

# June 14, 2026

## Third Sunday after Pentecost

Summer Worship Series:  
*A Curriculum of Love: Deepening our Love for God, our Neighbors, and Ourselves*  
Week Two: What Is Love?

### WORDS OF WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRELUDE (*A Time for Quiet Meditation*)

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*      Anthony Giamonco

#### \*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 116)

One: Praise the Lord who hears us when we cry out.

**All: Praise the Lord who showers us with blessings.**

One: Let us lift up the name of Lord for all to hear!

**All: Let us sing of God's endless grace and compassion!**

\*GATHERING SONG #386      *Come, Worship God*      *O Quanta Qualia*  
(verse 1)

***Come, worship God, who is worthy of honor; enter God's presence with thanks and a song! You are the rock of your people's salvation to whom our jubilant praises belong.***

(verse 2)

***Ruled by your might are the heights of the mountains; held in your hands are the depths of the earth. Yours is the sea, yours the land, for you made them, God above all gods, who gave us our birth.***

(verse 3)

***We are your people, the sheep of your pasture; you are our Maker, and to you we pray. Gladly we kneel in obedience before you; great is the one whom we worship this day!***

(verse 4)

***Now let us listen, for you speak among us; open our hearts to receive what you say. Peace be to all who remember your goodness, trust in your word, and rejoice in your way!***

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#### CALL TO CONFESSION

One: Even when we struggle to forgive ourselves, God reaches out to us with grace and peace. There is nothing that can take that love away. Friends, let us confess our sin, first together and then in silent prayer:

#### UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION (based on Romans 5)

**All: Loving God, we have not lived as you have called us to live. We ignore our neighbor's cries for help and are silent in the face of injustice. We fail to see your blessings among us and are blind to the glimpses of the kingdom all around us. Have mercy upon us. Shower us with your grace that we might be enlivened for service and for love.**

\*Please stand as you are able.

*(Time of Silence)*

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Friends, God loves you. God wants to be in relationship with you. God allows nothing to come between. Believe this and know that you are forgiven and freed to love and serve.

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### **\*SONG OF RESPONSE #435**

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* *In Babilone*  
*(verse 1, stanza 1)*

***There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea. There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.***

### **UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**God of joy and wonder, breathe your Spirit upon us. Open our ears to hear these ancient words and open our eyes to see our place in your living word today and every day. Amen.**

### **RESPONSIVE PSALM READING**

*Psalm 139:1-2, 13-18*

One: O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

**All: You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.**

One: For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

**All: I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.**

One: My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

**All: Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.**

One: How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

**All: I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.**

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*VBS Songs*

### **SECOND SCRIPTURE READING**

*I Corinthians 13:1-7*

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

\*Please stand as you are able.

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. <sup>7</sup> It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

**THE MESSAGE**

*“What Is Love?”*

*Rev. Dr. John Wahl*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**CALL 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**

*More Love to Thee*

*Dennis Eliot*

**\*DOXOLOGY #435**

*There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy  
(verse 2, stanza 2)*

*In Babilone*

***For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.  
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. If our  
love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God’s Word,  
and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.***

**\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

One: Because we have peace with God through Christ, let us share this peace together. The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And, also, with you.**

**\*SENDING SONG #765** *May the God of Hope Go with Us*  
*(sing twice)*

*Argentina*

***May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives with love  
and joy and peace. May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing  
light and hope to every land and race. Praying, let us work for peace;  
singing, share our joy with all; working for a world that’s new, faithful  
when we hear Christ’s call.***

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**\*BLESSING**

**POSTLUDE**

*Recessional*

*Stanley E. Saxton*

\*Please stand as you are able.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Faith Garden**

In Valley’s Faith Garden (located outside of the Church Library), we grow fresh produce to be donated to the Chagrin Falls Park Community Center Food Bank. There are garden gloves and tools in the shed, or feel free to bring your own. Summer garden workdays are below:

## Summer Garden Workdays

Wednesdays at 10 a.m.  
June 17, July 1, 15, 29

## Summer Worship Series

Week Two: What Is Love?

