November 22, 2026
3rd Sunday of Extended Advent – *"In Our Time"*
Reign of Christ Sunday

PRELUDE *(A Time for Quiet Meditation)*

A Prayer for Peace *Michael Shea*

WORDS OF WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE *Jan & Jim Obman*

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #92

While We Are Waiting, Come *Waiting (Cason)*

(verse 2)

With power and glory, come; with power and glory, 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 #321**

The Church's One Foundation *Aurelia*

(verse 1)

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord. She is his new creation by water and the word. From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride. With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

(verse 2)

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth, her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth. One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food, and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

(verse 4)

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war, she waits the consummation of peace forevermore: till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest, and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

*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 *Ephesians 1:15-23*

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the
saints, and for this reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember
you in my prayers. 17 I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of
glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him,
18 so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the
hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance

*Please stand as you are able.

among the saints, [19] and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. [20] God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, [21] far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. [22] And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, [23] which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

CHORAL ANTHEM *Simple Gifts* *Poole*

TIME FOR CHILDREN

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25:31-46

31 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. **32** All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, **33** and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. **34** Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; **35** for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, **36** I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." **37** Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? **38** And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? **39** And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" **40** And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." **41** Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; **42** for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, **43** I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." **44** Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" **45** Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." **46** And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

THE MESSAGE *"In Our Time"* *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 *To Give Thanks* *Lani Smith*

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 #451** *Open My Eyes, That I May See* *Open My Eyes*

(verse 1)

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me. Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!

(verse 2)

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear. And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!

(verse 3)

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere. Open my heart, and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my heart; illumine me, Spirit divine!

***BLESSING**

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

***POSTLUDE** *Go Forth in Faith* *Franklin Ritter*

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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.

Christmas Poinsettias Order Form



The Christmas Poinsettias order form is available on the table in the Narthex. Please return completed form to arrive in the Church Office no later than Sunday, December 6. Any questions, please see Marilyn Rodenhausen.

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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Organist: John Kautzman
Liturgist: Lynn Fagerholm
Greeter: Bev Wahl