

Countryside Community Church WORSHIP



Amelia, 4, Kindernook Green Room

April 26, 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

Someday My Prince Will Come

Frank Churchill

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather today as people who belong to one another.

Many: We come with open hands and grateful hearts.

One: We come through hard weeks, shadowed valleys, and real need.

Many: We come to learn, to share, to break bread together.

One: There is room at this table for everyone.

Many: Come, let us worship. Amen.

†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 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: Psalm 23

Reader: Nancy Cohen

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Improvisation

SECOND LESSON: Acts 2:42-47

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Responding to the Word

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Mother and Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kin-dom 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 kin-dom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Adam Witte

Please find the QR code below 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

God of the open hand – what we bring today is small against the need of the world. But the first believers sold what they had and gave to any who had need. May these gifts move in that same spirit – toward the hungry, the struggling, the forgotten. Receive what we offer, and make it more than we imagine. Amen.

†SENDING HYMN

Hymn #284 *Gather Us In*

†BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Mr. P.C.

John Coltrane

Alex Ritter, organ and piano - Matt Wallace, saxophone
Carlos Figueroa, drums - Michael Frederickson, 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:

We rejoice in the coming of spring that reminds us of opportunities for renewal, warmth, and hope - a time for new beginnings. Spring is a season of awakening as the grass greens; the trees leaf-out and flower, and pops of color begin to appear in flower beds. Spring reverses the isolation of winter, and we find ourselves longing for time outdoors.

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

Prayers of comfort and support for **Roger (Judy) Waible** as he experiences additional health issues.

We continue to pray for all those who continue to undergo chemotherapy and those who need our support as they live with other health issues.

Prayers for **Marcy (Joel) Patton**, who has been diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. She is undergoing chemotherapy and is currently hospitalized with an infection.

Countryside Giving

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



Countryside's *The Art of Home* Initiative

The Art of Home celebrates the creativity of local and regional artists by featuring their work on Countryside's Sunday bulletin covers, service slides, YouTube tiles, and social media. Each piece reflects the spirit of our community—rooted in this place, shaped by the people who call it home, and open to the beauty that surrounds us. Through this ongoing project, we honor the gifts of local artistry while weaving them into our shared experience of worship and belonging.

On the Cover

For five weeks, during April and May, the front of our Sunday bulletin will feature artwork created by the talented young artists of Kindernook! Each year, all of Kindernook's students—84 amazing children this year—create their own special masterpiece as part of a fundraiser called *Our Amazing Artists*.

Their artwork is transformed into keepsakes like keychains, mugs, pillowcases, and more, making it possible for families to treasure these one-of-a-kind creations while supporting a meaningful cause. This fundraiser typically raises around \$700 for Kindernook's scholarship fund. This year, five families are receiving scholarship support, and they're hoping to exceed their goal!

As you enjoy these colorful covers each week, celebrate the creativity, imagination, and joy of the Countryside community's youngest artists—and the way their gifts help make Kindernook accessible to more families.

For more information on Kindernook or the *Our Amazing Artists* project, contact Anne Jackson at annej@countrysideucc.org.