

October 25, 2026
4th Sunday in Season of Creation

PRELUDE (A Time for Quiet Meditation)

Peace Like a River

Garrett Parker

WORDS OF WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP #388**

Come All You People

Uyai Mose

***Come all you people, come and praise your Maker; come all you people,
come and praise your Maker; come all you people, come and praise your
Maker; come now and worship the Lord.***

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***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We gather here to worship God.

All: We come here, with heart, soul, and mind.

One: We gather here as Christ's body.

All: We are neighbors, sisters and brothers, learning how to love each other.

One: The Holy Spirit gathers us in to then be sent out again.

All: We are here to worship and to be transformed. Let us worship God!

***GATHERING SONG #336**

We Gather Together

Kremser

(verse 1)

***We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; he chastens and hastens
his will to make known; the wicked oppressing now cease from
distressing. Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.***

(verse 2)

***Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining, ordaining, maintaining
his kingdom divine; so from the beginning the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glory be thine!***

(verse 3)

***We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant, and pray that thou still
our defender wilt be. Let thy congregation escape tribulation; thy name
be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!***

CALL TO CONFESSION

One: We recognize both the well-worn and out-of-the-way paths of sin in our lives and the world. Together, let us confess our sin, so that we may follow faithfully along the Lord's way.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Holy God, we are often good at following rules while neglecting the heart of your commandments.

You call us to be holy, but we settle for self-righteousness.

You call us to be impartial, but we cannot shed our biases.

*Please stand as you are able.

**You call us to love our neighbors, but we have been satisfied to keep them at arm's length.
You created us to love you with soul, heart, and mind, but we have held parts of ourselves back.
Have mercy on us, God. Watch over our ways, redirect our paths, and help us love you with our whole selves. Make us instruments of reconciliation and transformation as we seek to follow your law of love, made known to us in Jesus Christ. Amen**

(Time of Silence)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: The gospel we proclaim is good news for us all: God's mercy, through Christ, is eternal. Freed from sin's power over us, we can bear the fruit of God's love and righteousness.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

***SONG OF RESPONSE #368** *We Fall Down* *We Fall Down*
We fall down; we lay our crowns at the feet of Jesus: the greatness of mercy and love, at the feet of Jesus. And we cry holy, holy, holy. And we cry holy, holy, holy. And we cry holy, holy, holy is the lamb.

Text by Chris Tomlin, 1998 / ©WorshipTogether.com Songs (admin. EMICMGPPublishing.com) / CCL #11043756

***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: Holy God, as your Word is read today, help us be fully present – heart, soul, and mind – and show us your way of love. Amen.

RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 46:1-7

One: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

All: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

One: Though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

All: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

One: God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

All: The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

One: The Lord of hosts is with us;

All: The God of Jacob is our refuge.

*Please stand as you are able.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Walk By Faith

Williams & Raney

*Solos in Order by Performance: Don Sullivan, Lillian Smyser, Ron Cechner,
Beth Krause, Lois Urban, Sue Doughman, Tanya Fouts, Marilyn Rodenhause*

TIME FOR CHILDREN

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 22:1-7

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

⁶ And he said to me, 'These words are trustworthy and true, for the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place.'

⁷ 'See, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.'

THE MESSAGE

"A River Flowing"

Rev. Dr. John Wahl

RESPONSIVE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from the Study Catechism, 1990)

One: What is God's purpose for your life?

All: God wills that I should live by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, for the love of God, and in the communion of the Holy Spirit.

One: How do you live by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ?

All: I am not my own. I have been bought with a price. The Lord Jesus Christ loved me and gave himself for me. I entrust myself to his care, giving thanks each day for his wonderful goodness.

One: How do you live for the love of God?

All: I love because God first loved me. Amazed by grace, I live for the Lord who died and rose again, triumphant over death, for my sake. Therefore, I take those around me to heart, especially those in need, knowing that Christ died for them no less than for me.

One: How do you live in the communion of the Holy Spirit?

All: By the Holy Spirit, I am made one with the Lord Jesus Christ. I am baptized into Christ's body, the church. As a member of this community, I trust in God's Word, share in the Lord's Supper, and turn to God in prayer. As I grow in grace and knowledge, I am led to do good works that God intends for my life. Amen.

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 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* James Boeringer

***DOXOLOGY #708** *We Give Thee but Thine Own* Schumann
(verse 1)

***We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be; all that
we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***SENDING SONG #357** *The Days Are Surely Coming* Llangloffan
(verse 1)

***The days are surely coming, says God to all the earth, when you will see my
promise: salvation come to birth. My righteousness and justice will spread
throughout the land and you will be delivered by my almighty hand.***

(verse 2)

***The days are surely coming, says Christ, the promised one, when you
will read my warning in moon and stars and sun. Though earth and
heaven tremble, stand up and do not fear, for I am your redeemer, and I
am drawing near.***

(verse 3)

***The days are surely coming when we will know at last the fullness of
God's presence, God's promise, come to pass. Then righteousness and
justice will spread throughout the land and we will be delivered by God's
almighty hand.***

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*BLESSING

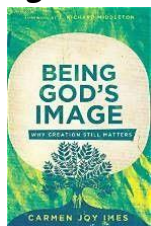
***CHORAL BENEDICTION** *Peace Be Upon You* Wilshire

***POSTLUDE** *Fanfare for Organ* Robert J. Powell

*Please stand as you are able.

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.

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.

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 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

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)

Pulpit Exchange – Sunday, November 1



Please welcome Rev. Katherine Chilcote, pastor of North Presbyterian Church, as she leads worship and shares about doing ministry with the homeless and housing insecure at North, while Pastor John swaps place with her and leads worship there.

Community Church Breakfast – Postponed!

The participating congregations of the Chagrin Valley Council of Churches have decided to pause this year's Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast, originally scheduled for November 7, 2026, with the hope of revisiting this gathering at a future date. We are grateful for the continued support, participation, and commitment of our local congregations and community partners and remain committed to fostering these relationships.

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

Friday, November 13

(1 – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, November 14

(10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

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

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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Liturgist: Margaret Minor

Organist: John Kautzman
Greeter: Marilyn Bulanda