An Ancient Valley Network

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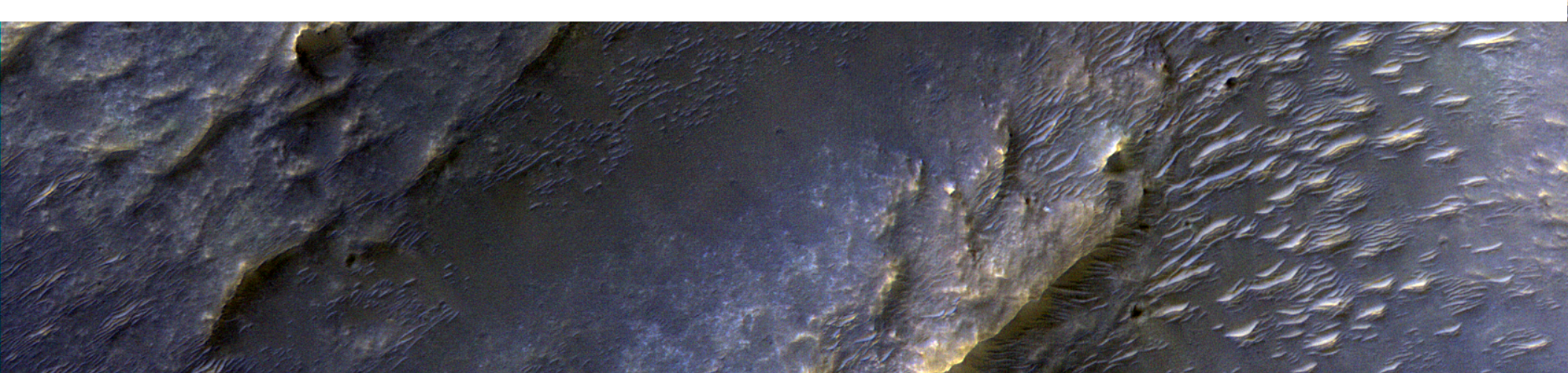
Most of the oldest terrains on Mars have eroded into branching valleys, much like many land regions of Earth are eroded by rain and snowmelt runoff. A full-resolution enhanced color cutout reveals details in the bedrock and dunes on the valley floor (upper left). The bedrock of ancient Mars has been hardened and cemented by groundwater.