

# Countryside Community Church WORSHIP



**August 18, 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*

**COMMUNITY TIME (@9:55).**

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

Rebecca Morello

**†GATHERING SONG**

Hymn #284 *Gather Us In*

**†CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life."

**We are hungry for the bread of heaven.**

Jesus said, "The bread of God gives life to the world."

**We are hungry for eternal life.**

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life.

**Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,**

**and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."**

We are here to become what we already are:

**the body of Christ, food for a hungry world.**

God of forgiveness and new beginnings,

you feed our hearts with compassion,

and nourish our souls with the bread of heaven.

**Make us one with Christ. Amen.**

**†PASSING THE PEACE**

One: The Peace of God be With You

**Many: And also with you.**

**†HYMN OF RESPONSE**

*All Are Welcome vs. 2*

# Hearing the Word

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rebecca Morello

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

## FIRST LESSON: Psalm 111

Reader: Natalie Mason

Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,  
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the works of the Lord,  
studied by all who delight in them.

Full of honor and majesty is God's work,  
and God's righteousness endures forever.

God has gained renown by God's wonderful deeds;  
the Lord is gracious and merciful.

God provides food for those who fear God;  
and is ever mindful of God's covenant.

God has shown their people the power of God's works,  
in giving God the heritage of the nations.

The works of God's hands are faithful and just;  
all God's precepts are trustworthy.

They are established forever and ever,  
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

God sent redemption to God's people;  
God has commanded God's covenant forever.

Holy and awesome is God's name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;  
all those who practice it have a good understanding.

God's praise endures forever.

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

*I Thank the Lord With All My Heart*

## SECOND LESSON: Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom has built her house;  
she has hewn her seven pillars.  
She has slaughtered her animals; she has mixed her wine;  
she has also set her table.  
She has sent out her female servants; she calls  
from the highest places in the town,  
"You who are simple, turn in here!"  
To those without sense she says,  
"Come, eat of my bread  
and drink of the wine I have mixed.  
Lay aside immaturity and live,

## MESSAGE

*Wisdom's Invitation*

Rebecca Morello

*Responding to the Word*

## 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

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

## SHARING OUR GIFTS

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

The Social Justice and Outreach Board has designated The Stephen Center as the recipient of the August Box donations.

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

**Generous, merciful God, you invite us to the heavenly feast, promising to fill us with every good thing. Bless these ordinary gifts of bread and fruit of the vine, that we may be kneaded and pressed into one holy, living body, in the name of Christ, who lived and died and rose again. Amen.**

**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**

**God, we give you thanks for this meal that nourishes us, body and soul. May it sustain us as we confront evil that keeps us from living the lives you intended for us and for all your creatures and creations. Until every life can be lived abundantly, be our guide, be our hope, be our comforter. Amen.**

**†SENDING HYMN**

Hymn #288 *O God of Vision* vs. 1-3

**†BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

Adam Witte, vocals - Alex Ritter, organ

**Sunday Flowers This Week**

Flowers were given today by Kim and Ed Schwartz in celebration of their 30th wedding anniversary.

# 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)

## JOYS

***Please lift these joys with prayers of celebration and praise!***

**Christine Kasel** is celebrating new vision thanks to cataract surgery – the world is a beautiful place!

## CONCERNS

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

**Johnna Roberts** had shoulder surgery last Tuesday and is now home recovering. Please keep her in your prayers for healing.

