

October 11, 2026
2nd Sunday in Season of Creation

PRELUDE (A Time for Quiet Meditation)

Come Thou Almighty King Giardini, arr. by Rainey

WORDS OF WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP #658**

God Is So Good

God Is So Good

(verse 1)

God is so good; God is so good; God is so good; God's so good to us.

(verse 3)

God loves us so; God loves us so; God loves us so; God's so good to us.

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 10)**

One: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;

All: God's steadfast love endures forever.

One: Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord, or declare all his praise?

All: Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.

One: Save us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the nations, that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.

All: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.

One: And let all the people say,

All: Amen. Praise the Lord!

***GATHERING SONG #63**

The Lord Is God

Azmon

(verse 1)

***The Lord is God, the Lord alone! Give honor, thanks, and praise to God,
the maker of all things and giver of our days.***

(verse 2)

***With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and might, O
people, love the Lord your God, the source of truth and light.***

(verse 3)

***At night or day, at home, away, together and apart, O children, take
these holy words and keep them in your heart.***

(verse 4)

***The Lord is God, the Lord alone! Give honor, thanks, ad praise to God,
the maker of all things and giver of our days.***

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CALL TO CONFESSION

One: With great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive in Christ, even when we were dead through our sin. By grace we have been saved. With that assurance of good news, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

*Please stand as you are able.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Almighty God, you call us time and again to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you: to seek your kingdom first. Still, we make excuses and justify to ourselves and each other why we go our own way. Lord, forgive our sin. Turn us from our preoccupation with our own lives and turn us to your ways of grace, compassion, love, and service. May we heed your invitation to be part of your good creation and strive, through the power of your Holy Spirit, to live as faithful disciples of Christ.

(Time of Silence)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the good news! The night is far gone, the day is near. Let us lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

***SONG OF RESPONSE #702** *Christ Be Beside Me*

Bunessan

(verse 2)

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all around me, shielding in the strife. Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting, Christ in my rising, Light of my life.

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*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: Forgiven and set free, let us be reconciled with one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And, also, with you.

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: God, your Word tells us that you inspire all Scripture, that everyone who belongs to you may be equipped for every good work. As we hear your Word read and proclaimed, inspire us through your Holy Spirit that we may be ready to worship you and serve others with the love and grace of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 139:7-12

One: Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

All: If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

One: If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

All: Even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

One: If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night',

All: Even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

*Please stand as you are able.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Gather by the River to Pray / Shall We Gather at the River Choplin

TIME FOR CHILDREN

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 3:8-19

⁸ They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' ¹⁰ He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' ¹¹ He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' ¹² The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' ¹³ Then the Lord God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.' ¹⁴ The Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.'

¹⁶ To the woman he said, 'I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.'

¹⁷ And to the man he said, 'Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, "You shall not eat of it", cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; ¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹ By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.'

THE MESSAGE

"Returning to the Earth"

Rev. Dr. John Wahl

UNISON AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from "A Declaration of Faith" in *Book of Confessions*)

We are certain that Jesus lives. He lives as God with us, touching all of human life with the presence of God. He lives as one of us with God. Because he shares our humanity and has bound us to himself in love, we have an advocate in the innermost life of God.

We declare that Jesus is Lord. His resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers that deform and destroy human life. His lordship is hidden. The world appears to be dominated by people and systems that do not acknowledge his rule. But his lordship is real. It demands our loyalty and sets us free from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us.

We maintain that ultimate sovereignty now belongs to Jesus Christ in every sphere of life. Jesus is Lord. He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord.

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

My Jesus I Love Thee

Gordon, arr. by Rainey

*DOXOLOGY #370

This Is My Father's World

Terra Beata

(verse 1)

***This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears all
nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought of rocks
and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*SENDING SONG #543

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

Green Tyler

(verse 1)

***God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to move my
voice; God be the strength to now uphold me: O Christ, surround me, O
Christ, surround me.***

(verse 2)

***Bind to myself the Name of Holy, great cloud of witnesses enfold;
prophets, apostles, angels witness: O Christ, surround me; O Christ
surround me.***

(verse 3)

***Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight, flashing of lightning, strength
of wind, depth of the sea to soil of planet: O Christ, surround me; O
Christ, surround me.***

(verse 4)

***Walking behind to hem my journey, going ahead to light my way, and
from beneath, above, and all ways: O Christ, surround me; O Christ
surround me.***

(verse 5)

***Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that hear my
voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me: O Christ, surround me; O
Christ surround me.***

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*BLESSING

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

Peace Be Upon You

Wilshire

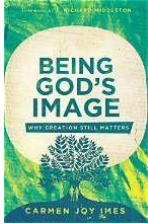
*POSTLUDE

When the Saints Go Marching In

Traditional,
arr. by Rainey

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Book Study – *Being God's Image: Why Creation Still Matters* by Dr. Carmen Joy Imes



I was recently introduced to the deep theological insights and scholarship of the author during my study leave seminar at the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship in Michigan. Her book is insightful, but easy-to-read, and includes suggested scripture readings and discussion questions for each chapter. Weekly sessions will last 60-75 minutes and include an accompanying video from The Bible Project: <https://bibleproject.com/videos/all>.

Eleven weekly sessions - Mondays at 7:00 p.m. (September 21 – December 7) in the Church Library. Books are available in the Church office for \$15.



Flowers

The flowers today are dedicated by Marilyn & Dave Rodenhausen in celebration of October birthdays.

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.



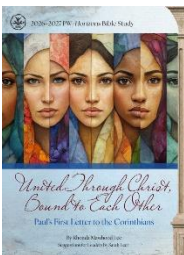
**The group will meet on Sunday, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.:
October 11 & 25**

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

Sarah Circle 2026-27



We'd love to have you join us!

**The next meeting for 2026-27 will be:
Tuesday, October 13**

Our study this year:

***United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other* —
Paul's First Letter to Corinthians**

Meet September – May the second Tuesday of each month, 10:30 a.m. – noon, in the Church Library. For more information, please contact Glenna Pool at 419-789-9446 or e-mail gpool205@yahoo.com.

Mid-week Lunch Group – October 13



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 (October 13, November 10, December 8, etc.) for a time of good food, great coffee, and even better conversations.

CFPCC Food Bank Needs

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



Any meat, fresh fruit / vegetables, milk, eggs, lunch meat, bread, 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.

Dougbe River School Gala

Sunday, October 18

4:30-8:00 p.m.

Banquet Center at St. Noel

35200 Chardon Road, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094

Valley has purchased a table for eight for the gala and invites anyone interested to attend for an evening of good food, great silent auction items, entertainment, and an opportunity to learn more about how to support the present and future of this amazing mission. Please contact Pastor John or the church office, if you are interested in attending and carpooling.



Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

Friday, October 23 (1 – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, October 24 (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

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

North Presbyterian Church

Meal Preparation and Serving

Valley has a long-standing partnership with North Presbyterian Church, a congregation consisting mainly of homeless and impoverished members in the St. Claire neighborhood of downtown Cleveland. Four Sundays a year, we share worship and a meal with the folks at North Church.

Meal Preparation

Saturday, October 31

9:30 – 11:00 a.m. (2-4 volunteers)

Meal Serving

Sunday, November 1

Depart at 9:30 a.m., return by 2:00 p.m. (2-4 volunteers)

Donations – Credit Card or Zelle

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

<http://valleypresbychurch.org>

Look for “Donations” in the header. 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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Email: hovcp@netlink.net

Director of Music: Nancy Sullivan
Liturgist: Lynn Fagerholm

Organist: John Kautzman
Greeter: Holly & Dale Cooper