

Countryside Community Church WORSHIP



Lazarus Blessing © Jan Richardson, janrichardsonimages.com

September 28, 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

†WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

One: Come, beloved community, the gates are open.

Many: We come to see Lazarus not as a burden, but as our brother.

One: Come, for God's table is set with enough for all.

Many: We come to live not by riches, but by the economy of kinship and love.

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The Peace of God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

Peace I leave with you:
my peace I give you. I do not
give to you as the world gives.
Do not let your hearts be
troubled and do not be afraid.
John 14:27

†HYMN OF RESPONSE

Hymn #668 *For the Healing of the Nations*

CHILDREN'S TIME

Heather Moran

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.

SUNG RESPONSE

Go Now in Peace X 2

Go now in peace, go now in peace,
may the love of God surround you
everywhere, everywhere
you may go.

Hearing the Word

FIRST LESSON: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Reader: Mark Ware

Woe to those who are at ease in Zion
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria,
the notables of the first of the nations,
to whom the house of Israel resorts!
Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory
and lounge on their couches
and eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the stall,
who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp
and like David improvise on instruments of music,
who drink wine from bowls
and anoint themselves with the finest oils
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Servant Song

arr. Tom Fettke

SECOND LESSON: Luke 16:19-31

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' "

Responding to the Word

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.

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Hymn #655 Community of Christ (vs. 1-2)

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Dan Loven-Crum

The Social Justice and Outreach Board has designated Project Everlast for the September Box donations. This organization is committed to supporting young adults without family support, helping them transition to adulthood.

Fingerprints will collect over the counter medicines: pain relievers, cold and flu remedies, cough syrup, allergy medicine, antacids, and children's fever reducers in September.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

**Generous God,
you call us to live not by the economy of riches,
but by the economy of relationship.
Take these gifts, and take our lives,
that Lazarus may no longer wait at the gate,
but join us at the table where your love is shared.
In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Sending

†SENDING HYMN

Hymn #655 Community of Christ (vs. 3-4)

†BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

POSTLUDE

Sunday Flowers This Week

Flowers were given today by Sherryl L. Lilley
in memory of family members.

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 am 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 the church office at 402.391.0350 or email office@countrysideucc.org.

Prayers of Gratitude for the following Joys:

We give thanks for all the groups that use our building. We're grateful for the Omaha Japanese School and Heartland Karate who pass along their knowledge to a new generation. It's a joy to share our space with others in the community (Kiwanis, PFLAG, Destiny Cafe, River City Mixed Chorus, Nebraska Festival Singers, Resonance Chorus, Association of Burkinabe in Nebraska, African Immigrant Family Services (AIFS) and House of Bah) so that they can continue to reach out and provide their knowledge with others.

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

Laurie Sample who is back home at Remington Heights. She continues to experience ongoing health concerns.

Marcia Blum asks for prayers for Marcy Patton who had a horseback riding accident on September 5. She has had two major surgeries and is recuperating at Madonna Rehabilitation.

Carol McCann who was recently hospitalized at Lakeside Hospital.



PLEASE JOIN US!

SUNDAY, OCT. 12

FOLLOWING SERVICE

Stewardship Committee

All-Church Gratitude Lunch

Scan the QR code to register!



Countryside
Community Church