



Order of Worship

Gathering

Prelude:

Toccata on Psalm 150:4 - Douglas Wagner
Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with
stringed instruments and organ.

Words of Welcome/ Announcements

Dan Loven-Crum

Examen

Dan Loven-Crum

Call to Worship

Diane Hill

Musical Reflection:

Blowin' in the Wind - Bob Dylan

Hearing God's Word

Children's Moment

Scripture from:

The Torah: A Women's Commentary

Portion Chukat

Numbers Verse 20:1-12

Diane Hill

Musical Meditation:

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Reflection:

Wendy Goldberg

Musical Reflection:

Higher Ground - Stevie Wonder

Responding to God's Word

Communion / Lord's Prayer

Rev. Don Sarton

Hymn #47:

Doxology

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Don Sarton

Hymn #622:

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Countryside Blessing

Marcia Blum

Postlude:

Caravan - Juan Tizol

OUR WORSHIP HAS CONCLUDED.
NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS.

Julia Olynyk, vocalist - Matt Wallace, sax
Rick Avard, piano - Alex Ritter, organ
Carlos Figueroa, drums - Steve Gomez, bass

July 10, 2022

Our Bumpy Road to the Promised Land: Roadblocks, Relationships, and Results

Wendy Goldberg
Executive Director of
the Tri-Faith Initiative

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.

Music notes:

Stevie Wonder wrote *Higher Ground* in 1973. The lyrics deal with being given a second chance, but took on a new meaning when he was almost killed on the way to a benefit concert after a log came detached from a truck in front of the car he was riding in and went right through the windshield and hit him in the head. He was in a coma for four days and gave the first sign that he would recover when his road manager started singing the song directly into his ear, and after a few tries over a couple of days, noticed Stevie's fingers moving in time with the song. After this experience, he would talk about having reached a 'higher ground' tantamount to a more fulfilling life, drawing on the concept of reincarnation, with a 'superior state of existence than how he conducted himself prior,' even in the face of opposition or trouble.

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah is both a prayer for those going through tough times as well as a celebration of God's providence and love. It juxtaposes a call to action with an abiding sense of God's guidance amidst struggle - utilizing the Exodus story of the Israelites' time in the desert to convey this imagery, which includes references to the God who provides the "bread of heaven" to those walking in "barren lands." The second stanza ties old and new testament scripture together, including today's gospel story. Images of the "fire and cloudy pillar" that the Israelites followed, as well as the "crystal fountain" the rock from which "the healing stream doth flow" - illustrate a God that sustains its people through hunger and thirst. This hymn is simultaneously a prayer for those going through tough times as well as a celebration of God's providence and love.

Countryside Community Church

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

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 Debbie Vihstadt at debbiev@countrysideucc.org or 402-391-0350 or 402.578.2900 (you may text her at this number as well).

JOYS:

The Youth Group leaves Friday morning for St. Louis. Please pray for their safety and that they have fun volunteering for Seed St. Louis, and working in the community gardens.

CONCERNS:

Janelle Nash passed away the morning of July 4. Her dear friend and attorney, Bob Lannin, wants Countryside to know it was Janelle's personal Independence Day and that God has welcomed home this amazing firecracker. There will be no service per Bob and her sons.

Phyllis Miller is in the hospital and receiving hospice. Please pray for her peace and comfort as she transitions and for her family as they walk this journey with her. Please lift them in your prayers and love this week.

Bill Besack passed away on July 6. Please pray for Nancy and their sons, pray that they feel God's love and comfort while they grieve the loss of Bill. A service will be held in the coming weeks.

Mike Brown had his stem cells harvested for his upcoming transplant. The magic number we are praying for is 450 million.

Molly Anderson is asking for prayers for her brother and sister-in-law, Tim and Jody Anderson. Their son, (Molly's nephew) Jason Anderson, 43 years old, died from a sudden heart attack. Please lift this family in prayers of love and comfort as they grieve the sudden loss of Jason.

Madelyn Wadhams had surgery to repair one fragment floating in her left elbow that was causing reduced range of motion and arthritis. Please pray for a successful outcome and a quick recovery for Madelyn.

Please pray for the family of **Don and Bev Sarton**. Don Sarton's sister, Anna, passed away on Monday, June 20. Please pray to ease their grief and that their memories of Anna comfort them and that their lives are lifted by God's love.

Please pray for **Leslie Summers-Day's family** as they progress through cancer diagnosis and treatments for her mom, Suzanne, and her brother, Dave. Please pray for their peace and comfort throughout this difficult time.

Sharon and Rick Royers's nephew, Michael Clouthier, continues to make progress from his brain surgery on April 7. His first round of radiation did not go well. He had a seizure two hours after his first treatment. Prayers for guidance as his team of doctors regroup and plan a new course of action for him. Pray he tolerates his next treatments and that his tumor continues to shrink. Thank you for the continued prayers for Michael.

Please also pray for the victims of the mass shooting at the 4th of July parade in Chicago. For their friends and family and for our country, as we continue to endure these tragedies week after week.

MEMORIALS:

Ken Hutton passed away on July 5. Please pray for his wife, Nan, and their children Chris and Amy, while they navigate this difficult time. Please pray for strength and guidance for Nan and for their comfort and peace during this difficult time. Visitation is Saturday, 1-3, at John A Gentleman.

Thank you, God, for the blessings you have bestowed on my life. You have provided me with more than I could ever have imagined. You have surrounded me with people who always look out for me. You have given me family and friends who bless me every day with kind words and actions. Amen.