

Countryside Community Church WORSHIP



Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him."

Where? By Hannah Garrity /
sanctifiedart.org

Easter Sunday
9 and 11 a.m.
March 31, 2024

Countryside Community Church
13130 Faith Plaza | Omaha, NE 68144 | 402-391-0350
countrysideucc.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

† Indicates those places where those who are able are invited to stand.
Text in **bold** indicates places where the congregation is invited to join in response.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

CHORAL INTROIT: *When Mary Through the Garden Went*

Charles Villiers Stanford

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Many: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

One: We are afflicted in every way—

Many: But not crushed.

One: Struck down—

Many: But not destroyed.

One: For we are persuaded that neither death, nor life,

Many: Nor angels, nor principalities,

One: Nor things present, nor things to come,

Many: Nor powers, nor height, nor depth,

One: Nor anything else in all creation...

Many: Can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Savior.

One: For on Easter, God defeated death.

Many: Death is dead!

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Many: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

†HYMN #216: *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* (vs. 1, 2, 3) arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The Peace of God be With You

Many: And also with you.

CHORAL REFLECTION: *Love's Redeeming Work is Done*

Tom Trenney

HEARING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rebecca Morello

(All children are invited to come forward for a special lesson at the chancel)

LESSON: John 20:1-18

Readers: 9 a.m. Vicki Roy - 11 a.m. Mark Draper

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus's head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed, for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb, and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' " Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and she told them that he had said these things to her.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

MUSICAL REFLECTION*Like Him We Rise*

Tom Trenney

A TIME FOR COMMUNITY

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

SHARING OUR GIFTS

The Social Justice and Outreach Board has designated Voices of Children in Nebraska as the recipient of both Countryside's Easter Offering and March Box donations. They ask that you share your monetary abundance with our children who face challenges every day.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

God of Resurrection and Redemption, we offer our gifts alongside our alleluias! We offer our hands, feet and voices to take the celebration out of this place into a world that so desperately needs hope. May we go out with such joy and power that the ground beneath our feet quakes, and people see in us your redeeming love; the triumph of light over darkness! In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

ANTHEM*Christ has Broken Down the Wall*

Mark Miller

COMMUNION

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Dearest friends, at this table the Spirit welcomes us all. Here she gives special honor to the hungry and the poor. Here she renews creation with healing and peace. Here she pledges a graceful world to come, a world of joy and dignity for all. And here she lets us taste it, the new way of being together: bearing each other's burdens, sharing each other's joys, practicing pardon, eating in peace, justice in all we say and do. So come to the Spirit's table. Receive new life. It is for you, for me, for everyone.

PRAISE

Let us pray:

From the first day to the last, O God,
you are generous and kind,
filling the world with mercy's bread,
pouring the cup of mercy's joy.

You give us gifts too many to count:
our hearts overflow when we remember you.

Even in death, life abounds.

And so we praise you, singing your glory
with every creature you made:

(All join in singing)

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

REMEMBERING JESUS

And now, O God, with grateful hearts, we remember Jesus.
When all seems lost, when we are stuck in shame,
when nothing we try resurrects our fading hope,
he comes to us; he brings the morning's light.

**He tells us where to cast our nets. The catch is abundant;
our nets are full.**

He knows we are always hungry; he feeds us hope.

On the lakeshore he lights the breakfast fire, grills fish for us, and bread.
In the mist of morning, guilt is gone, shame fades away.

We eat together, speaking only of love.

It is always this way with him— food and pardon, mercy and life.

Even on that night when we betrayed him, he gave us bread and wine
and told us to remember him
and all his mercies whenever we gather to eat.

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Come, Holy Spirit, Come bless this bread and cup,
signs of the Living One truly present here in love.

For all who receive these gifts in faith, make them food and drink of lasting life,
until the new age of justice comes and every creature beholds it.

In Christ's name we pray.

Amen.

