

Order of Worship

Gathering

Prelude:

Friends and Strangers - William Jeffrey

Words of Welcome / † Mission Statement
Kris Hess and Pastoral Search Committee

Announcements

Dan Loven-Crum

Examen

Dan Loven-Crum

Call to Worship

Rick MacInnes

Hearing God's Word

Children's Church

Rebecca Morello

Musical Reflection:

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing -
arr. Richard Waters

Scripture:

Matthew 21:23-32

Rick MacInnes

Reflection

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

Hymn #518:

This is a Day of New Beginnings

Responding to God's Word

Communion

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

Choral Reflection:

The Light on the Hill - Rebecca Oswald
(Lyrics on back)

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

The Basket

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

† Hymn:

Doxology

Countryside Blessing

Kyle Barchus

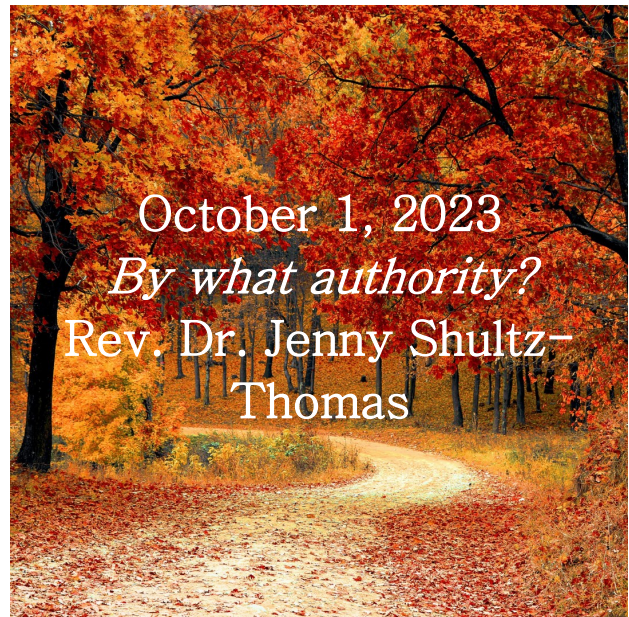
Postlude :

Watersign - Jeff Lorber

OUR WORSHIP HAS CONCLUDED.
NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS.

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

C4 Choir - Tyler Gruttemeyer, director and vocals
Matt Wallace, sax - Rick Avard, piano
Alex Ritter, organ - Carlos Figueroa - drums
Steve Gomez, bass



October 1, 2023
By what authority?
Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-
Thomas

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.

Sunday Flowers This Week

Flowers are given today by David Palmer.

"In honor of all the incredible members at Countryside Church who
took the time to prepare meals for my family during
August after my accident at the end of July.

There is a special place in Heaven for you angels."



Rev. Dr. Jennifer Shultz-Thomas is a fully
ordained United Church of Christ (UCC)
minister who's served more than 15 years in
progressive faith communities working at
the intersection of Social Justice, Spirituality
and Community Building. She's been at the
forefront of social justice thought and action,
is experienced in anti-racism and creation
justice ministries, and interfaith projects and
initiatives. She is committed to life-long
learning and passionate about encouraging
others to embrace their sacred worth. She

and her wife, Shannon, have two children, son Sage, 10, and daughter
Quinn, 8.

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!

The Board of Christian Outreach thanks the congregation for the gift of 2,000 books to be distributed to three elementary schools, one each in Omaha, Millard, and Westside school districts. The books will be given to students who might not otherwise have any books to call their very own. This Box donation for July and August exceeded our expectations!

CONCERNS:

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

Mitch (Molly) Anderson's procedure on September 18 went well. He had two stents installed during the atherectomy, and he went home from the hospital the same day.

Sheila Hargreave's daughter, Christa Graffius, was recently diagnosed with a brain tumor. The next steps are being determined.

The Light on the Hill

Rebecca Oswald

There is a place where love has always been the way, and always will;
With open arms we bid you welcome to the light, to the light, to the light on the hill.

A restless ship that sails the ocean seeks a harbor and a goal;
The beacon shining through the darkness shows the way, shows the way for the troubled, wandering soul.

Sometimes the strongest heart grows weary and the surest feet can fail;
As we forgive, we find forgiveness; it is love, it is love, it is love that will prevail.

As thirsty deer will seek the water, hungry souls will seek the light;
The light of Christ is there before you even in, even in, even in the darkest night.

A loving word, an act of kindness makes the light within us shine;
And on the hill the light grows stronger: we are part, we are part of the Maker's grand design.

We lift our voices in thanksgiving and our hearts with one accord;
A place is set, if you would join us; there is room, there is room at the table of the Lord.

This is a place where love has always been the way, and always will;
With open arms we bid you welcome to the light, to the light, to the light on the hill.

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