

Countryside Community Church WORSHIP



In the Beginning, Jan Richardson

November 24, 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

Thanksgiving Theme

Vince Guaraldi

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

†GATHERING SONG

Hymn #718 (vs. 1) *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

†PASSING THE PEACE

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

One: The Peace of God be With You

Many: And also with you.

†RESPONSE IN MUSIC

All Are Welcome vs. 1

CHILDREN'S MOMENT & DISCOVERY KIDS

Children are invited to come forward for a lesson at the chancel, and then head to Discovery Kids classes. Nursery is available for children 0-4 years.

FIRST LESSON: Psalm 132:8-12

Reader: Nancy Cohen

Rise up, O Lord, and go to your resting place, you and the ark of your might.

Let your priests be clothed with righteousness, and let your faithful shout for joy.

For your servant David's sake do not turn away the face of your anointed one.

The Lord swore to David a sure oath from which he will not turn back:

"One of the sons of your body I will set on your throne.

If your sons keep my covenant and my decrees that I shall teach them,

their sons also, forevermore, shall sit on your throne."

MUSICAL REFLECTION

SECOND LESSON: John 18:33-38a

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

MESSAGE

Christ, *the King?*

Responding to the Word

PRAYER FOR OUR WORLD: May Your Kin-Dom Come (slides)

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

The Social Justice and Outreach Board has designated Omaha ForUs: Trans Stitchin' as the recipient of the November Box donations.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Linda Lovgren

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Holy One, who is both the giver and the gift, we return now to you what little we have to offer. Receive with joy, the gifts of our hands and our hearts, and return to us in full the gifts of your grace and peace. Multiply our faith, and double our faithfulness as we turn to a world in need of your fierce love and abundant hope. Amen.

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Now Thank We All Our God

arr. Mark Hayes

C4 Choir

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 #718 (vs. 2-3), *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

†BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

Sigfried Karg-Elert

C4 Choir: Adam Witte, director - Matt Wallace, sax - Rick Avard, piano
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

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

Nancy Deetz has returned to Symphony Pointe following her time in Bergan Mercy after a heart attack. She continues to recover; please keep her in prayer for healing.

Please continue to keep **Mark & Roxanne Draper** in your prayers as Roxanne recovers from knee surgery and Mark recovers from a complete shoulder replacement.

Chloe (Trevor) Spanel requests prayers for her grandpa, Kent Johnson, who was in a car accident last Monday. He is 95 years old and was taken to the ICU at Bergan Mercy with rib and back injuries, but he remains in good spirits. Please pray for his recovery.

How does a weary



Advent Worship at Countryside

Join us this Advent at Countryside as we journey through ***How Does a Weary World Rejoice?***
Discover hope and joy as we await the light of Christmas together!

Sunday, Dec. 1, 10am

We Acknowledge our Weariness.

Luke 1:1-23. Music: *Bring Us Hope*, C4
Choir

Sunday, Dec. 8, 10am

We Find Joy in Connection.

Luke 1:24-45. Music: *Creation Will Be At
Peace*, C4 Choir

Sunday, Dec. 8, 7pm

Lessons & Carols

C4 Choir sings Advent & Christmas music.
The service features Scripture, prose and
poetry evoking the imagery & emotion of
the season.

Sunday, Dec. 15, 10am

We Allow Ourselves to be Amazed.

Luke 1:57-66. Music: *How Great Our Joy*,
C4 Choir

Thursday, Dec. 19, 7pm

Longest Night Service

Featuring special music by vocalists Emily
Wadhams and Shannon Shultz-Thomas.

Sunday, Dec. 22, 10am

We Sing Stories of Hope.

Luke 1:46-55. Music: *Of The Father's
Love Begotten*, C4 & Handbell Choir

world rejoice?



All-Church Events

Celebrate the season with Countryside's All-Church Advent events! Join the festive Jazz Coffeehouse, help us deck the halls at the Hanging of the Greens, and enjoy the stirring sounds of the Christmas Organ Extravaganza!

Sunday, Nov. 24, 11:15am

Hanging of the Greens

A joyful tradition at Countryside! Help decorate the Church for Advent & Christmas; Soup Contest & Tasting.

Sunday, Dec. 15, 7pm

Christmas Pipe Organ Extravaganza

The joyful sounds of the season played expertly by Countryside's Organist-in-Resident, Alex Ritter!

Saturday, Dec. 7, 7pm

Jazz Coffeehouse

A perennial favorite featuring the Countryside Jazz Band!

Christmas Eve Services

Experience the wonder of Christmas Eve at Countryside! Families are invited to a joyful family-oriented service at 5, followed by a candlelight service featuring the C4 Choir. Join us to celebrate the light and hope of Christmas!

Tuesday, Dec. 24, 5pm

Children & Families Service

Children's Choir. The service features the Christmas Story, with Carols and Costumes.

Tuesday, Dec. 24, 7pm

Candlelight Service

Music: *O Holy Night*, C4 Choir.



imagine more

And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. – 2 Corinthians 9:8

The Stewardship Committee is thrilled to invite you to join them in Countryside's *Imagine More* stewardship campaign for the upcoming year. To listen to Countrysiders speak about why they give and what Countryside means to them, visit countrysideucc.org/ImagineMore.



imaginemore

Turning Dreams Into Reality

Submitting your pledge card is an act of faith and commitment, transforming our collective dreams into concrete plans. If you haven't yet turned in your pledge card, please consider doing so. Let's build a future where generosity leads the way, and where the vision we hold becomes the reality we live.

HOW TO PLEDGE

Fill out a a pledge card

- Paper pledge cards can be found in the pews, at the Stewardship table in the Foyer or downloading a copy at countrysideucc.org/ImagineMore
- An online pledge card form can be found by using the QR code to the right or visiting countrysideucc.org/ImagineMore



online pledge

Return the pledge card to the church office or drop in the offering baskets

CONSIDER ONLINE REOCCURRING GIVING

Setup online giving

- complete the backside of the paper pledge card
- visit Countryside's giving portal by using the QR code to the right or visiting countrysideucc.org/ImagineMore



giving portal