Communion Hymns:

#393 *One Bread, One Body*

#230 *Now the Green Blade Rises*

As you are able, please come forward to receive the bread and cup. If you prefer to take communion in your seat, raise your hand and a server will bring the elements to you. At Countryside, we serve gluten-free bread and non-alcoholic grape juice to support a diversity of needs. Communion cups may be discarded in the basket as you leave the sanctuary.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks, gracious God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SENDING

†**SENDING HYMN #222**

Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Finale

from Symphony no. 6 by Louis Vierne

OUR WORSHIP HAS CONCLUDED. NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS.

***Music Notes: Scan the QR Code at right for this morning's music notes!**



2024 Easter Flower Dedications

Robyn Amis	In honor of her parents
Kathy & John Besancon	In memory of loved ones
Renee Besancon and Jason Lips	In memory of Carolyn and Dale Lips and their other loved ones
Julie & Keith Carlson	In memory of their daughter Braydee Carlson
Autumn & Matt Cox	In memory of Carmen & Dean Cox
Cindy Cronn	In memory of Marty and Bob Heddens
Teri & Mark D'Agostino	In honor of all those in need
The deBoer Family	In memory of Marc deBoer
Gloria Dinsdale	
Louise & Don Giger	In memory of their parents
Mimi & Ferde Goings	In memory of Mert & Hazel Goings / Jayne Barrie
Dinah & Steve Gomez	In honor of their families
Pam Govier	In memory of her husband, Dr. Bruce Govier
Andrew Sr., April, Sloane & Andrew Jr. Govier	In memory of Dr. Bruce Govier
Elizabeth Hansen and John Hewitt	In memory of Lonnie Bayer and Laurie Hewitt
Madison Harpenau and Grant Hall	In memory of Don & Darlene Hall
Rose Hentzen	In memory of her parents
Diane Hill	In memory of Shirley Mahoney
Robyn & Dave Hubbard	In memory of Sarah and Bill Ginn / Jeanette and Ivan Hubbard
Sherryl L. Lilley	In memory of her family
Rick & Cathy MacInnes	In honor of their grandchildren, Zoe, Niles, Ellis and Levi
Deb & John McCollister	In memory of Bob and Lou Way / Nan and John McCollister
Mary & Ray Meints	In memory of Loren and Evelyn Fraser / Myra & Ray Meints Sr.
Norman & Cynthia Pavey, Sarah, Jay & Ethan O'Leary	In memory of Sybil Pavey and Jed O'Leary, Fred & Ruth Pavey, Charles & Luverna Brown
Kari Randazzo	In memory Joy King and Bob King
Vicki & Joe Roy	In memory of their parents, Helen & Al and Lynn & Dick
Lori Shrum	In memory of George & Lily Woods
Donna & Dan Trombla	In honor of Jesse, Ali, Drew and Celia
Julie & Mark Wilson	In honor of their two grandchildren
Mary & John Windle	In memory of their parents

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 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

CONCERNS:

Greg Atkinson (Johnna Roberts) requests prayers for his cousin, Joanie Shuck, who was found unconscious in her home and transported to Sioux City hospital, where she is now on life support.

Sheila Hargreaves' daughter, Christa Graffius, passed away on Wednesday, March 20, after being treated for a brain tumor and subsequent strokes. Please keep Sheila and Christa's family in your prayers during this time of grief.

C4 and Countryside Ringers - Adam Witte, Director
Adam Witte, tenor - Alex Ritter, organ, piano

Upcoming events in April. Events take place at 11:15 following worship, unless noted otherwise.

April 14 ~ Library Rededication

April 21 ~ Web of Care Info Session,

April 21 ~ Coffee with the Pastor, Chapel


April 28 ~ 10 a.m. Worship Service - Confirmation Sunday

April 28 ~ Confirmation Reception, Common Grounds Coffee House

May 5 ~ 10 a.m. Worship Service - Recognition of Stephen Ministers

May 5 ~ 2 p.m. Installation Service for Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

Installation at 2:00 pm. Jenny's Installation at 2:00 pm.



Sharing our Gifts

Scan the QR code to visit the
Countryside giving page to
donate or give to the Box



[COUNTRYSIDEUCC.ORG/GIVE](https://countrysideucc.org/give)