

July 14, 2024
8th Sunday after Pentecost
Chapel in the Woods

WELCOME

PRELUDES (A Time for Quiet Meditation)

My Lord! What a Morning
Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Thomas Keesecker
Timothy Shaw

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER CONCERNS AND REQUESTS

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (using lyrics by Eleanor Farjeon)**

One: This is the day the Lord has made,

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

One: The heavens declare the glory of God; not in words, but every day, in a wordless language:

All: That God made it all.

One: "Morning has broken, like the first morning, blackbird has spoken, like the first bird. Praise for the singing, praise for the morning, praise for them springing, fresh from above."

All: Let us worship the God of all creation.

***OPENING SONG #20** *All Things Bright and Beautiful*
(refrain)

Royal Oak

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

(verse 1)

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, God made their glowing colors; God made their tiny wings.

(refrain)

(verse 2)

The purple-headed mountain, the river running by, the sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky:

(refrain)

(verse 3)

The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the garden, God made them every one.

(refrain)

(verse 4)

God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God almighty, who has made all things well.

(refrain)

CALL TO CONFESSION

One: Made in God's image to live in loving communion with our Maker, we are appointed as caretakers to tend the earth, enjoy it, and love our neighbors. Yet, we often neglect our task. Remembering our task leads us to confess our sin and yearn for God's forgiveness:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION (from the Anglican Church of South Africa)

O God of justice and plenty, whose generous earth was created for its own particular beauty, for the nourishment of its people, and to sing of your glory: we confess that through our sinfulness we have harvested injustice and pollution and not your abundance; the land has become a stranger to us and our songs of celebration have turned harsh. We turn to you, O God. We renounce evil. We seek your forgiveness. We choose to be made whole.

(Time of Silence)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON (John 3:16, New International Version)

One: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him." In Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

***SONG OF RESPONSE #519**

You Are My Strength When I Am Weak

Jernigan

You are my strength when I am weak; you are the treasure that I seek; you are my all in all. When I fall down, you pick me up; when I am dry, you fill my cup; you are my all in all. Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name! Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name!

By Dennis L. Jernigan / ©1991 Shepherd's Heart Music, Inc. (admin. PraiseCharts.com) / CCL #11043756

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

One: Lord, move our hearts to be generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy, that we may share the abundant and eternal life you offer. May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And, also, with you.

WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

RESPONSIVE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 8:1a, 3-9

One: O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

All: When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;

*Please stand as you are able.

One: What are humans that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

All: Yet you have made them a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor.

One: You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet,

All: All sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,

One: The birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

All: O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING *Genesis 1:26-31*

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." ²⁷ So God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸ God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." ²⁹ God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹ God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

SERMON

"Created to Care"

Rev. Dr. John Wahl

***SONG OF RESPONSE #625** *How Great Thou Art*
(verse 1)

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed:

(refrain)

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!

(verse 2)

When through the woods and forest glades I wander and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees, when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:

(refrain)

(verse 4)

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!"

(refrain)

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*Please stand as you are able.

WITNESS

INVITATION TO OFFERING

We take this time to reflect and recognize all contributions of time, talent, and treasure. A basket is available for making monetary donations.

OFFERTORY *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* *Jack Schrader*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING / PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

***SENDING SONG #346** *For the Healing of the Nations* *CWM Rhondda*
(verse 1)

For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord; for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords; to a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word. Help us rise and pledge our word.

(verse 2)

Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release, that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace. Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase. Fear will die and hope increase.

(verse 3)

All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned: pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan. In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span. May we hallow life's brief span.

(verse 4)

You, Creator God, have written your great name on human kind; for our growing in your likeness, bring the life of Christ to mind, that by our response and service earth its destiny may find. Earth its destiny may find.

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*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* *Becki Slagle Mayo*

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Please consider donating the following items to help stock the shelves at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center in July for BBQ bundles that are being distributed at the end of July:



Ground meat, hot dogs, buns, mustard, ketchup, barbecue sauce, chips, charcoal, or anything you would like to donate.

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations.

Take-out Community Meal



Community Meal

Tuesday, July 16

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

This month, we will, again, be engaging in our community meal program: preparing dinners to be available for pick-up or delivery. These meals are our gift to the community: to anyone who is in need of an evening of not cooking or the love that goes into making the food.

