

Order of Worship

Gathering

Prelude: *Toccata in D Minor "Dorian"*

J.S. Bach

Words of Welcome / † Mission Statement

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Announcements

Dan Loven-Crum

Examen

Dan Loven-Crum

Call to Worship:

I Go to Sing - Lindy Thompson

Rev. Judy Waible

Hymn #619: *My Life Flows On*
(*How Can I Keep From Singing?*)

Hearing God's Word

Children's Moment

Rebecca Morello

Scripture: John 4:5-26, Psalm 95*

John Kampfe

Reflection

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Poetry:

When Someone Deeply Listens to You -

John Fox

Dinah Gomez

Choral Meditation:

Your Soul is Song - Jake Runestad

Responding to God's Word

Communion

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Hymn #6 (vs. 1-3):

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

The Basket

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Poetry:

I Will Shine - Jan Phillips

Dinah Gomez

Countryside Blessing

Nancy Besack

Postlude:

Litanies - Jehan Alain

OUR WORSHIP HAS CONCLUDED.

NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS.

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

* Psalm 95 adapted by Nan Merrill.

March 12, 2023

High Noon at

Jacob's Well



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

Music notes:

A note on *Your Soul is Song* from composer Jake Runestad:

When Germán Aguilar passed away unexpectedly in the summer of 2014, it was a huge loss to our world. Germán had a warm, kind personality and a love for life, teaching, and the people around him. He was a choral conductor, had a beautiful tenor voice, and was deeply engaged in the music community.

After a difficult time in his life, Germán wrote this poem — a plea to the power of song and weathering the storms of life. Germán died of a massive aneurism in the middle of a concert, while he was singing, and I can't move beyond that image and the meaning it brings to these words. Life is not easy, and is never perfect, but there is so much beauty and joy to be found in song.

Sing!

When the seams burst,
and the traps ensnare,
and your body breaks,
and the light flees—
Sing then!

For then, your soul is song.

- Germán Aguilar

French composer Jehan Alain was killed in battle during World War II at the age of 29, but left a large body of work - music that was ahead of its time. *Litanies* is his best-known work and describes the soul crying out to the divine with a driving repetitive phrase 'Lord, have mercy.' "You must create an impression of passionate incantation," Alain wrote about playing this piece. "Prayer is not a lament but a devastating tornado, flattening everything in its way. It is also an obsession. You must fill people's ears with it, and God's ears too! If you get to the end without feeling exhausted you have neither understood it nor played it as I would want it."

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:

Please lift prayers of praise for these joys!

In worship today, as we contemplate the joy of singing, it becomes apparent that we have much to be thankful for. It wasn't that long ago that the importance of congregational and choral song was made poignantly clear by its absence during the height of the pandemic when collective singing was one of the more dangerous activities one could engage in. We are grateful for our ability to engage in congregational song, and are grateful to the choir for their musical leadership and contributions to our worship experience. We are fortunate to have Adam Witte as our choral director and are grateful for his leadership and ministry here.

The Board of Christian Outreach (BOCO) - would like to thank everyone who contributed to The Box last month. They received close to two hundred items!

Margaret Hayford and Tim Ekberg want to thank everyone for the thoughts, prayers and food during Margaret's recovery. Margaret says they are "definitely feeling the love."

Don Sarton would like to thank the staff, prayer group and congregation for your diligence in keeping his friend David Van Heyningen in your prayers. Since David began to emerge from the coma about 3 weeks ago, he has progressed quite nicely; he is able to carry on a conversation and, while still a bit unsteady on his legs, is standing and walking with the help of the PT. Many thanks for the prayers, expressions of love and support!

Dan and Donna Trombla will be celebrating their fiftieth wedding anniversary on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 2023! They were married in Lincoln while Dan was in the Navy. Let us join in celebrating with them!

CONCERNS:

These concerns have been shared in the past week. Please add them to your prayers.

Asking for healing thoughts for **Roger Waible**, as he has tested positive for Covid. We lift Roger up in prayer for a return to good health and for **Judy** as his caregiver.

Prayers of healing for Tim Anderson, brother of **Molly (Mitch) Anderson**, who needs quadruple bypass surgery. Please pray for the medical staff tending to Tim and hold Molly in your prayers as well.

Susan Carne, wife of **Scott Carne** and mother of **Brad (Kay)**, **Jeff (Ashley)**, and Dana (Daniel), died on March 6. Her funeral service was on Saturday, March 11, in the sanctuary. Please keep Brad and Scott and their families in your prayers.

Cal Coats's wife **Linda** is in intensive care due to a low sodium issue. She was admitted on Saturday, March 4. Please keep both Linda and Cal in your prayers.

Jerry (Mary) Gray spent some time at Methodist hospital this past week. Please pray for Jerry's healing and for Mary as she supports him.

Betsy Lay's mother, Mirian Lay, has been diagnosed with COVID. Mirian is 95 and in hospice care. Please pray for Mirian's comfort and peace of mind for Betsy and her family.

Sheila Pettigrew's son Todd Pettigrew passed away on February 24, 2023, and his funeral was on March 4. Please pray for Sheila and for Todd's family.

Andy Smith passed away on March 2. His life was celebrated at a funeral on Friday, March 10. Please continue to keep his wife, **Marylinn Smith**, in your prayers.

Pat Walstrom is in Methodist Hospital. She spent some time in the ICU but has now been transferred to a regular room. Please continue to pray for Pat's healing.

Please continue to pray for these ongoing concerns:

Rodge Bickerstaff continues to be under hospice care at home. Please pray for both Rodge and his wife Kathie during this very difficult time.

Prayers for peace for **Sally Classen** and ask for guidance for her doctors as they provide for her care.

Sunday Flowers This Week

Flowers were given today by Jodie Nichols
in honor of Tom, Barb, Mike, Scott, Angela, Steph and Eloise.