

# Countryside Community Church WORSHIP



*Let There Be Art* | Acrylic on canvas | Lauren Wright Pittman | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)

## October 13, 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 AM)**

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

**PRELUDE**

*In a Sentimental Mood*

Duke Ellington

**WELCOME**

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

**†GATHERING SONG**

Hymn #67 (vs. 1-4) *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

**†CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

One: Come, let us gather in the presence of God, who welcomes each of us, just as we are.

**Many: We come, celebrating our diversity, knowing that every body is a reflection of God's image, and we are fearfully and wonderfully made.**

One: In this place, let us break down walls of exclusion and build a community where all are valued.

**Many: We come, ready to create space for justice, love, and radical hospitality.**

One: Come, let us worship the God who calls us to compassion, action, and limitless love.

**Many: Amen.**

**†PASSING THE PEACE**

One: The Peace of God be With You

**Many: And also with you.**

**†HYMN OF RESPONSE**

Hymn #504 (vs. 1, 3, 4) *Heal Me, Hands of Jesus*

**MISSION MOMENT**

Kyle Bachus, A2A Designation Team

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT & DISCOVERY KIDS

Children are invited to come forward to participate in the baptismal liturgy and then head to Discovery Kids classes. Nursery is available for children 0-4 years.

## CELEBRATION of BAPTISM

Juniper Quinn Reilly, daughter of Hannah and Tom Reilly

Will David Spanel, son of Chloe and Trevor Spanel

INVITATION & ADDRESS

COVENANTED PROMISES

ACT OF BAPTISM

BAPTISMAL PRAYER

HYMN

*Welcome, Child of God*

## Welcome, Child of God



Rain - drops, o - ceans, lakes, and riv - ers; wel - come, child of God.



Moth - ers, fa - thers, broth - ers, sis - ters; wel - come, child of God.



When the world feels wide a - round you, when the dark of night sur-rounds you,



we are here to tend and guide you. Wel - come, child of God.

Text copyright © 2010 Anne Ylvisaker. All rights reserved.

Illustrations copyright © 2011 Claudia McGehee. All rights reserved.

# Hearing the Word

## **FIRST LESSON: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27**

Readers: Griffin and Maddox Cohen

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect, whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

## **MUSIC REFLECTION**

*All Things Bright And Beautiful*  
C4 Choir

John Rutter

## **SECOND LESSON: Mark 2:1-5**

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door, and he was speaking the word to them. Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Child, your sins are forgiven.”

## **MESSAGE**

*Climb, Dig and Drop*



# *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.**

## **IMAGINE MORE STEWARDSHIP MOMENT**

Sharon Royers

## **PRESENTATION OF GIFTS**

Church Council

## **MUSICAL REFLECTION**

*God Bless the Child*

Billie Holiday / Arthur Herzog Jr.

## **SHARING OUR GIFTS**

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

The Social Justice and Outreach Board has designated Nebraska Miss Amazing as the recipient of the October Box donations.

## **PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)**

**Gracious and loving God, We come before You with hearts full of gratitude for Your inclusive and impartial love—a love that knows no boundaries, no limits, no divisions. You are the God of justice, who calls us to walk humbly, seek mercy, and embrace all people as Your beloved children. Today, we dedicate our lives, our gifts, and our community to the work of Your kingdom, where justice flows like a river and love reigns supreme. 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**

*Please prepare to partake of the Eucharist in your seats. The communion kits include whole wheat bread and non-alcoholic grape juice. (Gluten-free is available.) Raise your hand if you need assistance with your communion elements and an usher will assist you. Communion cups may be discarded in the baskets as you leave the sanctuary.*

**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 #622, *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

**†BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

**POSTLUDE**

*Mo' Better Blues*

Branford Marsalis

C4 Choir: Adam Witte, director - Doyle Tipler, trumpet  
Alex Ritter, organ and piano - 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 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:**

**Christine Kasel**, our Director of Communications, asks for prayers for her family. Her brother-in-law, Jake Jacobs, was recently in a severe motorcycle accident and passed from his injuries on Thursday, October 10. Please pray for peace and comfort.

**Todd (Kathleen) Samland** had knee surgery this past Monday. So far, all is going well with his recovery. Please pray that he continues to heal well.



The Stewardship Committee is thrilled to invite you to join them in Countryside's *Imagine More* stewardship campaign for the upcoming year. Last week we heard from Tim Kerrigan. Over the next four weeks, we will hear from fellow church members about why they give and what Countryside means to them. A stewardship mailing with a letter from Pastor Jenny and a pledge card will arrive at all Countryside members homes this coming week. You are also invited to attend an *Imagine More* presentation with Pastor Jenny next Sunday, October 20, immediately after worship. For more information, visit [countrysideucc.org/ImagineMore](http://countrysideucc.org/ImagineMore).

# Countryside's A2A Designation Team

## Working Towards Full Accessibility and Inclusion

At Countryside, we believe that accessibility and inclusion are key aspects of creating a welcoming and supportive environment for all. That's why we've formed the A2A (Accessible to All) Team, dedicated to increasing awareness and ensuring dignity for people of all abilities. October and November are the months of Countryside's focus on Disability Awareness. We invite you to celebrate **UCC All Access Sunday on Oct. 13, 2024**. The worship service will focus on the Christ-based teachings of inclusivity, learning of ability needs and accomplishments.

### Who Are We?

The A2A Team is committed to making Countryside a place where everyone, regardless of ability, can fully participate in the life of the church. Our mission is to identify and address barriers that prevent full accessibility, and to implement solutions that create an inclusive community for all.

### What Have We Accomplished?

We've taken important first steps toward creating an environment that aligns with the varied needs of our congregants and visitors. Some of our tangible accomplishments include the creation of an Accessibility Center in the Narthex, the installation of handicap-accessible restroom doors, vision enhancements, and safety features around our campus. However, we recognize that more significant projects, such as large-scale enhancements and remodeling, are still ahead.

### How Does This Affect Me?

When we consider the needs of those with mobility, vision, hearing and neurological challenges, we realize that nearly all of us are directly or indirectly affected, whether through our own experiences, our loved ones, or as caregivers. By creating a more accessible church, we make room for everyone to be fully part of our community.

### How Can I Help?

We invite you to join us on this journey! Consider joining the A2A Team to get involved in learning, serving and supporting the ongoing work of accessibility. Above all, we ask that you continue to embody the patient, welcoming culture that Countryside is known for.

### All Church Read: *My Body Is Not a Prayer Request* by Amy Kenny

As part of our dedication to disability justice, we are launching an All Church Read of *My Body Is Not a Prayer Request: Disability Justice in the Church* by Amy Kenny. This insightful and challenging book encourages churches to foster more inclusive and accessible communities for people of all abilities.

- Join us for an Adult Education Session on Sunday, Oct. 27, from 11:15-12:15, following the morning service.
- Dive deeper into the study by attending the Wednesday evening Book Study, from October 30 to November 20.
- Village Houses and other small groups are encouraged to participate in the All Church Read within their groups.

Books will be available for purchase at the A2A Table in the Narthex on All Access Sunday, Oct. 13, thanks to The Bookworm bookstore. You can also purchase it on Amazon. For more information, email Janelle Baber at [jbaber@cox.net](mailto:jbaber@cox.net) or text her at 402-669-4667.