

Countryside Community Church WORSHIP



Celebration, Aisha Wint

February 1, 2026

† 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)

Adam Witte

PRELUDE

Strasbourg St. Denis

Roy Hargrove

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather because God shows up in real places, among real people.

Many: We come as we are, trusting that God is near.

One: When truth enters the room, what harms cannot stay hidden.

Many: We worship the God whose presence brings healing and freedom.

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 #5 (vs. 1-3) *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

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 birth-pre-k.

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: Deuteronomy 18:15–20

Reader: Jody Sanders

“The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God or see this great fire anymore, lest I die.’ Then the Lord replied to me, ‘They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.’

MUSICAL REFLECTION

The Gift to Sing
Countryside Choir

Marques L. A. Garrett

SECOND LESSON: Mark 1:21–28

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be quiet and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

MESSAGE

Presence with Power

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

Responding to the Word

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Mother and 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

Adam Witte

Please find the QR code on the back of your bulletin or at the Spotlight table in the narthex for more information about how to support our community partners this month through The Box and Fingerprints and also to contribute to Countryside's annual mission spending plan (budget). Countryside is 100% dependent on member giving to support the mission and ministries of our church. We are grateful for all the ways you give to sustain our vibrant and welcoming community!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Holy God, you meet us in real places and real lives.

Receive these gifts as signs of our presence and our trust.

Use what we offer to bring healing where there is harm,

hope where fear has taken root,

and freedom where life has been constrained. Amen.

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

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

Blue In Green

Miles Davis

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 #475 *The Church of Christ in Every Age* (vs. 1-3, 5)

†COUNTRYSIDE BLESSING

Jody Sanders

POSTLUDE

Caravan

Duke Ellington

Countryside Choir - Adam Witte, director - Matt Wallace, sax
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 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:

Winter is a lesson about the fine art of loss and growth. Its lesson is clear; There is only one way out of struggle and that is by going into its darkness, waiting for the light, and being open to new growth.

-Joan Chittister

Terri Guillemets comments that *February is the border between winter and spring.*

February represents purification and cleansing, stemming from the Roman festival Februa, but has evolved to symbolize love and romance (Valentine's Day), and various awareness causes (Black History Month, LGBTQIA+ History Month), while also marking the end of winter with traditions like Groundhog Day and early signs of spring in agriculture.

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

Tim Ekberg and Margaret Hayford, prayers of thanksgiving for successful surgeries. They're now on the mend and doing well.

Kris and Merv Olberding request prayers for their son Connor and his wife Lizzie and all the people of Ukraine. The Ukraine's energy grid was hit by bombs, and they've been without heat, water and electricity.

Prayers for **Derek (Sarah) Miller**. Derek was recently diagnosed with testicular cancer and is currently undergoing tests. He is moving forward with a chemo treatment plan.

Rita Otis is requesting prayers and loving thoughts as she navigates a breast cancer diagnosis. She is currently participating in a 6-month drug trial with periodic evaluations to assess the effectiveness. She's tolerating the treatment well.

Prayers for **Reva Karstens** who had sinus surgery on January 23. The surgery went well.



So many members of our congregation have shared their time, gifts, and hearts in the life of the church throughout 2025. Join us at the Annual Meeting to hear how that faithful work has shaped and strengthened the mission of Countryside Community Church. What have the lay leaders on Church Council, our five boards, and three committees been focused on this year? Together, we'll celebrate what this community has accomplished—and how we *Imagined More* in 2025.

Join us for a soup lunch featuring award-winning soups, rolls and dessert immediately after the 10 am service, from 11:15 am to 11:45 am, before the Annual Meeting at noon. Don't miss this time of fellowship and great food! Scan the QR codes to register or access the Annual Report and nominations! countrysideucc.org/annualmeeting



Annual Meeting
Resources

Countryside Giving

Give a little, help a lot! Scan the QR code to support Countryside's mission. Your generosity keeps our community warm, welcoming and full of life!

