks costs us something.
We keep our abundance close while others go without. Forgive us, merciful God.

Soften our hardened hearts and open our clenched hands. Teach us to give thanks in ways that change how we live, so that our gratitude becomes generosity, and our generosity becomes justice, for the sake of your world and in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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 #413 **Come into God's Presence** vss. 1 & 4

Come into God's presence singing
"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia."

Praise the Lord together singing
"Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God."

HEARING THE WORD

TIME WITH YOUNG WORSHIPPERS

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

SPECIAL MUSIC *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High* Valley Handbells
arr. A.B. Sherman

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 100

SERMON *Hearts of Gratitude* Pastor Sheila Sheldon

† Please rise in body or spirit.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† Hymn #409 ***God Is Here!*** vss 1, 3, & 4

God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here, as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive:
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

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.

OFFERTORY *Thankful*
Anthony Greninger, transc. by David Badilla

PRAYER FOR DEDICATION

Generous God, every gift we have comes from you, and so we offer these gifts back with grateful hearts. Receive our money, our time, and our talents. Bless what we give so that it feeds the hungry, welcomes the stranger, comforts the grieving, and shows your love in this community and beyond. Let our giving be more than a duty. Let it be our joy. We offer ourselves to you, along with these gifts, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*From September through December, loose offering collected during worship is designated for **Every Meal**.

† Please rise in body or spirit.

SENDING US OUT

† **Hymn #643** ***Now Thank We All Our God***

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Simple Gifts*
American Folk Tune, setting by John Carter

The Worship Has Ended. The Service Begins.

Chancel Flowers
Sunday, November 22
Sponsored by Jan Fedora
In memory of my husband, Tom

Sign up for Chancel flowers in Fellowship Hall!

† Please rise in body or spirit.

This Week at Valley

Sunday, November 22
9:30 am Worship
10:30 am Fellowship Hour
11:00 am Adult Ed: **Julie Westerlund - Follow the Raindrop**
5:00 pm TEAMS & Youth Group

Monday, November 23
6:30 pm Session Meeting
7:00 pm 12-Step Meeting

Tuesday, November 24
1:00 pm Bible Fellowship
6:30 pm Bell Choir practice

Wednesday, November 25
6:00 pm Joy of Recovery OA Group
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 26
12:00 pm Valley Thanksgiving Potluck
5:30 pm 12-Step Unity

Friday, November 27

Saturday, November 28

Sunday, November 29 - 1st Sunday in Advent
9:30 am Worship
10:30 am **Hanging of the Greens**
11:00 am Fellowship Hour
5:00 pm TEAMS & Youth Group Party

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, Kurt Wheeler and others 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 & Handbell Director
Hsu-hui Wang

Choral & Handbell Director
Janet M.T. Carlson

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
Rev. David Mwihia

SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE
November 8: 259 (144 in-person)
November 15: 280 (159 in-person)

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for **Dawn Hill** who is at North Memorial with the flu and shortness of breath.

The Celebration of Life Open House for **Mary Anderson**, will be on Tuesday, December 1, from 4 pm-7pm at Brookview. Cards may be sent to: **The Anderson Family, 7337 Landau Dr, Bloomington MN 55438**

Taichi's Celebration of Life will be held at 3 pm on Friday, December 4. More details will be forthcoming. Continued prayers of comfort for **Robin, Katie, Davie,** and **Emi** and all those who loved Taichi. https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/taichichen

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 **Caring Bridge** profiles here:

Carole Martens: Continued prayers for **Carole** as she heals from her burns and surgery. She will have a follow up in 3 months to see how she is progressing. She will have a follow up on her CLL soon.

Janet (**& Rick**) **Carlson:** Continued prayers for **Janet** as she recovers at the U's Rehab Building. She is expecting to return home sometime this week.

