

Countryside Community Church WORSHIP



The Snail, cut-out, Henri Matisse, 1953

October 12, 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

Bell Peal on OLD 100TH
Countryside Handbell Choir

arr. Linda Lamb

†WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

MISSION MOMENT A2A

A2A Covenant (see *bulletin*)

Rev. Rich Mannel

†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

All Are Welcome (vs. 2)

CHILDREN'S TIME

Ryan Hunter

Children are invited to join us 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: Psalm 111

Reader: Connie Johnk

Praise God!

I will give thanks to the Holy One with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the works of our Everlasting God,
studied by all who delight in them.

**Full of honor and majesty are God's works,
and God's righteousness endures forever.**

**God has gained renown by wonderful deeds;
the Gracious One is merciful and kind.**

God provides food for those who revere God;
God is ever mindful of the covenant.

God has shown the people the power of God's works,
in giving them the heritage of the nations.

**The works of God's hands are faithful and just;
all God's precepts are trustworthy.**

**They are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

God sent redemption to the people;
the Sovereign One has commanded the covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is God's name.

**Reverence for the Holy One is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.**

God's praise endures forever.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Do Not Pass Me By
Countryside Choir

Fanny Crosby arr. Reginal Wright

SECOND LESSON: Luke 17:11-19

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten men with a skin disease approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus's feet and thanked him. *(continued on the next page)*

And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? So where are the other nine? Did none of them return to give glory to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

MESSAGE

Not Just Healed, But Whole

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

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.

SHARING OUR GIFTS

The Social Justice and Outreach Board has designated Asha House for the October Box donations. It is designed for parents and caregivers to have a safe, comfortable, and loving environment for those under their care.

Fingerprints in October is collecting canned goods like tuna, chicken, soup and vegetables to help stock the cupboards of families in need.

Stewardship Moment

Kelsey Arends, Jan Benitez and David Day

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Loving God, you see our wounds—some visible, many hidden. You meet us in our need for healing and call us into a deeper life of wholeness. As we bring our gifts, we give thanks for your love that makes us whole. Use what we offer to remove barriers, welcome the outcast, and share your healing and hope with all. For Jesus doesn't just heal, he makes us whole—not only the body, but the soul. Amen.

Sending

†SENDING HYMN

Hymn #609 Take My Life, and Let It Be (vs. 4-6)

†BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

POSTLUDE

Autumn Leaves

Joseph Kosma / Johnny Mercer

Countryside Handbell Choir and Countryside Choir - Adam Witte, director - Diane Hill, organ and piano
Matt Wallace, saxophone - Salvador Becerra, piano - Carlos Figueroa, drums - Steve Gomez, bass

Sunday Flowers This Week

Flowers were given today by Sherryl L. Lilley.

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 the laughter of children that rings out in our building as the new school year starts.

Gracious and generous God we give thanks for all those in our midst as we prayerfully consider our financial support for the ministry of this congregation.

The Fong family offers heartfelt thanks for the food, care, and love shared during our time of deep sorrow after Frank's passing. Your kindness has sustained us, and we are deeply grateful.

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

Laurie Sample, who continues to struggle with health concerns.

Carol McCann, who is receiving rehab at Brookstone on 144th and Center.

Mary 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 the next 5-7 weeks.

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 three weeks.

Pat Smith, whose primary caregiver is out of town.

Countryside Community Church

Accessible to All Covenant

Countryside Community Church affirms its mission to welcome all to God's Table of Love and Acceptance by ensuring that individuals with disabilities—both visible and invisible—and their families are recognized as treasured members of our congregation. We are committed to honoring their dignity, celebrating their talents, and ensuring their full inclusion in all aspects of church life. Grounded in the example of Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, we collectively and individually pledge to advance accessibility and inclusivity throughout all areas of our ministry including the use of education, the continual assessment and improvement of our facilities, and the provision of accessibility tools.

We ACKNOWLEDGE:

- The necessity for ongoing education concerning the needs of individuals with disabilities and their caregivers, as well as the importance of compassionate and informed interactions.
- The importance of actively identifying and eliminating barriers that prevent full participation in the life of the church.
- Acknowledge that traditional design standards often presume able-bodiedness (ableism). We commit to shifting toward inclusive design principles that serve people of all abilities. This approach benefits the entire community and affirms that accessibility is not a burden but a fundamental aspect of hospitality and justice.
- That accessibility and inclusion require continuous, mutual learning and collaboration within our community.
- That the scope of this mission is expansive, encompassing a wide range of challenges across all ages, including but not limited to learning differences, physical injuries, chronic illness, PTSD, sensory sensitivities, trauma, and impairments in vision and hearing. These challenges impact not only individuals but also their families and caregivers.

Countryside Community Church

Accessible to All Covenant

We Commit to the following ACTIONS:

- Education: We will educate our congregation on how to engage respectfully and effectively with individuals with disabilities and their families, placing value on listening to their perspectives and honoring their lived experiences.
- Awareness: We will work to shift the perspective of our congregation regarding ableism—both systemic and individual—by fostering awareness of barriers and encouraging thoughtful adaptations across all areas of congregational life.
- Facility Accessibility: We will regularly assess our buildings and grounds to ensure that every space is physically accessible to all individuals.
- Assistive Tools: We will provide and maintain appropriate tools and technologies to support individuals with visual and auditory needs, fostering a welcoming and inclusive worship environment.
- Leadership and Worship Inclusion: We will actively seek to include individuals with disabilities in all aspects of worship, ministry, and leadership.
- Design Consultation: We will provide input and advocacy during large-scale design or renovation projects to ensure accessibility is prioritized from the outset.
- Legislative Awareness: We will monitor and engage with municipal, state, and federal legislation as it pertains to the rights and needs of people with disabilities, advocating where necessary to uphold justice and equity.

Through these commitments, Countryside Community Church pledges to cultivate a culture where all individuals are seen, heard, and celebrated as essential parts of the Body of Christ.



On the Cover

Henri Matisse: Innovation and Resilience Through Cut-Outs

Henri Matisse (1869–1954) was a leading figure of modern art and one of the most influential painters of the 20th century. Best known for his use of vibrant color, expressive brushwork, and bold compositions, Matisse helped pioneer the Fauvist movement, creating works that emphasized emotional impact over realistic representation. Throughout his early and mid-career, he produced iconic paintings, prints, and designs that celebrated the human figure, still life, and landscapes, earning worldwide acclaim for his innovative approach to color and form.

Henri Matisse's late career is a testament to creativity triumphing over limitation. By the 1940s and 50s, Matisse faced serious health issues that left him largely confined to a wheelchair. Traditional painting became increasingly difficult, but rather than slowing his work, he invented a new method: the cut-out.

Using large sheets of painted paper, Matisse would cut shapes and arrange them into compositions full of energy, color, and abstraction. Iconic works from this period include *The Snail*, 1953 (the cover art for today's bulletin); *Memory of Oceania*, 1953; *Icarus*, 1947; and *The Parakeet and the Mermaid*, 1952. These works reveal Matisse's inventive approach, his mastery of form, and his playful imagination, even under physical constraint.

Matisse's cut-outs offer vivid examples of resilience and artistic innovation. They remind us that creativity is not confined by the body; it is driven by vision and imagination. For educators, congregations, and art lovers, Matisse's late works are both inspiring and accessible, demonstrating that even in adversity, the spirit of creation can flourish.

