

Countryside Community Church WORSHIP



*River of Grace by Lisle Gwynn Garrity, Inspired by Luke 5:1-11
"Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" (Luke 5:8)*

First Sunday of Lent February 18, 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:

Tune My Heart

Lloyd Larsen

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

One: Come in. Feel your feet on the floor. Settle your worries. Take a deep breath. Dust the cobwebs from your ears. Relax the tension in your jaw, for Christ is here.

Many: God never stops seeking us. We have been found. Let us find God in return. Let us worship the God of deep waters. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Many: Loving God, You call us by name. You join us in the deep waters of life. You invite us to drop our nets and follow you, and yet, more often than we'd like to admit, we are like Peter. Over and over again, we stand slack-jawed and surprised to find you in our midst. Forgive us for drowning out your voice with our own. Forgive us for assuming that we can tackle deep waters by ourselves. Forgive us for forgetting that you will never stop climbing into our boat. Turn our hearts, our minds, and our spirits toward you, for you are our God, and it is in your name that we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Church family, hear and believe this good news: You can make a thousand bad impressions. You can make every mistake in the book, roll your eyes, and assume you know better. And even still, Christ will forgive you, claim you, and continue to seek your heart. That is the good news of the gospel. Rest, celebrate, and trust in God's peace. Amen.

† **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: The Peace of God be With You

Many: And also with you.

† **HYMN OF RESPONSE:** *The Church Where Love Lives* (vs.1)

HEARING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Rebeca Morello

FIRST LESSON: Psalm 25:1-10

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.
Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.
Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of
my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for your goodness' sake, O Lord!

Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore God instructs sinners in the way.
He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble her way.
All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep God's covenant and his decrees.

SECOND LESSON: Luke 5:1-11

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

MESSAGE*Jesus Sought Me*

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

RESPONDING TO THE WORD**†HYMN:***You Walk Along Our Shoreline***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Rev. Sarah Rentzel-Jones

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

TIME FOR COMMUNITY

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

Celebration of Lay Leadership

Psalm 52: 8-9 But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God. I trust in the steadfast love of God forever and ever. I will thank you forever because of what you have done. In the presence of the faithful, I will proclaim your name, for it is good.

SHARING OUR GIFTS

The Board of Christian Outreach has chosen Lydia House as the recipient of our February Box donations. Open Door Mission's Lydia House/ Women and Families provides emergency services for single women and families in need of immediate assistance. In addition to food, clothing and services, Lydia House has 300 available beds which are filled to capacity every night. Countryside can help fill this month's great need for diapers. All sizes are welcome, but sizes 4, 5 and 6 are most needed.

Prayer of Dedication

God of deep waters and abundant grace, receive now the gifts of our hearts and the overflow of our blessings. May these gifts be for all people, a sign of hope and the presence of God's abiding love. Amen.

CHORAL REFLECTION:

Be Not Afraid

Craig Courtney

COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them to God.

One: Let us give thanks to the God of love.

Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Remembrance

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:** *Bless Now, O God, The Journey (vs. 1, 2)*

BENEDICTION


Beloved wanderer,
as you leave this place,
may you carry your curious heart on your sleeve.
May you look for God in every face.
May you find the courage to get out of the boat,
to run to the tomb,
and to speak of your faith.
And when the world falls apart,
may you hear God's voice deep within,
saying, "Take heart, it is I, be not afraid."
You are called.
You are blessed.
In both your ups and your downs,
you always belong to God.
Go now in peace.
Go trusting that good news.
Amen.

POSTLUDE

OUR WORSHIP HAS CONCLUDED. NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS.

The Church Where Love Lives

Amanda Udis-Kessler



5 The church where love lives is a safe place for all where we
church where love lives draws the stran-ger in-side, mak-ing
church where love lives is pre-par-ing a feast for the



10 ga-ther in won-der to re-mem-ber God's call, to em-bo-dy God's
neigh-bors of stran-gers, not a neigh-bor den-ied, till there's hea-ven on
pained and re-ject-ed, for the lost and the least, for the ones filled with



15 vi-sion of kind-ness and care with each song that we
earth and God's will has been done, till the whole of cre-
ter-ror and those filled with shame. Come and sit at our



20 of-fer, with each pro-test and prayer. On this sa-cred foun-
a-tion is re-stored to its home. ta-ble. Love has called you by name.




da-tion of faith and of trust we are build-ing a world that is




gen-tle and just. We re-joice and re-pent, off-er praise and for-give



and we wel-come all peo-ple to the church where love



lives.



The
The

Bless Now, O God, the Journey 559

G C D Em Am D

1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make, the
 2 Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way, whose
 3 Di - vine E - ter - nal Lov - er, you meet us on the road. We

G C D C G Am D G

path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take. The
 hope burns through the ter - rors, whose love sus - tains the day. We
 wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow. But

C/D Bm/D G Am G Am Dsus4 D

trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun - tain round, then
 yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound. To -
 wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round. Our

G C D C G Am D G

leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
 geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
 cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

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

JOYS:

Greg Atkinson went home from Methodist Hospital last week and is doing well, and **Johnna Roberts** is out of her post-surgery shoe and can wear regular shoes again!

