

Countryside Community Church WORSHIP



I Will Be Made Whole, Jan Richardson

February 16, 2025

† 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)

Dan Loven-Crum

PRELUDE

Come Sunday

Duke Ellington

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

†GATHERING SONG

Hymn #464 *God of Grace and God of Glory* (vs. 1-4)

†CALL TO WORSHIP (*Based on Psalm 1*)

Adam Witte

One: Happy are those who follow the ways of the Lord.

Many: God's ways are just and merciful.

One: Those who follow God's ways are continually nourished in faith.
In all that they do, they prosper.

Many: Come, let us open our hearts to God's compassionate love.

Let us celebrate God's mercy and justice. 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)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT & DISCOVERY KIDS

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

Hearing the Word

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Reader: Kris Hess

Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

They shall be like a shrub in the desert
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.

They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—
who can understand it?

Let the Lord test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Blest Are They
C4 Choir

David Haas

He came down with them and stood on a level place with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases, and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And everyone in the crowd was trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

“Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

“Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

“But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

“Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

MESSAGE

Blessings and woes: A gospel of liberating love, and *leveling* truth.

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

Improvisation

SHARING OUR GIFTS

The Social Justice and Outreach Board has designated Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition (NUIHC) for the February Box donations.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Loving God, we offer these gifts as a reflection of your abundant love and our commitment to be vessels of your peace and justice in the world. Bless them to further your work of transformation and grace in our community and beyond. 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 SONG

Hymn #393 *One Bread, One Body*

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

Hymn #464 *God of Grace and God of Glory* (vs. 5)

†BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

POSTLUDE

Mercy, Mercy, Mercy

Josef Zawinul

C4 Choir - Adam Witte, director

Matt Wallace, saxophone - 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 be included 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:

The winter weather kept us apart this week, but we invite you to take a moment to hold our **Countryside community** in your thoughts and prayers. Whether for those facing challenges or celebrating joys, may we continue to lift one another up in love and care. If you have a specific request to share, please reach out—we are always here for one another. Stay safe and warm!