Countryside Community Church WORSHIP

Composition la Croix Rouge, Henri Matisse

October 4, 2026

Order of Worship October 4, 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 *One Note Samba* Antônio Carlos Jobim

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

CALL TO WORSHIP David McGinness

One: From each corner of the Earth, from the hills and valleys, from the cities and fields,
Many: We are called together as one, to share in the abundance God offers, to bless one another.
One: Let us rejoice in God's blessings, and make room at the table for *all* to celebrate the feast.
Many: Gladden our hearts, O God, and make us one-- *in love, in mercy, in joy! 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 Hymn #393 *One Bread, One Body*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT David McGinness

Children are invited to come forward for a time with David at the chancel, then are dismissed to Discovery Kids with their teachers. **Caregivers, please pick up your child after the service in Priscilla (Choir Room)**. Nursery is available for children birth through 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 80:7-15 Reader: Marcia Blum

Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.
You brought a vine out of Egypt;
you drove out the nations and planted it.
You cleared the ground for it;
it took deep root and filled the land.
The mountains were covered with its shade,
the mighty cedars with its branches;
it sent out its branches to the sea
and its shoots to the River.
Why then have you broken down its walls,
so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?
The boar from the forest ravages it,
and all that move in the field feed on it.
Turn again, O God of hosts;
look down from heaven and see;
have regard for this vine,
the stock that your right hand planted.

MUSICAL REFLECTION *Come to the Table* arr. Allan Pote
Countryside Choir

SECOND LESSON: Matthew 21:33–46 Rev. Maggie Kennedy Morey

“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way.

MESSAGE *Hope in the Making* Rev. Maggie Kennedy Morey

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 Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas & Joyce Davis, Stewardship Co-Chair

"Imagine More" Stewardship Video Chase Moffit, Vice-Moderator-Elect

Please find the QR code within the 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 percent 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!

†DOXOLOGY

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Giver of every good and perfect gift, we are humbled by your blessings. Today, we return to you a portion of the gifts we have received. In our discerning, God, call us to abandon our positions of privilege and power in search of a posture of service and love. As we commit our ways to your ways, and our resources to further your mission in the world, guide our steps. Deepen our faith and sow within our hearts a hunger for justice and peace. Amen.

SERVICE OF COMMUNION Rev. Maggie Kennedy Morey

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 bins on the front pews after receiving the elements.

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 *Come Sunday* Duke Ellington

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 #687 *In Christ There Is No East or West*

†COUNTRYSIDE BLESSING Marcia Blum

†GUEST BENEDICTION Rev. Paul Raushenbush / Rev. Maggie Kennedy Morey

POSTLUDE *Nardis* Miles Davis

Countryside Choir - Adam Witte, director
Stan Harper, sax - Alex Ritter, organ and piano
Carlos Figueroa, drums - Steve Gomez, bass

Sunday Flowers This Week

Flowers were given today by Mary and Ray Meints
in honor of their 43rd wedding anniversary.

Joys & Concerns

Join us as we pray for our congregation members and their loved ones who are on our Joys and Concerns list. 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 in Countryside's Thursday morning prayer group, contact Rev. Maggie Kennedy Morey at maggiekm@countrysideucc.org or (402) 884-8025.

Prayers of Gratitude for the following Joys:
This World Communion Sunday, we are grateful for the reminder of our siblings in Christ around the world.

We celebrate with **Renee Besancon's** friends Suzi and Kyle Angier; Kyle is out of the ICU and back home recovering from pneumonia.

We give thanks with **Christine Kasel** for her nephew Tim's continued recovery from surgery.

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

Renee Besancon requests prayers for her family and friends. Her friend Tray Cantrell had a double mastectomy on Wednesday, and her cousin Betty Johnson is having surgery on October 8. We pray for healing and comfort for both Tray and Betty.

Our prayers are with the friends and family of **Jan Moran,** who passed away on September 22. May they feel God's love and comfort.

We pray with the friends and family of **Cyndi Kugler,** who died September 13. Cyndi founded Countryside's esteemed Center for Faith Studies. Her work inspired thousands and remains a vital part of Countryside's mission today. A Celebration of Life will be held for Cyndi at Countryside on October 17.

Prayers for **Laurie Sample** as she receives chemotherapy following her pancreatic cancer surgery.

We pray with **De Schmierer** for her niece Tami Jalapa, as she begins treatment for cancer.

Countryside Giving

Imagine More - Build What You Believe. What does a young person learn when they see their community invest in what it believes? **Everything.**

Countryside Community Church A2A Designation

Countryside is committed to being Accessible to All (A2A) every day—and October gives us a special opportunity to celebrate that commitment.

Throughout the month, we'll explore accessibility and inclusion through art, music, worship, education and personal stories, celebrating the ways that including everyone, regardless of individual abilities or circumstances, strengthens our congregational life.

The United Church of Christ recognizes the second Sunday of October as Accessibility Sunday, and Countryside will celebrate October 11 as our A2A Sunday.

There's also some important news to celebrate: the United Church of Christ Disabilities Ministries Board of Directors has approved Countryside's application to become an Accessible to All congregation. We have earned Certified Designated Status and are now among the churches nationally recognized by the UCC with this designation.

The designation is part of a larger journey—one that recognizes that people may encounter different challenges throughout their lives, from physical and developmental differences to mental health, illness and genetic conditions.

For Countryside, becoming A2A is not simply about receiving a designation. It is about continuing to grow as a community where everyone is treasured. Everyone belongs and can participate fully.

October Bulletin Art

As part of our October worship series highlighting A2A (Accessible to All) Awareness, we are featuring artwork from artists who live or lived with disability or chronic illness. These stories remind us that creativity is not limited by physical ability, and that art can become a form of resilience, prayer, and witness in the midst of struggle.

This month, we begin with Henri Matisse (1869–1954). Matisse 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.

On the Cover ~

Composition la croix rouge, Henri Matisse (1869-1954), gouache, pencil, paper and colored paper collage mounted on paperboard. Executed in Vence, villa Le Rve, 1947. Matisse created Composition la croix rouge in 1947, during a period when he was largely confined to bed. Working with scissors and brightly painted paper, he composed the work by cutting and arranging shapes on the walls of his studio until the balance felt right. Bold blocks of red, blue and green are animated by flowing, organic forms.

2027 Stewardship Campaign - Imagine More

Our giving becomes something much bigger than a number on a pledge card. It becomes a child discovering faith and belonging. It becomes music that brings beauty into worship. It becomes a meal for a neighbor who needs one. It becomes a community where people can ask questions, grow, serve, celebrate, grieve, and know they belong. This is what it means to **Imagine More.**

To make a 2027 Pledge

- complete a pledge card
- visit countrysideucc.org/imaginemore
- scan the QR code
- text PLEDGE to 59409