

# Countryside Community Church

## WORSHIP



NightCafe, July 25, 2024

# August 4, 2024

Order of Worship Sunday, August 4, 2024

† 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

## WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

## †GATHERING SONG

#687, v. 3 *In Christ There is no East or West*

## †CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

One: We gather in the presence of the One who breathes life into all of Creation.

**Many: We gather as God's beloved people, leaving no one outside.**

One: In Christ, there is neither insider nor outsider, invited nor shunned, accepted nor rejected.

**Many: We are a gathering of nobodies, yet Jesus claims us as somebodies who all have a place.**

One: God invites all of us to be a part of his beloved community.

**Many: In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.**

## †PASSING THE PEACE

One: The Peace of God be With You

**Many: And also with you.**

## †HYMN OF RESPONSE

*All are Welcome vs 1*

# Hearing the Word

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

(All children are invited to come forward for a special lesson at the chancel)

## FIRST LESSON: Ephesians 4:1-16

Reader: Todd Samland

I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high, he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people."

(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) He himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming; but speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

*Sanctuary*

Jason Robert Brown

## **SECOND LESSON: John 6:24-35**

So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here? Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes but for the food endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom God has sent.” So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us, then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, as it is written, ‘God gave them bread from heaven to eat.’ ” Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

## *Responding to the Word*

**MESSAGE**

*It Takes a Village*

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

## **PASTORAL PRAYER & 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.**

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

*I Am the Bread of Life*

John Michael Talbot

## A TIME FOR COMMUNITY

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

## SHARING OUR GIFTS

The Social Justice and Outreach Board has designated The Stephen Center for the August Box donations.

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

**We give you thanks and praise, O God,**

**for you have chosen the poverty of the world to make your people rich in faith.**

**Help us to put our faith into practice through the offering of our lives—giving food to the hungry, clothes to the naked, and shelter to the poor; all for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh.**

**Amen.**

## SERVICE OF 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

**As you are able, please come forward to receive the bread and cup. If you prefer to take communion in your seat, raise your hand and a server will bring the elements to you. At Countryside, we serve gluten-free bread and non-alcoholic grape juice to support a diversity of needs. Communion cups may be discarded in the basket as you leave the sanctuary.**

## COMMUNION MEDITATION

## 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 HYMN

#494 vs. 1-3 *They'll Know We Are Christians.*

## †COUNTRYSIDE BLESSING

## POSTLUDE

Tyler Gruttemeyer and Roger Waible, vocals -  
Rick Avard, piano - Alex Ritter, organ  
Carlos Figueroa, drums - Steve Gomez, bass

# Joys & 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 be included on Countryside's Prayer Chain, contact Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones at 402-391-0350, ext. 225 or [sarahrj@countrysideucc.org](mailto:sarahrj@countrysideucc.org)*

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

**Gloria Dinsdale** passed away, peacefully, on Thursday, August 1, surrounded by her loved ones. A Celebration of Life service will be held in the Countryside Sanctuary on Thursday, Aug. 15 at 11 a.m.



# Understanding Church through Artificial Intelligence (AI)

with Ray Meints

Sunday, August 11, 11:15-12:15



## Summer Film Series

### Bad Faith

A feature-length documentary that explores the dangerous rise of Christian Nationalism in the United States.

August 18, 6:30 p.m.

Marys Hall

## Register for Events at [Countrysideucc.org/register](http://Countrysideucc.org/register)



Coffee with the Pastor

Sunday, Aug. 18

Every third  
Sunday after  
the service



Your support keeps our coffee brewing! Thanks a latte from the Common Grounds Barista Bunch!



## Sharing our Gifts

Scan the QR code to visit the Countryside giving page to donate or give to the Box



[COUNTRYSIDEUCC.ORG/GIVE](http://COUNTRYSIDEUCC.ORG/GIVE)

