November 15, 2026
2nd Sunday of Extended Advent – *"Time Is Relative"*
Pledge Dedication Sunday

PRELUDE *(A Time for Quiet Meditation)*
Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us *David Paxton*

WORDS OF WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE *The Pickering Family*

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #92
While We Are Waiting, Come *Waiting (Cason)*
(verse 1)
While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come. Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.
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***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**
One: We gather today.
All: It is time to worship!
One: We listen for God
All: It is time to hear!
One: We receive God's grace.
All: It is time to be loved!
One: We leave in peace.
All: It is time to serve others!
One: As we wait for Jesus' arrival, Emmanuel, God-with-us, is already here in this time and place.

***GATHERING SONG #305**
Come Sing, O Church, in Joy! *Darwall's 148th*
(verse 1)
Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song! For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long! In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!
(verse 2)
Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme, empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream! In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!
(verse 3)
Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide, as we in mission magnify the Crucified! In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!
(verse 4)
Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song! For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long! In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!
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*Please stand as you are able.

CALL TO CONFESSSION AND SILENT PRAYER

One: People of God, when we think that we have nowhere left to turn, we can always turn to God. Whether we feel frozen or are rushing with no time to rest, whether it feels like life is happening to us too quickly or like our lives will never change, God is with us. For God, there is always time for forgiveness. We trust God, and we confess our sins together.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Holy One, we have not stayed awake. We have missed you when you appeared in our neighbors, in strangers half a world away, in the suffering planet. We have wasted the time and the skills that you gave us and assumed we were powerless to mend the breaches in our world. Sometimes, we even gave up on your mercy, justice, and love. God, speak tenderly to our anxious hearts. Tear open the heavens and heal what we have done. Amen.

(Time of Silence)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: People of God, hear this good news: in the name of Jesus Christ, all your sins are forgiven. Forgiveness gives us the courage we need. Wherever we wait for God's time to come, we will witness wonders.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

***SONG OF RESPONSE** *Out of Time*

(refrain)

You come to us from just beyond, you call to us from out of time, you tear the heavens open wide, shining love across the starlit sky.

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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: Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit, prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

I Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not
need to have anything written to you. **2** For you yourselves know very well that
the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. **3** When they say, 'There is
peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour
pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! **4** But you,

*Please stand as you are able.

beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; 5 for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. 6 So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; 7 for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

CHORAL ANTHEM *Stand Up and Bless the Lord* *Pethel*

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25:14-30

14 'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16 The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." 21 His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." 22 And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." 23 His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." 24 Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." 26 But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

THE MESSAGE *"Time Is Relative"* *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 *Little Prelude in C Minor* *Cesar Franck*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION
*We give thanks together for God's gifts as we offer them back to God. After each prompt, please respond with the simple phrase: "**Thank you**."*
Loving God, for the time we have, we say…
For the gifts we offer, we say…
For the chance to help others, we say…
For the people whose lives will be made better because of these gifts, we say…
For the ways you are changing the world, we say…
We pray in the name of Jesus, who appears wherever people need our help. **Amen.**

***SENDING SONG #697** *Take My Life* *Hendon*

(verse 1)
Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
(verse 2)
Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee, swift and beautiful for thee.
(verse 4)
Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose, every power as thou shalt choose.
(verse 6)
Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

***BLESSING**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION** *Waiting for a King* *Martin*

***POSTLUDE** *Break Forth, Ye Heavens!* *Edward Broughton*

*Please stand as you are able.

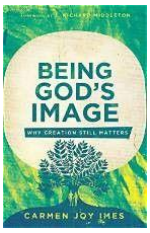
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, November 15 - Pledge Dedication Sunday

Today, Sunday, November 15, we dedicate stewardship commitments for the coming year. Pledge cards for 2027 are available on the back table of the Narthex. If you are not able to do so today, we encourage you to return your completed pledge card to the Church office as soon as possible.

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:



Turkey, potatoes, stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, gravy, vegetables, butter, milk, eggs, anything for a Thanksgiving meal, 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.

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:
Thursday, November 19
(3:30 – 6:30 p.m.)

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

Angel Tree



Each Christmas season, Valley has an Angel Tree project. This year, we will be supporting Geauga County Family Services.

We are collecting gift cards. The suggested gift cards are Giant Eagle, Walmart, Aldi, Amazon. There will be a box for the gift cards in the Narthex starting Sunday, November 22. **Please return the gift cards by Sunday, December 13.**

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.:
November 22

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	Bev Keough
502-553-7255	330-888-5385

Community Meal

Tuesday, November 24



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: Herbed chicken and broccoli, pasta, tossed salad, pumpkin spice cake

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 bake a pumpkin spice cake (your recipe of choice) at home, please drop off by 10 a.m. on November 24th.

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

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

17560 Chillicothe Road
Chagrin Falls, OH 44023
Phone: (440) 543-1071
Email: valleypc@netlink.net

Rev. Dr. John Wahl, Pastor
Cell Phone: (216) 287-2405
Email: revjohnwahl@netlink.net

Heart of Valley Preschool
Heidi Cregar, Director
Phone: (440) 708-2572
Email: hovcp@netlink.net

Director of Music: Nancy Sullivan
Organist: John Kautzman
Liturgist: Tanya Fouts
Greeter: Lillian Smyser