

**July 5, 2026**  
**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

Summer Worship Series:

*A Curriculum of Love: Deepening our Love for God, our Neighbors, and Ourselves*  
Week Five: Loving Your True Self

**WORDS OF WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

*Prelude on "Melita"*

*Alfred V. Fedak*

**\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 95, NRSVue)**

One: O come, let us sing to the LORD;

**All: Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

One: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise with songs of praise!

**All: For the LORD is a great God and a great King above all gods.**

One: O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

**All: For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.**

**\*GATHERING SONG #15**

*All Creatures of Our God and King Lasst Uns Erfreuen*  
(verse 1)

**All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing,  
Alleluia! Alleluia! O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with  
silver gleam, sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

(verse 2)

**O brother wind with clouds and rain, you nurture gifts of fruit and  
grain. Alleluia! Alleluia! O sister water, flowing clear, make music for  
your Lord to hear. Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

(verse 3)

**O brother fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shadows of the night.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Dear mother earth, who day by day unfolds such  
blessings on our way, sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

(verse 6)

**O sisters, brothers, take your part, and worship God with humble heart.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
Three in One! Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

One: With full assurance of God's grace and mercy in Jesus Christ, let us confess our sin before God and our neighbor:

\*Please stand as you are able.



## SPECIAL MUSIC

*Stand By Me*  
*Pick-Up Choir*

*Tindley, arr. by Clark*

## SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

*2 Corinthians 4:16-5:7*

<sup>16</sup> So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, <sup>18</sup> because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

<sup>5</sup> For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. <sup>2</sup> For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling— <sup>3</sup> if indeed, when we have taken it off we will not be found naked. <sup>4</sup> For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. <sup>5</sup> He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

<sup>6</sup> So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— <sup>7</sup> for we walk by faith, not by sight.

## THE MESSAGE

*“Loving Your True Self”*

*Rev. Dr. John Wahl*

## UNISON AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no one might boast in the presence of God. In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption. (1 Corinthians 1:26-30, *NRSVue*).**

**As Jesus Christ is God’s assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he, also, God’s mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to his creatures. We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords — areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification through him. (Barmen Declaration, *Book of Confessions*)**

## 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***Communion Improvisation**Eugene Englert***DOXOLOGY #337***My Country, 'Tis of Thee  
(verse 4)**America*

***Our fathers' God, to thee, author of liberty, to thee we sing.  
Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light; protect  
us by thy might, great God, our King.***

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE****WORDS OF INSTITUTION****SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP****UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Gracious God, may we who have received this sacrament live in the unity of your Holy Spirit, that we may show forth your peace, hope, and blessings to the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. 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.**

**\*SENDING SONG #769***For Everyone Born  
(verse 1)**For Everyone Born*

***For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water  
and bread, a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone  
born, a star overhead,***

*(refrain)*

***And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion  
and peace: yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice  
and joy!***

*(verse 3)*

***For young and for old, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a part in  
the song, the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for young and  
for old, the right to belong,***

*(refrain)*

*(verse 5)*

***For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply  
to be, to work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for everyone born,  
the right to be free,***

*(refrain)*

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**\*BLESSING****POSTLUDE***God of Our Fathers**Gilbert M. Martin*

\*Please stand as you are able.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Summer Worship Series

Week Four: Loving Your True Self

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

- Were you raised to be loving toward yourself or critical? How did this go for you?
- How do you know when you are speaking or acting from your Child of God Self? Do you ever act or speak from a different place?

### **Spiritual Practice:**

Journal each night about a moment in the day when you felt any of the following: creative, easy to laugh, compassionate, grateful, gracious to others, excited to help or excited to work with others, proud of yourself, proud of someone else, calm, enjoying yourself, and full of joy. What were you doing, who were you with? How did your body feel? Noticing these moments can help you see who you really are under your fears and hurts.

## CFPCC Food Bank Needs

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



**Any meat or fresh fruits 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.

## 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.:  
July 12**

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

## Mid-week Lunch Group – July 14



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 (July 14, August 11, September 8, 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 are below:

### **Summer Garden Workdays**

Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

July 15, 29

## Wednesday Dinner and Entertainment

Join friends from Valley and beyond on **Wednesday evening, July 15**, from 6-8:00 p.m., 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, July 17**

(10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

**Saturday, July 18**

(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).

## Outdoor Chapel Worship

**Sunday, July 19**



Come and join us on Sunday, July 19, for worship in the beautiful outdoor chapel. If the weather does not allow us to be outside that day, worship will be in Fellowship Hall.

## 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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Director of Music: Nancy Sullivan  
Liturgist: Lynn Fagerholm

Organist: John Kautzman  
Greeter: Jack, Alice & Lucy Timmins