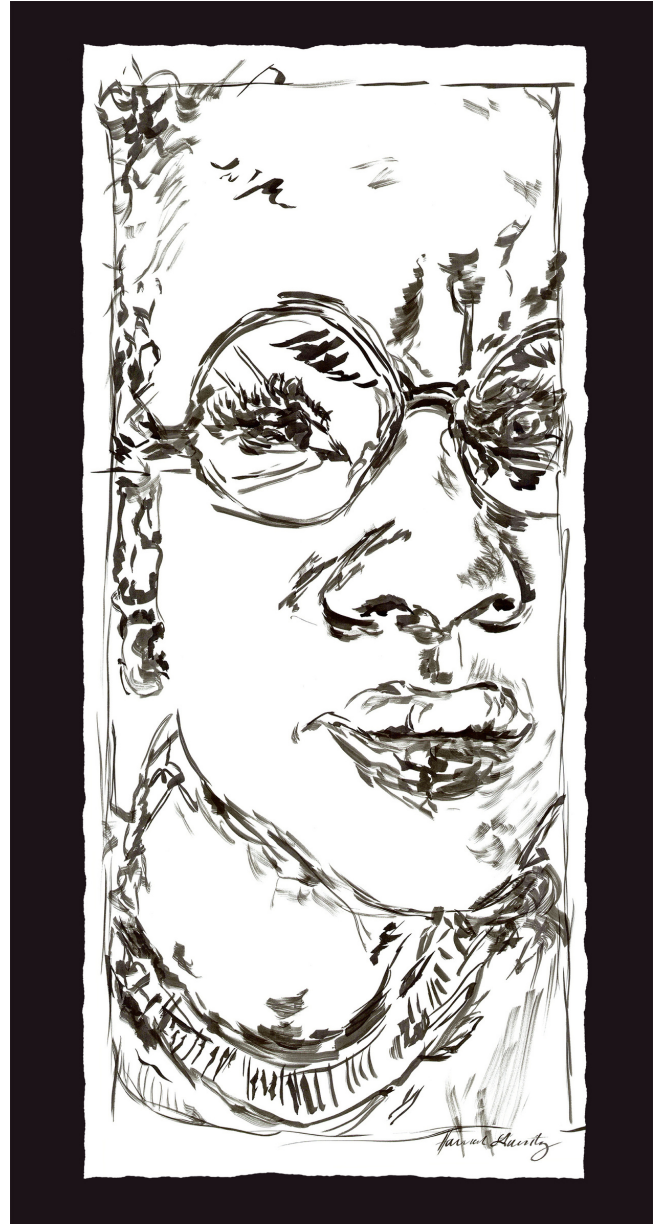


Countryside Community Church WORSHIP

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 Sunrise Service March 31, 2024, 7 a.m.

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

† GATHERING SONG

Christ the Lord is Risen Today (vs. 1, 2, 3)

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

One: Give thanks to our Good God whose unfailing love lasts forever!

Many: Give thanks to our Risen God whose unfailing love lives forever!

One: We gather together in the dawn of a new day. We look toward
the tomb to seek the Enfleshed Word.

Many: The stone has been rolled away. The tomb is empty! Alleluia!

One: We find God alive in the searching, in the garden, in our hope-filled spaces.

Many: Alleluia. Christ lives and finds us with unfailing love!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Resurrected God, you are the God of new beginnings, of new dawns and new mercies. When we move toward the tomb, remind us that you come with life. When we despair at the world unfolding around us, assure us of your redemptive power. When we long for your voice, speak a word of hope, encouragement and peace. May we reflect your image as resurrection people in covenant with you. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Like Him We Rise

Tom Trenney

HEARING THE WORD

LESSON John 20:1-18

Reader: Maggie Jones

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,[b] 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.

One: Words of Resurrection Hope for a people of Hope,

Many: Thanks be to God.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

Amazing God, we know there is nothing you cannot overcome. We confess to our profound need of your love, strength, and mercy. Too often, we come toward the tomb resigned to the status quo. We anticipate the worst even when you are the provider of every good and perfect thing. We allow despair over the condition of our world to overwhelm us when you call us to follow you. Strengthen us to live abundantly, generously in your kin-dom on earth. Transform us and breathe new life into us. Amen.

HYMN

Christ is Risen, Shout Hosanna

BENEDICTION

Like the disciples on the day of Resurrection
May we go toward the tomb, A place seemingly devoid of life.
May we find life in all its glory, And spread the news:

That life prevails

That life redeems

And that love never fails.

Go in peace, with resurrection purpose, to love God, God's children, and God's creation. Amen.

POSTLUDE

OUR WORSHIP HAS CONCLUDED. NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS.

Adam Witte, tenor – Alex Ritter, piano

Christ The Lord Is Risen Today!

Christ The Lord Is Risen Today!

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!

All creation join to say, Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!

Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!

Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!

Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!

Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!



Christ Is Risen, Shout Hosanna!

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!

Celebrate this day of days!

Christ is risen!

Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.

In the desert all surrounding, see,
a spreading tree has grown.

Healing leaves of grace abounding
bring a taste of love unknown.

Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
from the caverns of despair.

Walk with gladness in the morning.

See what love can do and dare.

Drink the wine of resurrection,
not a servant, but a friend.

Jesus is our strong companion.

Joy and peace shall never end.



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.

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

April 28 Confirmation Sunday, 10 a.m. Worship Service

April 28 Confirmation Reception

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

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



Sharing our Gifts

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