### Questions to Ponder/Discuss:

- Who were/are the most loving people in your life? What about them makes you say that?
- When is a time when you experienced a kind of grace that surprised you in a good way?
- Is it easier for you to give grace to others than yourself or the other way around? Why do you think that is?
- Write a list of behaviors/phrases/actions that you find most loving/freeing/gracious. How do they correspond with God?

### Spiritual Practice:

Light a candle and take some deep breaths. This time, write a letter to you from God. You can begin something like this: “Dear God, what do you want me to know today? Dear Child. . . .”. Then, just write freely, no matter what comes out. Don’t think, just write. Don’t worry if the first few times it feels stilted or forced. When you finally let go, something will come through.

## Community Meal

**Tuesday, June 16**



Community Meal

The community-wide dinner is offered at no charge for anyone who is hungry, who is feeling stretched, or who might need to be reminded that they are loved.

**Menu: Green Salad with Lemon Grilled Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Strawberry Shortcake**

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 make strawberry shortcake (your recipe of choice) at home, please drop off by 10 a.m. on June 16th.

See the June Valley Voice or the Church website for the links to sign up for the meal and volunteering.

## CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Please consider donating the following items to help stock the shelves at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center:



**Healthy cereals (except Cheerios), anything for grilling season (ground meat, chicken, steaks, vegetables, etc.), milk, eggs, snacks, or anything you would like to donate.**

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations. You can, also, leave them in the blue donation bin in the Narthex.

## Wednesday Dinner and Entertainment

Join friends from Valley and beyond on **Wednesday evening, June 17**, for some food, drinks, and fun. The owners of Sharon James have agreed to donate ten percent of all sales (if you mention code VPC2026) back to the church. Enjoy the covered patio and performers (featuring comedy from Sean Bulanda) for open-mic night. Reservations are recommended but not required.

Sharon James Cellars  
11303 Kinsman Road  
Newbury, OH 44065  
440-739-4065

## Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

**Friday, June 19** (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

**Saturday, June 20** (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Pass-it-on is accepting donations. Please contact Brenda Wahl at 440-829-7841 or [passitonamissionoflove@gmail.com](mailto:passitonamissionoflove@gmail.com).

## 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.



**The group will meet on Sunday, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.:**  
**June 21**

This group has been busy knitting prayer blankets and shawls for members of our congregation. It takes a lot of yarn to knit or crochet these items. Many of us have made items in the past but have not used quite all the yarn. Knitting for Others can use the leftover yarn to make items to share with others. We are currently making items for babies and young children. If you have any size-3 or 4 yarn that you will not be using and could share with Knitting for Others, we certainly would appreciate your donation. Yarn can be left in the box marked “yarn” in the Library. Thank you so much for your help.

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

Beverly Wahl  
502-553-7255

Bev Keough  
330-888-5385

## Donations – Credit Card or Zelle

**Credit card** donations are available on-line at the Valley Presbyterian website below:

<http://valleypresbychurch.org>

Look for “Give Now” button. Can only be used for donations. Can not pay for holiday flowers, VBS, books, etc. at this link.

Use the following QR Code to donate or purchase via **Zelle**:



**VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**www.valleypresbychurch.org**

**VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345**

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Director of Music: Nancy Sullivan  
Liturgist: Jai Mayers

Organist: John Kautzman  
Greeter: Don Sullivan

## Graduates



**Ryan Gallagher** – son of Shari & Kevin Gallagher, grandson of Jeanne DeLaney. Graduated from Aurora High School. Ryan will be attending Slippery Rock University in PA.

**Catherine Gurd** – granddaughter of Ruth Gurd. Graduated with Honors from Xavier University with a Bachelor of Science in Biology.

**Savanna Rodenhausen** – granddaughter of Marilyn & Dave Rodenhausen. Graduated from Madison High School. Savanna will be attending Kent State University (Ashtabula Branch) in the fall studying Criminal Justice.

**Katie Sisley** – granddaughter of Bunny & John Kautzman. Graduated from Rootstown High School. Katie will be attending Mt. Union College in the fall.

**James Wahl** – grandson of Beverly Wahl. Graduated from University of Florida with a degree in Engineering.