



Order of Worship

Gathering

Prelude:

Tristeza (Goodbye Sadness) -
Baden Powell de Aquino

Words of Welcome / † Mission Statement

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Announcements

Dan Loven-Crum

Examen

Dan Loven-Crum

Call to Worship

Doug Dushan

Hearing God's Word

Welcome of New Members

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron / Robyn Hubbard

Musical Reflection:

I Spy - Amy Luckenbill

Scripture:

I Kings 2:1-4, 10-12

Doug Dushan

Reflection

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Musical Meditation:

Kaleidoscope Heart - Sara Bareilles

Responding to God's Word

Communion

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

† Hymn #67 (vs. 1, 3, 4):

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Pastoral Search Committee Update

The Basket

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Countryside Blessing

Becky Knightly

Postlude:

Black Horse and the Cherry Tree - KT Tunstall

May 21, 2023
New Member Sunday
*"The Age of Seeking
and Accepting"*
Rev. Dr. Keith Herron



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.

Brenda Stursma - Emily Wadhams - Amy Luckenbill, vocals
Matt Wallace, sax - Rick Avard, piano - Alex Ritter, organ
Carlos Figueroa, drums - Steve Gomez, bass

Music notes on the back

New Members May 2023

Sarah and Nick Abegglen

Erik Andersen

Nicole Chipy

Steve Girvan

Kathleen Gradina

Alyssa Silhacek

Chloe and Trevor Spanel

Linda Spencer

Julianne and David Svingen

Adam Witte

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 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@countysideuucc.org

JOYS:

Please lift these joys with prayers of celebration and praise!

Chris & Rick Gilmore celebrate that their son, Tom, successfully defended his dissertation and will receive his EdD (Doctor of Education) in Higher Education Leadership from Baker University on May 21. Rick and Chris are so incredibly proud of him! Tom was in COYO and went on many mission trips.

CONCERNS:

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

Dick (Pat) Galusha has been discharged from the hospital and is now at Immanuel Village. Please keep both Dick and Pat in your prayers as they adjust to this new living arrangement.

Doug (Kari) Krenzer died on Monday, May 15. His funeral will be held here at Countryside on Tuesday, May 23 at 11 am. Visitation will be held from 5-7 pm the evening before, also here at Countryside. Please continue to pray for Kari and for their children: Emma, Peter, Bethany, and Audrey.

Kari Randazzo asks for prayers for her father, Dan Rishel, who will have heart valve replacement surgery on May 23. She also asks us to pray for her sister, Kristin Rishel, who spent some time in the hospital recently due to having breathing problems.

We continue to pray weekly for the Pastoral Search Committee, as they continue in their discernment towards calling Countryside's next Settled Pastor. We want them to feel our support as they carry on with their good work!

Music notes:

Black Horse and the Cherry Tree is a song by Scottish singer-songwriter KT Tunstall. The lyrics describe a personal struggle and the need for self-confidence and resilience. The imagery of a black horse representing a challenging obstacle in the way of the cherry tree, and encourages perseverance and embracing one's individuality.

As we end our series on the seasons of life, it is worth remembering that our lives are a representation of our experiences of these seasons, and the subtle (or not so subtle) change between seasons. Sara Bareilles's song *Kaleidoscope Heart* speaks to the wide range of emotions and perspectives and the ever-changing nature of those throughout our journey through those seasons. It conveys the spectrum of experiences - vulnerability and resilience, ups and downs, heartbreak and healing.

Another aspect of the seasons of life is that we share in this journey with our friends, family, and community. Amy Luckenbill's *I Spy* speaks to this shared journey through the context of transition. She writes:

"I Spy starts with a mother's memory of the game that she played with her young son. He spies an expansive blue sky. She counters with the deep blue of his eyes. He hears the cow say "moo." She hears the mockingbird. The son grows older and the mother longs for the connection she felt before, but she knows she must let go.

"I wrote this song after watching my son leave for school on a dark and foggy morning early in the pandemic. He was growing up and pulling away, wanting to explore the world that I was scared of at the time. The song came quickly and I wept when I wrote the chorus. I still find it difficult to sing sometimes because everything still applies. It was written especially for The Beehive Band, for our unique vocal blend, and for the many ways we have had to let our sons go. We hope that they feel our love when we sing it."