Menu: Pork BBQ sandwiches, baked beans, macaroni salad, berry crisp

If you are interested in helping, we will be cooking meals from 9:30-11:30 a.m.; assembling from 3-4 p.m.; and distributing / delivering from 4-5:30 p.m. In addition, if you would like to bake berry crisp (your recipe of choice) at home, please drop off by 10 a.m. on July 16th.

To sign up to volunteer or for the meal, see church website or July / August Valley Voice.

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

Friday, July 19, 2024 (1 p.m. – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, July 20, 2024 (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Pass-it-on is accepting donations. Please contact Brenda Wahl at 440-829-7841 or passitonamissionoflove@gmail.com.

Faith Garden

We believe that it is a good thing to spend time in God's creation, and to be faithful stewards of the good gifts that God provides.

All the produce raised in the Valley Faith Garden is donated to the food pantry at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center.

You are invited to come and spend time in and around the Faith Garden – weeding, planting, picking, or just sitting for a rest – at these times (from May – September):

First and third Tuesdays of each month – 6-7 p.m.

Second and fourth Wednesdays of each month – 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Homeless Hookup STUFF the Bus Fundraiser

Homeless Hookup will be collecting: New bookbags, school supplies (K – 12), new or like new kids clothes and shoes (K – 12), Kleenex, lunchboxes.

Valley Presbyterian Church (parking lot)

July 20th, 2024 (10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.)

Knitting For Others



Inviting all folks from 12-100 years of age, who like to knit or who would like to learn, to be a part of Valley's Knitting Group. We will be knitting special items like prayer shawls, blankets, and other helpful and comforting items for our members and people in our community.

The group will meet (come when your schedule allows):

July

Sunday, July 21 — 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 30 — 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

August

Sunday, August 11 — 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 20 — 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

For questions, please call one of our Co-Chairs, Beverly or Bev:

Beverly Wahl
502-553-7255

Bev Keough
330-888-5385

Caring for God's Creation

Friday, August 9

9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (lunch included)

**Cost is \$5 per child / \$10 per family per session
Children age 3 - entering 5th grade**

God created an amazing world, and - as God's children - we have been called to care for it.

Join youth and adult volunteers from Valley as we learn about the mysteries and science of our natural world; and how we can participate in nurturing and healing the earth and all its creatures.

Activities will include music, movement, science lessons, working in the garden, service projects, and bible story time.

Register on the church website, through the July/August Valley Voice, or call the church office.

Faith & Love: Building Up Our Community with Fellowship, Meals, and Acts of Kindness

Coinciding with each of our **Caring for God's Creation** events for children is a meal for all ages featuring a speaker from the community who will share their expertise, along with a related activity. We would love for you to join us at our **Table Together Meals**. **Although it is not necessary, if you know you're coming, please sign up at the address below or via the newsletter, weekly email, church website:**

Sunday, July 14 - Table Together Lunch - after Chapel in the Woods

Nurture God's Loving Nature

Guest Speaker: Agricultural Farmer

Plant a small herb garden in a 2-liter soda bottle

Friday, August 9 - Table Together Dinner - 5:30–7:00 p.m.

God's plan needs all of us

Guest Speaker: To be announced

Bloom where you are planted

RSVP: <https://forms.gle/bCahwwBNGWBe6BCG8>

Mid-week Lunch Group



All are welcome to gather for lunch together at Buckeye Café (located across from the church in Tanglewood Square) at noon on the second Wednesday of each month (August 14, September 11, etc.) for a time of good food, great coffee, and even better conversations.

VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

www.valleypresbychurch.org

VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345

17560 Chillicothe Road
Chagrin Falls, OH 44023
Phone: (440) 543-1071
Email: valleypc@netlink.net

Rev. Dr. John Wahl, Pastor
Cell Phone: (216) 287-2405
Email: revjohnwahl@netlink.net

Heart of Valley Preschool
Heidi Cregar, Director
Phone: (440) 708-2572
Email: hovcp@netlink.net

Director of Music: Nancy Sullivan
Liturgist: Jeanne DeLaney

Organist: John Kautzman
Greeter: Gerry Chittock