

## Order of Worship

### Gathering

Prelude:

*Bright Morning Stars are Rising*

Words of Welcome / Announcements

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron / Dan Loven-Crum

Examen

Dan Loven-Crum

Musical Call to Worship:

*Repentir* - Charles Gounod

### Hearing God's Word

Children's Moment

Rebecca Morello

Scripture:

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Mark Stursma

Reflection

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Musical Reflection:

*Take Me to the Alley* - Gregory Porter

### Responding to God's Word

Communion

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Musical Reflection:

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

Pastoral Prayer / Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Hymn #494:

*They'll Know We Are Christians*

Countryside Blessing

Mary Watke

Postlude:

*Mercy, Mercy, Mercy* - Joe Zawinul

OUR WORSHIP HAS CONCLUDED.  
NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS.

Justin Payne, vocalist

Amy Luckenbill - Brenda Stursma

Emily Wadhams, vocalists

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



**August 28, 2022**

**Ordinary Times:**

**Table Talk**

**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.

### Music Notes:

Our Call to Worship this morning is a musical one, Charles Gounod's *O Divine Redeemer*, and speaks to the fact that we are all outcasts in our own way, yet accepted by the radical acceptance and love of Christ. Written at the end of his life, born out of grief at the tragic passing of his grandson, he called it "Repentir" - which means repentance. The text is an emotional expression of a wide range of human feelings - longing for repentance, feeling abandoned, longing for mercy, feeling lost - and the hope we have in spite of these things, being invited to the Lord's table even so.

*Ah! turn me not away, receive me, though unworthy, . . .*

Gregory Porter's *Take Me to the Alley* tells the story of a king that would rather be taken away from public adulation and the luxuries of royalty to instead be brought to the outcasts, to the surprise of those who prepare for his arrival with by decorating their houses and rolling out the red carpet, so to speak. As Porter explains, "when I say take me to the alley, I mean in every city there might not be a physical alley. It may be just those forgotten places. Those dark places. Those neglected places that need to be elevated and illuminated in a way. That's a conversation maybe about poor people, minorities. It may be a conversation about people addicted to something. It might be about an area that receives less than the support that it should have. Whatever place needs to be elevated and lifted up in some kind of way and brought to a good standard: that's the alley."

*Take me to the alley. Take me to the afflicted ones.*

*Take me to the lonely ones that somehow lost their way.*

*Let them hear me say, I am your friend.*

*Come to my table. Rest here in my garden. You will have a pardon.*

## 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](mailto:debbiev@countrysideucc.org) or 402-391-0350 or 402.578.2900 (you may text her at this number as well).*

### CONCERNS:

Prayers for **Nancy Davis** as she recovers from a knee replacement. Prayers for a quick recovery and that she will be up and about and pain free soon.

Prayers for **Rachel Cohen's** friend who has a heart blockage and just found out that, because of her kidney function, she won't be able to undergo a procedure right now to fix her heart. Please pray for this dear woman, to give her strength to get through this and for guidance for her doctors to heal her body. She has adopted two sets of siblings (seven children total) as well as fostering children.

Please lift **Sally Classen** in prayers of love and healing. Please pray for her medical team as well to guide them to help Sally recover to full health.

Please pray for **Mark Draper** as he rests and recovers. He will be entering rehabilitation at Madonna. His family appreciates our prayers and would like us to continue to pray for his recovery to good health.

**Mike (Jan) Brown** continues to progress in the right direction although some days it is still very difficult. Please continue to pray for his continued recovery and success.

**Johnna Roberts** asks for prayers for her husband, Greg, and for his health. He's very weak, falls often and has been diagnosed with early dementia. The process of contacting facilities and filling out VA forms has prompted them to get their affairs in order and is exhausting. Johnna also asks for prayers for the strength and energy to be his advocate.

### MEMORIALS:

**Leslie Summers-Day's** mother, Suzanne, passed away August 18. There will be a private family burial on October 1.

*God of Many Names, We pray that unity may prevail in our community. Help us to be an instrument of Your peace. Help us in our city to come together to resolve the issues that affect us all. Help us cooperate well in overcoming health issues and prejudice.*

Amen.

The Nursery and Coffee House are available if your small human needs to burn off some energy during the Worship. For other small humans, there are Worship bags and books available. If you have a book suggestion, just let us know!

### Sunday Flowers This Week

Flowers were given today by Jennifer and Tom Pansing.