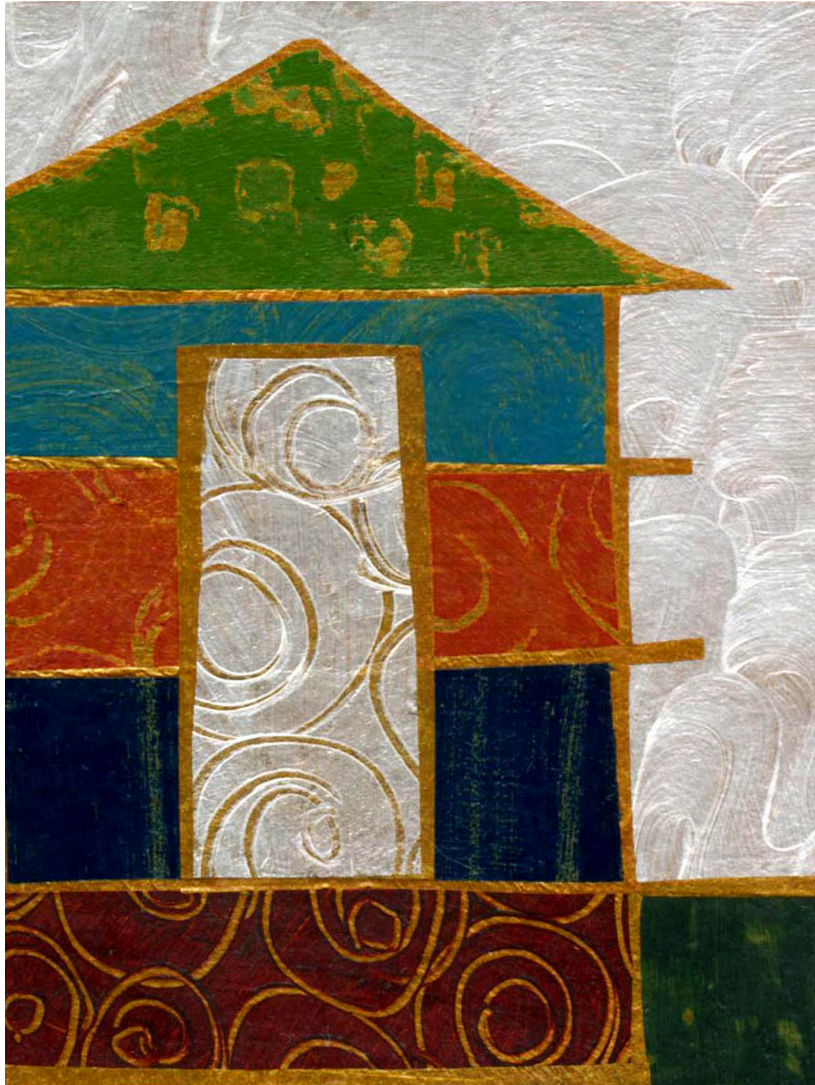


# Countryside Community Church WORSHIP



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## November 2, 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)**

Countryside Youth

**PRELUDE**

*My Little Suede Shoes*

Charlie Parker

**†WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

One: Come, seekers and skeptics, dreamers and doers.

**Many: God meets us right where we are—curious, tired, hopeful.**

One: Here, we are seen for who we are and who we can be.

**Many: Let us worship the One who changes everything.**

**†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

**†GATHERING HYMN**

*All Are Welcome (vs. 1)*

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

Heather Moran

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

*Let Everything That Has Breath*  
Countryside Children's Choir

**SUNG RESPONSE**

*Go Now in Peace*

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

Reader: Becky Knightly

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.  
Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.  
While I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long;  
for day and night your hand was heavy upon me, my strength dried up as by the heat of summer.  
Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not hide my iniquity;  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.  
Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you in a time of distress;  
the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.  
You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

*Bless This House*  
Countryside Choir

Helen Taylor / May Brahe

## SECOND LESSON: Luke 19:1-10

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

## MESSAGE

*Climbing Higher: Who Do We Choose to Be?*

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

# 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.**

## SHARING OUR GIFTS

The Social Justice and Outreach Board has designated Collective Hope (AKA:Grief's Journey, Healing Embrace and Ted E. Hollow). Find the QR codes on the spotlight table for more information.

In November, Fingerprints is continuing to collect canned goods like tuna, chicken, soup and vegetables to help stock the cupboards of families in need.

