

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

Kathleen Samland

Hearing God's Word

Children's Church

Rebecca Morello

† Hymn #494:

They'll Know We Are Christians

Scripture:

Luke 4:14-30

Kathleen Samland

Reflection

Rev. Dr. Velda Love

Musical Meditation:

Freedom Jazz Dance - Eddie Harris

Responding to God's Word

Communion

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

The Basket

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Hymn:

Help Us Accept Each Other

Countryside Blessing

Sherryl Lilley

Postlude:

Toccata from "Organ Symphony no. 5" -

Charles Marie Widor

OUR WORSHIP HAS CONCLUDED.

NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS.

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

Matt Wallace, sax - Rick Avard, piano

Alex Ritter, organ - Carlos Figueroa, drums

Steve Gomez - bass

Countryside Community Church

13130 Faith Plaza | Omaha, NE 68144 | 402-391-0350

countrysideucc.org

April 16, 2023

Why Church?

Rev. Dr. Velda Love



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.



Rev. Dr. Velda R. Love currently serves as Minister for Racial Justice in The Justice and Witness Ministries of The United Church of Christ. She creates comprehensive and strategic approaches for UCC national conferences, congregations, and staff colleagues to explore and understand the intersection of racial justice with other justice issues.

Prior to joining the UCC, Love spent nine years (2008-2017) at North Park Theological Seminary in Chicago as an adjunct professor and conference speaker, and served North Park University as the director of intercultural justice and learning for 16 years (2000-2016).

A Chicago native, Love brings to the national setting of the UCC her knowledge and expertise in critical race theory, leadership development, community outreach, preaching, teaching, writing and even fund development.

"I was a member of Trinity United Church of Christ for more than 20 years," Love said. "That experience developed my spirituality, theology, biblical understanding and racial justice from an African and African-American perspective. That experience also led to being deeply committed to social justice, gender equality, issues of race and eliminating racism."

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 who would benefit from prayer, want to share a joy or be included on the bulletin list and or on Countryside's Prayer Chain, contact Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones at 402-391-0350, ext. 225 or sarahrj@countrysideucc.org

JOYS:

Please lift these joys with prayers of celebration and praise!

Molly Anderson thanks everyone for their support as her brother Tim prepared to have triple bypass surgery on April 3. Tim is now home, doing well, and improving every day. Molly expresses her most sincere gratitude for all the prayers!

CONCERNS:

Please join in praying for the following new and ongoing concerns:

Ann Naylor received some great news related to her breast cancer diagnosis. An MRI showed one tumor without any apparent lymph node involvement. Her treatment will likely be a lumpectomy and 3 1/2 weeks of radiation. While this news is incredibly positive, let us keep Ann and Kevin in our prayers during the remaining treatment period.

Mary Jo Barbush-Weiss, Countryside member in St. Louis, MO, reported on Wednesday that they will be going for another pulmonary function test & an appointment with **Larry's** regular (not transplant team) pulmonologist. The idea that the unknown new nodule in his lung may be malignant has been weighing heavily. Hoping for good news, or at least not bad news. Prayers for these friends as they face this health challenge.

Virginia Bigelow passed away on Thursday, April 13. Her memorial service is being scheduled and we will share details as soon as they are available. Please keep her family in your prayers during their time of grief.

Nona Morrison requests prayers for her nephew, Garrett Morrison, who is facing serious brain issues, possibly involving surgery. Garrett is an adult and lives in Orlando, Florida.

Margie (Glenn) Phillips had hip replacement surgery on Friday. Please keep her in your prayers for a full recovery!

Sharon (Rick) Royers's nephew, Michael Clouthier, has a brain tumor and had surgery to remove most of it a year ago. He has had to follow up with radiation and chemotherapy, but his chemo treatments have had to be delayed several times because his platelet count is too low. Additionally, he just lost his job and will soon lose his health insurance benefits. Please pray for healing and stamina for Michael.

We continue to pray for the Pastoral Search Committee, that they would be guided by the Spirit in all they do as they continue in their process towards calling Countryside's next Senior Minister. We know they have been hard at work for many months, and we want them to feel our support!

Music notes:

April is National Jazz Month - an opportunity to celebrate the heritage and history of jazz. The Free Jazz movement emerged in the 50s and 60s around a highly improvisational form of music. It used music as a message - a rejection of systems and structures and challenging power for social change, informed by the civil rights movement and the fight against racism and inequality.

Eddie Harris's *Freedom Jazz Dance* is only one chord the entire song. While the melody is chromatic and takes the listener outside of the chord, what makes this piece interesting is each player's unique addition of dissonance (playing outside the chord) and tension underneath the surface of the music, navigating in and out of the harmony.

Sunday Flowers This Week

Flowers were given today by Steve Gomez
In Honor of Dinah Gomez's birthday, April 20.
"Happy Happy Joy Joy!"
I love you!