To support the Carlsons, Valley Staff set up a Meal Train. To sign up and provide a meal, visit https://mealtrain.com/ne11n6. For updates on her treatment, follow **Rick's** CaringBridge. https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/rickcarlson101

Susie Potter will have a blood draw and PET scan on November 24, with an oncology follow up on December 2. Meanwhile, she'll have a fun Thanksgiving in Boise, Idaho, with dear friends! 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.

Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Adult Education | November 22 | 11:00 AM

FOLLOW THE RAINDROP

Julie Westerlund

Every drop of rain or snow that falls from the sky goes somewhere. Learn where it goes, how it gets there, and how our choices on the land determine the health of our lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater.

Hosted in The Cornerstone Room

YOU'RE INVITED!

TO VALLEY'S THANKSGIVING POTLUCK

Thursday, Nov. 26th at 12:00 PM

We are hosting a Thanksgiving Potluck for anyone looking for a place to gather for the holiday. Come to Valley, share a delicious meal & gratitude for our Valley family.

Please sign up to let us know you're coming and what you plan to bring.

SIGN UP IN FELLOWSHIP HALL, OR CALL THE OFFICE.

POINSETTIA SALE

$13 PER PLANT

ORDER BY NOVEMBER 30

Order forms in the Narthex, Fellowship Hall, or email office@valleychurch.net

Cookie Exchange

Sunday, December 20
11:00 am
Fellowship Hall



ATTENTION COOKIE BAKERS!

BAKE 6+ DOZEN OF YOUR FAVORITE COOKIE(S) AND BRING THEM TO FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR THE BIG SWAP!

Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or email Katie Decker (katiebdmn@gmail.com) or Sheila Sheldon (sheila.sheldon@valleychurch.net)

PRISM 2026 HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE

VALLEY IS COLLECTING NEW, UNWRAPPED TOYS AND GIFTS FOR PRISM'S HOLIDAY TOY SHOPPE

Holiday Toy Shoppe

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

- ACTION FIGURES
- TODDLER TOYS
- SPORTS ATTIRE
- BLANKETS
- NERF TOYS
- LEGOS
- GAMES
- **TEEN GIFTS** (HEADPHONES, GAMING KEYBOARDS, HAIR TOOLS, SLIPPERS)
- **$25 GIFT CARDS** (TARGET, AMAZON, VISA, ETC.)

QUESTIONS CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE

DROP OFF GIFTS AT VALLEY BY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

Sign Up!

CHRISTMAS DINNER
SUNDAY, DEC. 6
5:30 PM

Join us on **December 6 at 5:30 p.m.** for our annual Christmas dinner and holiday music performance by Above Average Tuba Quartet!

Sign Up in Fellowship Hall or call the Office at 763-588-0831!

TICKETS:
$20 FOR ADULTS
$10 FOR KIDS (10 & UNDER)

Scan the QR Code to Reserve Your Seat

VEGETARIAN AND KIDS MEALS ALSO AVAILABLE

DINNER WILL BE CATERED!

MENU:

- Fresh baked rolls with butter
- Field greens berry salad with Feta
- Roasted root vegetables
- Au gratin potatoes
- Holiday Baked Ham/Pineapple Sauce
- Oven roasted chicken w/garlic parmesan sauce

Fridays in the Valley Presents:

ABOVE AVERAGE TUBA QUARTET

SUNDAY, December 6, 2026 | 7:00 pm

FREE-WILL OFFERINGS BENEFIT
PRISM HOLIDAY TOY SHOPPE

Valley Community

Happy Birthday Valley!

Evan Miller
Carolina Michael
Joel Larsen
Sara Perry
Larry Dunham
Miranda Graham
Lotti Matkovits
Sue Modert
Diane Shenk
Gary Roback
Chuck Thurston
Everett Hagelin
Landon Goiffon
Megan Parks
Vonnie Olson
Mabel Willey
Mary Dunham
Larry Melander
Walter Messer
Jasmyn Swanson
Hsu-hui Wang
Lyn Boyd
Mary Roback
Angela Zywicki
Janelle Carlson
Karen Chancellor
Brad Pleimling



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!