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

**God of grace, we offer these gifts as signs of our gratitude. Use them—and use us—to bring healing, justice, and joy. Make our lives living islands of hope in a weary world.**

## ALL SAINTS REMEMBRANCE

As we come together at the table of grace, we are reminded of all who have gone before us and all who will come after. We are bound by God's care, in the breaking of bread, in the sharing of stories, in the grief and celebrations life affords. And so today as we observe All Saints in the life of our community I invite you to pray with me as we remember our beloved friends and family who have died in the past year. I will speak the names aloud and ring a bell as a reminder of our sacred connection to those in this life and the next. (Read names)

Mary Ann Jernstrom

Dr. Hal Lankford

Bob Lovgren

Jean Spires

Joan Barnett

Jennifer Pansing

Carolyn Meissner

Dick Galusha

Jim Dalen

Bob Vacha

Bill O'Dell

Margret Riley

Lillian Chapman

Don Giger

## **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.*

## **Healing Prayer**

Anyone is welcome to join Rev. Dr. Norman Pavey in the prayer corner in the rear of the sanctuary. You are invited to share a prayer request for yourself or others, and receive a prayer of blessing or anointing with oil as a reminder that God's presence is with you.

## **Communion Meditation**

*Look To The Sky*

Antônio Carlos Jobim

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**We give thanks, gracious God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us your presence. 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*

## **†SENDING HYMN**

Hymn #637 *For All the Saints* (vs. 1-3)

## **†COUNTRYSIDE BLESSING**

Becky Knightly

## **POSTLUDE**

*Mercy, Mercy, Mercy*

Josef Zawinul

Countryside Children's Choir - Shannon Shultz-Thomas, director  
Countryside Choir - Adam Witte, director - Alex Ritter, organ and piano  
Steve Gomez, bass - Doyle Tipler, trumpet - Carlos Figueroa, drums

### **Sunday Flowers This Week**

Flowers were given today by France and Bruce Blanchard  
in honor of Benjamin Lucas's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday  
and in memory of Gilbert Blanchard, father and Becky Houck, sister.

## *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](mailto:office@countrysideucc.org).*

### ***Prayers of Gratitude for the following Joys:***

*As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, we give thanks not just for the big moments, but in the ordinary ones, too. We give thanks for the food we eat and for the air we breathe, and the quiet moments of joy that make up our days.*

*We are grateful for those in our church who make prayer shawls to give to both members and nonmembers in need of comfort, support and encouragement in difficult times.*

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

**Carol McCann**, who continues in rehab.

**Marcy Patton**, who is recovering and receiving home care, physical therapy and occupational therapy as she recovers from two surgeries following a riding accident. She will remain homebound for another week or so and then will start outpatient PT and OT.

**Molly Anderson** asks for continued prayers for her sister Kate, who is recovering from surgery after another fall. She will remain at the care center for another two to three weeks.

Prayers for the family of **Lillian Chapman** who passed away on October 24. Her memorial service was held here at Countryside on October 29.

**Deb Hickman** asks for prayers for her friends of 38 years, Claudia and Steve Swee. Steve was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and two weeks later suffered a debilitation stroke. He is now in Palliative Care at Newport House.

**Chris Gilmore** asks for prayers for the family of her sister, **Mary Ann Olson**, who passed away after a long illness with dementia. Mary Ann was a former member of Countryside before moving to Colorado. She will be laid to rest in Omaha.

**Margie and Glenn Phillips** ask for prayers for their 8-year-old granddaughter, Divina, who has neurofibromatosis. She has a benign plexiform neurofibroma tumor on her neck that is affecting her scoliosis and putting pressure on her spine and nerves.

**Christine Kasel** asks for prayers for the family of her dear friend, Jan Ginavan, who passed away Friday, Oct. 24 after a long brave fight with pancreatic cancer.

**Diane Scott** asks for prayers for **Holly Kelley** following the death of her sister.

Prayers for the family of **Don Giger (wife Louise)** who passed away on October 27 in Palm Desert, California. He was a long-time member of Countryside and sang in the choir.

Prayers for **Pam Govier** who had outpatient surgery October 30.

Prayers for healing, strength and peace for **Linda and Todd Hall**. They were in a car accident at the beginning of October. Linda is recovering from severe whiplash and is currently in therapy, while Todd is caring for her and supporting her through her healing.

**Ryan Rippentrop** asks for prayers for his 14-year-old daughter, Sadie, who is undergoing a cardiac workup. Her heart races for no apparent reason. Sadie lives in Iowa with her mother.

Prayers for **Jan Brown** as she prepares for her second knee surgery on November 3, and for **Mike** as he resumes his role as her caretaker.

# For Those Who Walked With Us

For those  
who walked with us,  
this is a prayer.

For those  
who have gone ahead,  
this is a blessing.

For those  
who touched and tended us,  
who lingered with us  
while they lived,  
this is a thanksgiving.

For those  
who journey still with us  
in the shadows of awareness,  
in the crevices of memory,  
in the landscape of our dreams,  
this is a benediction.

*For Those Who Walked Among Us, a  
blessing by Jan Richardson*



*A Gathering of Spirits* © Jan Richardson, [janrichardsonimages.com](http://janrichardsonimages.com)

