

Countryside Community Church WORSHIP



Summer blankets the way to Autumn at Countryside

September 1, 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 (9:55AM)

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

PRELUDE

St. Anne Fugue

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

†GATHERING SONG

Hymn #62 Creator God, Creating Still

†CALL TO WORSHIP (Song of Solomon 2, Psalm 45)

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

One: Look to the mountains; look to the hills!

Many: Love comes to us with joy!

One: The world is filled with beauty.

Many: Flowers appear on the earth,

birdsong brightens the day.

One: Crops yield their produce in abundance,

the air is filled with sweetness.

Many: The summer of God's love is with us.

One: Let the oil of gladness anoint your souls.

Arise and sing for joy!

Many: Amen.

†PASSING THE PEACE

One: The Peace of God be With You

Many: And also with you.

†HYMN OF RESPONSE

All are Welcome vs 1

(All children are invited to come forward for a special lesson at the chancel and then join us for Children's Church)

Hearing the Word

FIRST LESSON: Psalm 45:1-7

Reader: Joyce Davis

My heart overflows with a goodly theme;
I address my verses to the king;
my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.
You are the most handsome of men;
grace is poured upon your lips;
therefore God has blessed you forever.
Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one,
in your glory and majesty.
In your majesty ride on victoriously
for the cause of truth and to defend the right;
let your right hand teach you dread deeds.
Your arrows are sharp
in the heart of the king's enemies;
the peoples fall under you.
Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever.
Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity;
you love righteousness and hate wickedness.
Therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;

MUSICAL REFLECTION*Fairest Lord Jesus*

arr. Gill, Bannister

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders, and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash, and there are also many other traditions that they observe: the washing of cups and pots and bronze kettles and beds.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

"You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Responding to the Word

MESSAGE

Tradition vs. Intention

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 RESPONSE

Create In Me A Clean Heart

Keith Green

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

The Social Justice and Outreach Board has designated Youth Emergency Services (YES) for the September Box donations.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Holy God, we are grateful for your constant presence in our lives. We acknowledge that every perfect gift in our lives is a gift from you. We have listened to your guidance, directing us to offer you our first fruits. So, we now join in this generous act of giving. We pray that these resources may care for your children everywhere who are experiencing distress. Amen.

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

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 MUSIC

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

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

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

†COUNTRYSIDE BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Tyler Gruttemeyer, vocals - Alex Ritter, organ



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

JOYS

Please lift these joys with prayers of celebration and praise!

Earlier this week, **Renee Besancon** requested prayers for her aunts, Cynthia and Cam. Cam is on in-home hospice, and Cynthia is her primary caregiver. Cynthia had some tests on her lungs and thankfully found out that there is no cause for concern!

Steve (Dinah) Gomez extends his gratitude to **Mary Johnston** and **Mary Watke**, members of the Agape Team, for their assistance in serving the luncheon following his father's funeral last Tuesday, as well as other members who attended the service. It was truly a showing of Agape love from Countryside members.

CONCERNS

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

Nancy Deetz moved to Brookstone Rehab at the end of last week and continues to recover. Please pray for her healing.

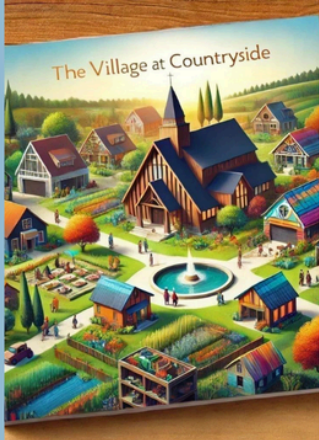
Pam Govier took her father to the hospital Thursday morning; he was in Afib and having a heart incident. He successfully made it through a procedure to place two stents and is now recovering in the ICU. Please continue to pray for his healing and recovery and for Pam.

Martha Hoig requests prayers for her good friend, Christina Schonlau, who has recently been diagnosed with cancer. Please keep Christina in your prayers.

Kris (Merv) Olberding asks for prayers for Lizzie, her son **Connor's** wife. They recently eloped in Alaska, and Lizzie has been deployed again to Ukraine where she is a journalist for the Washington Post. Please pray for Lizzie's safety and for peace for those who love her.

Please continue to keep **Don Sarton** in your prayers following **Bev's** death last week. Her memorial service was held yesterday in the Countryside sanctuary. Please continue to support Don and his family in their grief.

JOIN A HOUSE



CO-FACILITATE A HOUSE



Remembering Together:
A Service of Prayer and Healing

Sept. 8, 6:45-8 p.m.

Remembering together the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001 and the continued suffering in the Middle East we hold fast to the teachings of God, and we turn to the healing presence of God through prayer. May God's healing presence be with us as we hurt together and work to heal together in this time of continued suffering and loss.

See details in the weekly C-10

Hosted by Countryside Community Church in partnership with American Muslim Institute and Temple Israel

September Box

yes YOUTH EMERGENCY SERVICES

Youth Emergency Services (YES)

Personal care products for all skin/hair types, feminine products, fast food cards and bus passes are needed. If using the YES Wish List please look for those Outreach Center needs to honor the decision of our Countryside youth.



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

Register for Events at
Countrysideucc.org/register




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