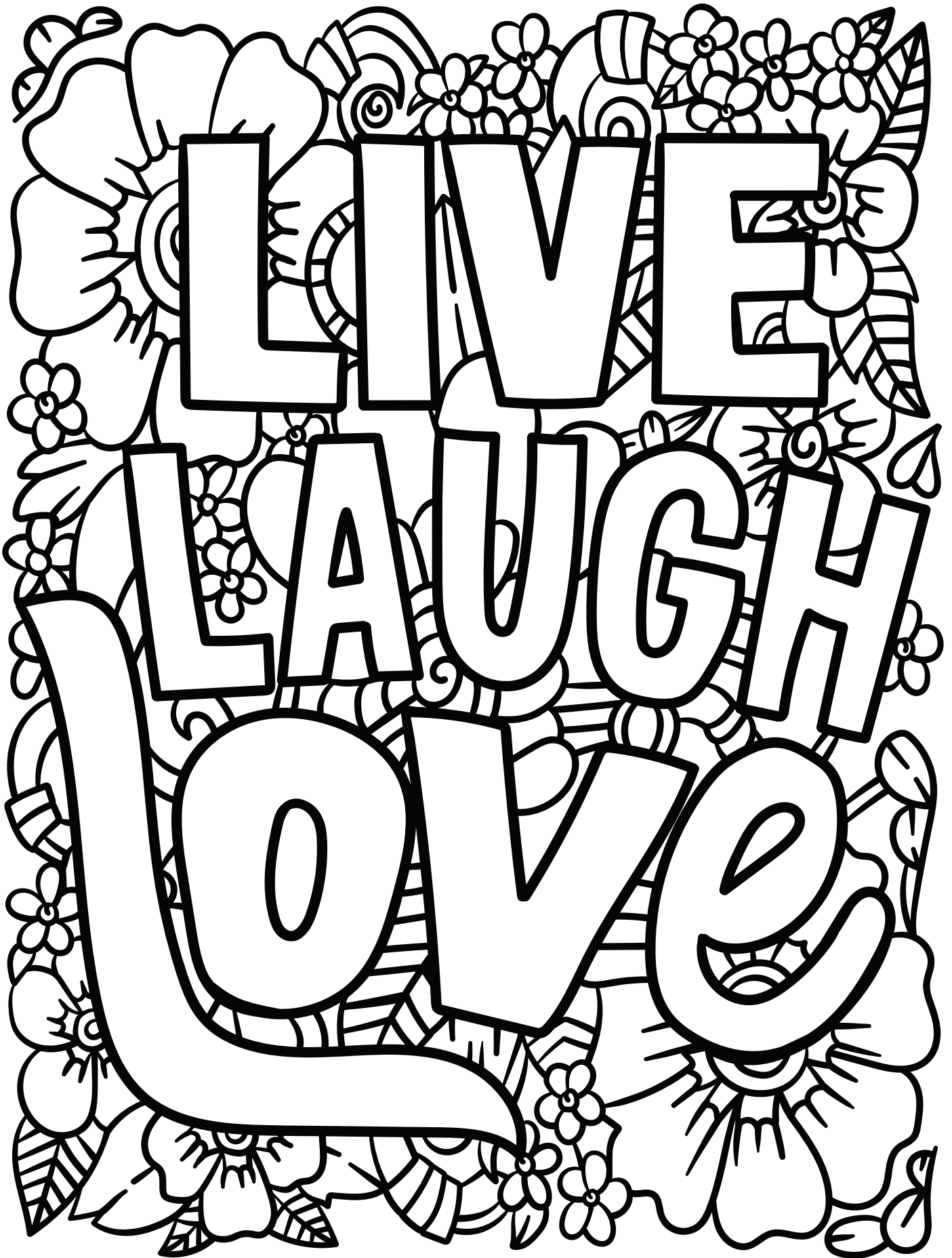
Please continue to keep **Don and Bev Sarton** in your prayers. Bev entered hospice care at home last week. Her pain is now better controlled, and she is much more comfortable. Please pray for them both during this tender time.

## All-Church Events Today

Adult Education: 11:15-12:15, Priscilla. *The Imagined 'Ten Commandments': Stranger Than We Thought*  
The recent push to require posting and teaching about the 'Ten Commandments' in public schools builds on certain American presuppositions that "ain't necessarily so" -- presuppositions held by far more than the 'Christian Right' or 'Christian Nationalists.' Have the 'Ten Commandments' EVER been what WE have assumed?

Social Justice Film Series: 6:30 p.m., Marys' Hall, *BAD FAITH*. The forces tearing apart our democracy have never been more frightening or powerful, but who is actually behind them? *BAD FAITH* exposes the Christian Nationalism movement and shines a light on its plan to upend the Constitution and impose its version of Biblical law on all Americans. There will be an informal meet & greet with author Anne Nelson, author of *The Shadow Network*, on Sunday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in Marys' Hall prior to the screening.





The Village at Countryside

JOIN A HOUSE

CO-FACILITATE A HOUSE

**STEPHEN center**  
HELP · HOPE · HEROES

**The Box - August**

Operational and Household Needs  
(NEW OR CLEAN, GENTLY USED):

- Kitchen/Bathroom/Bedroom essentials
- Home décor essentials (lamps, clocks, etc.)
- Cleaning/Laundry supplies

SCAN ME

**THE BARBER OF LITTLE ROCK**

THURSDAY 9.12.2024 AT 7 P.M.  
**TEMPLE ISRAEL**

Countryside Community Church

TEMPLE ISRAEL 150 YEARS

SPONSORED BY THE RACIAL JUSTICE WORK GROUP OF TEMPLE ISRAEL & COUNTRYSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH

A SCREENING AND DISCUSSION WITH GUEST SPEAKER **WILLIE BARNEY**

**WE ARE CALLED TO BE A MOVEMENT**

REVEREND DR. **WILLIAM J. BARBER II**

**New to Countryside?**

Stop by the Visitor Table after service to pick up your free copy of William J. Barber's *We Are Called to be a Movement!* It's our way to say we're SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!!!

**Connect with us!**

**Pew Registry**  
Check in to let us know you're here

**YouTube**  
Use YouTube's live chat feature during the service

**Instagram**  
Shout out when you're on instagram

**Facebook**  
Meet up with us on FB for devotionals, news & more!

**Register for Events at**  
**Countrysideucc.org/register**

**Countryside Community Church**

**Sharing our Gifts**

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

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