

**June 7, 2026**  
**Second Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

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

**WORDS OF WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

*The Cup of Salvation*

*Gilbert M. Martin*

**\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Rejoice in the Lord! Praise the Lord with shouts of joy!

**All: God calls us to do justice and love righteousness.**

One: The earth is full of God's love.

**All: Let all of creation revel in awe of God, our creator.**

One: God's love endures forever.

**All: Amen! Let us worship together.**

**\*GATHERING SONG**

*God our Creator, You in Love Made Us*

*Bunessan*

*(verse 1)*

***God, our Creator, you in love made us who once were nothing but now  
have grown. We bring the best of all our lives offer; for you we share  
whatever we own.***

*(verse 2)*

***O Christ, our Savior, you in love called us who once were no-ones, feeling  
unknown. We pledge to go wherever you summon, making your will and  
purpose our own.***

*(verse 3)*

***O God, the Spirit, you in love move us who once were nowhere, lost or  
alone. We know our need of you for companion; all things can change  
when not on our own.***

*(verse 4)*

***And with the people summoned together to be the Church in which faith  
is shown, we make our promise to live for Jesus, and let the world know  
all are God's own.***

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**CALL TO CONFESSION**

One: The Lord tends the wounds of a broken world, and binds up the brokenhearted. By faith, let us confess our need for healing:

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: Holy God, we confess that we appreciate decency and order, and forget that we usually seek order that is of our own making. We confess that clear rules and social norms give us comfort, and forget**

\*Please stand as you are able.

**how many of your beloved children are hurt and excluded by them. We confess that we place our trust in ability, strength, and production, and forget our total reliance on your grace. Forgive us, God, and free us to live with courageous faith, that we might seek your justice and abide in your righteousness. Amen.**

*(Time of Silence)*

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Jesus said, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." We have been blessed with God's grace and mercy in abundance, through Jesus Christ. Know that we are forgiven, and be at peace!

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

### **\*SONG OF RESPONSE #71**

*Surely, It is God Who Saves Me*  
*(refrain)*

*First Song*

***Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust and not be afraid. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and God will be my Savior.***

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### **UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**God of Wisdom, as we hear your Word read and proclaimed, may your Holy Spirit move among us, inspiring faith without fear, and showing us a new way forward. Amen.**

### **RESPONSIVE PSALM READING** *Psalm 36:7-10*

One: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

**All: All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.**

One: They feast on the abundance of your house,

**All: And you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

One: For with you is the fountain of life;

**All: In your light we see light.**

One: O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,

**All: And your salvation to the upright of heart!**

### **CHORAL ANTHEM**

*Rising Up*  
*Conga: John Hoffman*

*Choplin*

### **SECOND SCRIPTURE READING** *I John 4:7-12*

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup> God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

### **THE MESSAGE**

*"Who Is God?"*

*Rev. Dr. John Wahl*

\*Please stand as you are able.

**UNISON AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)**  
We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. Amen.

**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**                      *A Litany for Peace*                      *Edward Broughton*

**\*DOXOLOGY #716**

*God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*                      *Beach Spring*  
*(verse 1)*

***God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store, nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door: gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.***

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**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**                      *I'll Fly Away*                      *Mark Hayes*  
*Percussion: John Hoffman*

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING / PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP**

**\*UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your saving love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**\*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.**

**\*CHORAL BENEDICTION**                      *Worthy is Your Name*                      *Jernigan*

\*Please stand as you are able.

**\*SENDING SONG #523** *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*

*Bicentennial*

*(refrain)*

***You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat; come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.***

*(verse 1)*

***As when the shepherd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice, so when you call your family, Lord, we follow and rejoice.***

*(refrain)*

*(verse 4)*

***The mystery of your presence, Lord, no mortal tongue can tell: whom all the world cannot contain comes in our hearts to dwell.***

*(refrain)*

*(verse 5)*

***You give yourself to us, O Lord; then selfless let us be, to serve each other in your name in truth and charity.***

*(refrain)*

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**\*BLESSING**

**POSTLUDE**

*A Trumpet Air*

*David Paxton*

\*Please stand as you are able.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Summer Worship Series**

*A Curriculum of Love: Deepening our Love for God, our Neighbors, and Ourselves*

“Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God.” - *I John 4:7*

“Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.” - *I Corinthians 13:7*

“All You Need Is Love” - *The Beatles, 1967*

As Christians, we believe that God has created us for love, and that Christ commands us to love God, ourselves, and others. Love is stronger than hate and holds the power to heal. And yet, we live in a hurting and broken world where love – in all of its many forms – can be hard to trust, to experience, and to find.

Over the next fifteen weeks, we will be exploring this trio of topics: loving God, loving ourselves, and loving our neighbors. We will do so in scripture and song, through our prayers and spiritual practices. In the curriculum, created by Lutheran pastor Siri Strommen, we will learn to let go of some of our fear and fill up that space with love.

### **Questions to Ponder/Discuss:**

- When you think of God, what image comes to mind? How do you feel towards that image?
- How has your image of God changed over your lifetime?
- What stories, parables, or experiences come to mind when you think of God's character?
- If you could write a job description for the most ideal God ever, what qualities would you include?

### **Spiritual Practice:**

Light a candle and take some deep breaths at the start of each day's practice. This week, write a letter to God every day (or journal). Tell God exactly what you are feeling and anything you think God needs to know about you. Tell God how you perceive Them and any concerns you have. Be very honest, trusting it can be held in love.

### **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.

### **Calling All Graduates**



During worship on Sunday, June 14, we will be honoring graduates from high school, college, or other degree programs. If you have graduates in your family that you would like to have recognized, **please forward their information to the church office by Monday, June 8.**

### **Mid-week Lunch Group – June 9**



All are welcome to gather for lunch together at Buckeye Café (located across from the church in Tanglewood Square) at noon on the second Tuesday of each month (June 9, July 14, August 11, etc.) for a time of good food, great coffee, and even better conversations.

### **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**

Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

June 17, July 1, 15, 29

## Vacation Bible School – #KidsConnect

**Tuesday June 9 – Friday, June 12  
9:30 a.m. – noon**

**Ages 3 – entering 5th grade  
Older children and teens welcome as helpers.**



**Let's build a better world filled with the love and peace of God!**

**#KidsConnect** Vacation Bible School is where children can use their brain power as they connect with Jesus, family, and friends of all ages! As children learn and create together, they will find a place: of belonging, to relate to trusted adults, to make new friends, and to follow Jesus' example of making room for all and loving one another. Each day includes worship and drama, Bible study, art and science explorations, brain-building challenges, and active games.

A link to register is on the Church website, in the May Valley Voice, or in the weekly e-mail.

## 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.

## 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](http://www.valleypresbychurch.org)**

**VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345**

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