

Order of Worship

Gathering

Prelude

Words of Welcome / † Mission Statement

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Announcements

Dan Loven-Crum

Examen

Dan Loven-Crum

Call to Worship

Jenn Vinton

Advent Wreath Lighting

Common Grounds Family -

Diane, Shannon, Amy, Jeremy, & Bill

† Hymn #128 (vs. 3):

One Candle is Lit

Hearing God's Word

Children's Moment

Rebecca Morello

Choral Reflection:

And the Glory of the Lord - G.F. Handel

Scripture

Matthew 11:2-11

Jenn Vinton

Reflection

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Choral Reflection:

Comfort, Comfort Ye, My People -

arr. Howard Helvey

Responding to God's Word

Communion

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Musical Meditation:

Little Drummer Boy / Patapan

Pastoral Prayer / † Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

† Hymn #125:

Come, O Long Expected Jesus

The Basket

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Countryside Blessing

Dave Lundblad

Postlude:

Gaudete!

December 11, 2022
Light in a Dark Place:
The Candle of Joy:
The Uncertainty of
Knowing for Sure



Who We Are:

We are an inclusive, open and affirming family of faith, welcoming all to God's table of love and acceptance.

We are diverse, yet united by Christ's example.

We care for one another, support one another and challenge one another to become all that God creates us to be.

We work together to nurture our community and to promote peace, equality and justice in our conflicted world.

C4 Choir - Adam Witte, director

Alex Ritter, organ / piano - Carlos Figueroa, drums

Pipe Organ Extravaganza - Today, 4 p.m.

Poetry Small Group

Are you interested in poetry? Reading it, writing it, or exploring new works? If so, we have an opportunity for you! Our growing Arts Ministry is launching Small Groups to crowdsource creative ideas and materials for worship. The worship planning team is planning a poetry-focused sermon series in the spring, and this group will be an integral part of that effort. Please contact Alex Ritter at alexr@countrysideucc.org if you would be interested in joining.

Music notes:

Catherine Winkworth was a nineteenth-century women's rights activist and education advocate. Her focus was German music, and she translated many hymns we sing to this day. *Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People*, a versification of Isaiah 40:1-5, was paired with a French renaissance tune by Louis Bourgeois, a composer with the distinction of being jailed for altering popular hymns in a manner not appreciated by the authorities.

Patapan is a 17th-century French Burgundian carol dating that uses onomatopoeic sounds to mimic flutes and drums. "Patapan" is meant to mimic the sound of the drum, and an accompanying lyric, "tu-re-lu-re-lu," represents the flute. This is a similar concept to the carol "The Little Drummer Boy", with its chorus of "pa-rum-pa-pum-pum."

Gaudete, which means Rejoice in Latin, is a late 16th-century Christmas carol, thought to have originated in Scandinavia. Being removed from the rest of Europe, Scandinavia was a bit behind the times culturally, and this carol is more characteristic of medieval music from the main continent but has had staying power since it was published in 1582.

OUR WORSHIP HAS CONCLUDED.
NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS.

† Indicates those places where those who are able are invited to stand.

Joys and Concerns

Join us as we pray for our congregation members and their loved ones who are on our Joys and Concerns list every week on Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. If you have someone you would like us to pray for, or a joy you would like to share, or if you would like to be included on the list in the bulletin or be on Countryside's Prayer Chain, contact the Office at 402-391-0350 or office@countrysideucc.org

JOYS:

Pam Govier is going home! She reports that she has received lovely cards and kind words of encouragement from the congregation. Once she's settled, she would love to have visitors for coffee and conversation. Prayers for Pam's continued improvement.

Daron Kruse and Judy Hartlieb welcomed their second granddaughter, Anoona Rae. Erin and Brendan Healey and big sister Illex are all doing great. Daron and Judy will meet Anoona in Florida in January.

CONCERNS:

Please pray for peace and comfort for **Karen Follon** and her family as they grieve the loss of **Jim Follon** who died on December 1. A memorial service will be held on Sunday, December 18, at 1 p.m.

Prayers for **Doug Dushan** who had an incident and lost much of the vision in his left eye. It's called central retinal vein occlusion. He had a blockage and tissue was damaged from the lack of circulation. His Dr. is saying it likely will not recover, but let's all pray together for a different result.

Continue to pray for **Don Sarton's** friend Rev. David Van Heyningin after a head injury. David is progressing with movement in his right arm. The left arm does not have any function, left feet have motion but leg movement is minimal. Trying to talk but can't. Blood pressure is down, temp down so infection and pneumonia are under control. ICU believe they have him stable so he has been transferred to a rehab in downtown Seattle that is very good. Whew! We thank God for the healing that has occurred.

Please pray for **Autumn Cox**, who had melanoma surgery last Friday. We ask for prayers for her family, her surgeon and healing for Autumn.

Tom Scates and Ann Huxtable-Scates ask for continued prayers for their daughter, Kaitlan, who is recovering post-surgery after a bad fall. She had a bit of a setback when she fell on Monday, but continues to heal and progress. Prayers for Kaitlan and her family.

Please pray for strength and comfort for 3 families who recently lost family members. We pray for the families of **Ed and Kim Schwartz and Marcia and Tim Kerrigan** who both recently lost a sister/sister-in-law. We also pray for the family of **Ginny Chick** as they grieve the loss of their mother.

Continue to uplift in prayer members of our congregation who are recovering from various health concerns: **Karen Fenne, Pat Walstrom, Dee Schlautman, Salley Classen, Greg (Johnna) Roberts, Brian, friend of Chris Gilmore, Jim Hanson, Molly Anderson's step-brother, Greg Witte and others.**

The Department of Homeland Security raised concerns about possible domestic terror threats to LGBTQI+, Jewish and migrant communities in a terror advisory bulletin. Please pray for our Jewish, LGBTQI+ and immigrant neighbors for safety and peace.

Please pray for the people of Ukraine and all people living in war-torn countries around the world that they will soon live in peace once again.

2022 Contribution Deadline

Please remember to submit your final contributions for 2022 to the church before the end of the year. The IRS looks closely at charitable giving, and we want you to understand that in order for your contribution to be deductible in 2022, your contribution must be postmarked or physically received at the church office by December 31, 2022. Please note that your check date alone will not control which year your contribution applies to.

Sunday Flowers This Week

Flowers were given today by Chris Gilmore.