CONCERNS:

Tom Rogers passed away Thursday, Feb. 8. Tom was a devoted father and cherished grandfather who will be missed dearly. May he rest in eternal peace. A Memorial Service will be held on Thursday, Feb. 22 at 10:30 am in the Countryside Community Church Sanctuary.

Dee Schlautman could use our prayers as she continues to grapple with medical issues related to her back. Please lift prayers for healing and comfort for her.

De Schmieier was admitted to Methodist Hospital this week due to a kidney infection. She also has been suffering from kidney stones, and the doctor informed her that they cannot be treated until the infection is under control. She is getting the care she needs but can use our prayers for healing!

Leslie (David) Summers-Day asks for renewed prayers for her daughter, Anna. While we celebrated a few weeks ago that Anna did not need surgery to treat a pituitary tumor, she is now experiencing intense and intolerable side effects from the medication to shrink the tumor. This week, Leslie will accompany Anna to an appointment with a neurologist who specializes in this kind of tumor. Please pray for Anna's strength and the wisdom of the physician and medical team for a positive outcome and pray for safe travels for Leslie as she drives back and forth to Kansas where Anna lives.

Sunday Flowers This Week

Flowers were given today by the Antiracist Designation Group
in memory of the Native American Children who attended the Genoa Indian School.
February 20 is Nebraska Day of Remembrance.

Mary Watke, liturgist - C4 Directed by Adam Witte
Alex Ritter, organ and piano

MUSIC NOTES:

An aspect of our Lenten worship series is a week-by-week examination of lyrics from the hymn *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*, particularly the second line "tune my heart to sing thy grace." C4 choir will lead us into the series with an anthem, *Tune My Heart*, which takes the text and sets it to a different melody. We will sing the hymn with its typical melody at the end of the series but will have the words in the bulletin each week to guide us through the season. The text was written by eighteenth-century English hymn writer Robert Robinson, whose life experiences shape the text. One particular example cited by hymnologist Kenneth Osbeck, is that when his mother sent him to London to be an apprentice, he used his gap years to join a "notorious gang of hoodlums" and live "a debauched life" until he heard a sermon of the famous preacher George Whitefield. Despite no formal education, Robinson ultimately rose to great prominence as a preacher in his early twenties, and penning the hymn at age 22.

Some definitions for unfamiliar words and phrases in our musical texts this morning:

Though our hymnal rephrased the second verse, the phrase *Here I raise mine Ebenezer* appears in *Tune My Heart*. Ebenezer refers to the "Stone of Help," a reference to 1 Samuel 7:12: "Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Jeshanah, and named it Ebenezer; for he said, 'Thus far the Lord has helped us.'"

In the hymn *You Walk Along Our Shoreline*, the first verse contains the line "And if you still will follow through storm and wave and shoal." There are two definitions of Shoal – one of which is a large group of fish and the other of which is a an area of shallow water that is a navigational hazard, such as a sandbar. The hymnwriter isn't on record as to which she had in mind, so choose your own adventure.

Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.

Here I raise to thee an altar; hither by thy help I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, how I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

Sharing Our Gifts

The Box recipient - Lydia House

- Diapers. All sizes-sizes 4, 5 and 6 are most needed.

The Basket - Donate

- Support Countryside's ministries

Scan the QR code to access online giving for both the Box and Basket or visit countrysideucc.org/give



Spotlight!

Readers Wanted for Services

Stop by the Spotlight Table
after service!

Welcome to Lent!

Wednesday, Feb. 14: Ash Wednesday

Imposition of Ashes

Drive-thru Ashes: Noon-1 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Service, 7 p.m.

1st Sunday of Lent: Feb. 18

Worship, 10 a.m.

Wandering Heart: Jesus Sought Me

Luke 5:1-11 / Psalm 25:1-10

2nd Sunday of Lent: Feb. 25

Worship, 10 a.m.

Wandering Heart: Rescue Me from Danger

Matthew 14:22-33 / Psalm 22:23-31

3rd Sunday of Lent: March 3

Worship, 10 a.m.

Wandering Heart: Praise the Mount

Matthew 16: 13-20 / Psalm 19

4th Sunday of Lent: March 10

Worship, 10 a.m.

Wandering Heart: I'm Fixed Upon It

Matthew 16: 21-23 / Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

5th Sunday of Lent: March 17

Worship, 10 a.m.

Wandering Heart: Teach Me

Matthew 14:22-33 / Psalm 22:23-31

Holy Week

Psalm Sunday: March 24

Worship, 10 a.m.

Wandering Heart: Songs of Loudest Praise

John 12:12-16

Maundy Thursday, March 28

Worship, 7 p.m.

Wandering Heart: Streams of Mercy

John 13:1-20

Good Friday, Worship, March 29

Worship, 7 p.m.

Wandering Heart: Prone to Leave the God I Love

John 13:31-38, John 18:1-11, John 18:12-18, John 18:19-27, John 19:1-30

Easter

Easter Sunday: March 31

Sunrise Service, 7 AM

Worship, 9 a.m.

Brunch, 10 a.m.

Worship, 11 a.m.

Wandering Heart: And I Hope

Luke 24:1-12

Poetry with the Pastor

Feb. 26-March 25

Mondays at Noon

Book: *The Hurting Kind*, by Ada Limon

Lenten Devotional

Wandering Heart:

Figuring out faith with Peter

Available in the Narthex for a \$5 suggested donation.