

# Countryside Community Church **WORSHIP**



*Title of art: Anniversary, Aisha Wint*

## February 8, 2026

Countryside Community Church  
13130 Faith Plaza | Omaha, NE 68144 | 402-391-0350  
[countrysideucc.org](http://countrysideucc.org)

† 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

*How Firm A Foundation*  
Countryside Handbell Choir

arr. Sandra Eithun

### †WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

One: Come as you are – tired, hopeful, or somewhere in between.

**Many: We gather because none of us is meant to do life alone.**

One: Here, love shows up in ordinary ways and ordinary people.

**Many: Let us worship the God who meets us right here.**

### †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. 1-2)

### 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

Reader: Nancy Cohen

## FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 40:21–31

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,

and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers,

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain

and spreads them like a tent to live in,

who brings princes to naught

and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,

scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,

when he blows upon them, and they wither,

and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom, then, will you compare me,

or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes on high and see:

Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,

calling them all by name;

because he is great in strength,

mighty in power,

not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob,

and assert, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the Lord,

and my right is disregarded by my God”?

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,

the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;

his understanding is unsearchable.

He gives power to the faint

and strengthens the powerless.

Even youths will faint and be weary,

and the young will fall exhausted,

but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;

they shall mount up with wings like eagles;  
they shall run and not be weary;  
they shall walk and not faint.

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

*Deep Peace*  
Countryside Choir

arr. Victor C. Johnson

## SECOND LESSON: Mark 1:29–39

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed by demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons, and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also, for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout all Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

## MESSAGE

*Love Shows Up*

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)

God, you show up in ordinary acts of care.

Take these gifts and turn them into meals, mercy, and hope.

Use us, and what we offer, to steady our neighbors.

May love move through this church and into the world. Amen.

## Sending

### †SENDING HYMN

Hymn #461 *Lord, Whose Love In Humble Service*

### †BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

### POSTLUDE

*Jig Fugue*

Dietrich Buxtehude

Countryside Handbell Choir and Countryside Choir - Adam Witte, director  
Diane Hill, organ and piano

### Sunday Flowers This Week

Flowers were given today by Mary Meints.

*In Gratitude to the Congregation Lay Leaders & staff for you support to me as moderator.*

## 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:

Looking forward to spring brings anticipation of warmer weather, longer daylight hours, and vibrant, blooming nature, marking a season of rejuvenation and fresh starts.

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:***

Prayers for **Trevor (Chloe) Spanel** as they remember and grieve the passing of Trevor's grandma, Phyllis Spanel, at the age of 93.

Prayers of sympathy and comfort for **Marian Kaiser** as she grieves the death of her son Christopher. Services are pending.

Prayers for healing for **Don Wigington** who had shoulder surgery on Wednesday.

Prayers for the family of **Joan Carnaby** who was a long-time member of Countryside. She died last week at the age of 89. Her funeral was held last Friday at Presbyterian Church of the Cross.

**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, heat, water and electricity continue to be sporadic.

Prayers for **Derek (Sarah) Miller**. Derek was recently diagnosed with testicular cancer and is currently undergoing tests.

**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.



## Annual Meeting Today

Join us for a soup lunch immediately after the 10 am service before the Annual Meeting at noon. Visit [countrysideucc.org/annualmeeting](http://countrysideucc.org/annualmeeting) or scan the QR code to access documents for the Annual Meeting (ie agenda, rules, nominations, annual report).



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!



Donate