



Welcome to Worship

Presbyterian Church of the Cross

Sunday, March 1, 2020
9:00 & 11:10 a.m.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

"Cantate!"

Brian Childers

*As we joyfully greet each other today, sharing the gifts of friendship and love,
as the prelude begins, you are invited to begin your personal preparation for worship.*

SILENT MEDITATION

"Do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be stronger... Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers. Pray for powers equal to your tasks. Then the doing of your work shall be no miracle, but you shall be the miracle." Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)



CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God, who has done great things.

We rejoice in our God, who made a way through the desert of this world.

Let us worship God, who has caused streams of mercy to flow in the wasteland.

We are the people God has formed through Christ; we worship him, and we rejoice!

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

We praise God for the grace that has saved us. Alleluia! We rejoice!

based on Isaiah 43:19-21

ADORATION AND CONFESSION

*HYMN OF PRAISE #395

"Blessed Jesus, at Your Word"

LIEBSTER JESU

(*Please stand, if you are able.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, because of Christ's blood, do not hold against us, poor sinners that we are, any of the sins we do or the evil that constantly clings to us. Forgive us just as we are fully determined, as evidence of your grace in us, to forgive our neighbors. By ourselves we are too weak to hold our own even for a moment. And our sworn enemies - the devil, the world, and our own flesh - never stop attacking us. And so Lord, uphold us and make us strong with the strength of your Holy Spirit, so that we may not go down to defeat in this spiritual struggle, but may firmly resist our enemies until we finally win the complete victory. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.


based on Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A's 126-127

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND PETITION

KYRIE ELEISON (#434)

“Restore in Us, O God”

BAYLOR



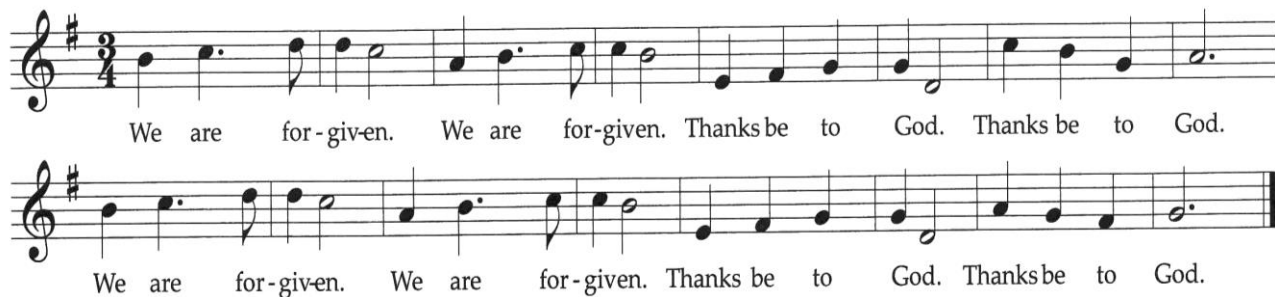
Re-store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA PATRI (#447)**

“We Are Forgiven”

WE ARE FORGIVEN



We are for-giv-en. We are for-giv-en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are for-giv-en. We are for-giv-en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE SESSION

John Morey, Capital Campaign Chair

FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy 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.

ANTHEM

“The Triumph Song of Life”

arr. Brian Childers

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 4: 1-11

page 785 of the pew Bible

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“There’s a Test in Your Future”

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Thanksgiving for the work of Christ

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He took upon himself the weight of our sin and carried the burden of our guilt. He shared our life in every way, and, though tempted, was sinless to the end. Baptized as your own, he went willingly to his death and by your power was raised to new life. In his dying and rising, you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

***SANCTUS (#569)**

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

SANCTUS (Oliver)

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry, Ho-san-na in the highest. Blest is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the highest.

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

“All Nature Sings”

arr. Brian Childers

***DOXOLOGY (#607)**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN OF DEDICATION #687 “Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”**

ST. ANNE

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE (#541) “God Be with You Till We Meet Again”**

RANDOLPH

God be with you till we meet again; lov - ing coun - selsguide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's care en - fold you: God be with you till we meet a-gain.

BULLETINS FOR CHILDREN are found in the **WORSHIP KITS** located in the Narthex. Each kit has materials to enhance your child's worship experience. Please return your kit to the Narthex after the service.

SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP

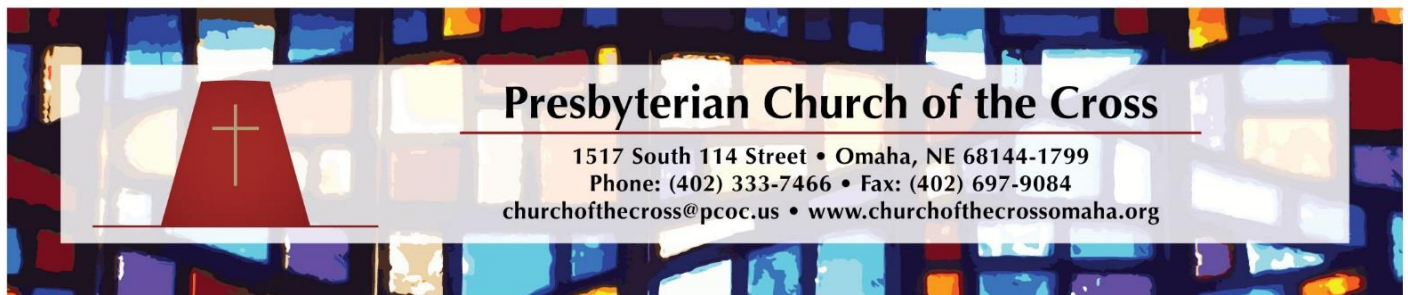
All are invited to enjoy a few minutes together in Fellowship Hall in between our worship services and before we head to Sunday School.

CHILD CARE

Child Care is always offered on Sunday mornings. Located near the sanctuary, our licensed and trained staff is ready to care for our youngest Presbyterians. While all children are welcomed and encouraged to be taught to worship alongside their families in the sanctuary, sometimes the nursery provides a more inviting space for toddlers to learn about God while being able to play, move around, and be the wonderful toddlers God has created them to be. A snack is provided, and pagers are offered to the parents as an easy way to be notified, if necessary. If you are bringing your infant to Child Care, please make sure diaper bags are labeled with your child's name.

HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE. Hearing assistance devices are available during the worship services for extra amplification of the sound in the Sanctuary. Please ask one of the ushers if you would like to use one.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HYMNALS ARE AVAILABLE. If you would like one, please ask an usher. Please return your large print hymnal to an usher for the next service.





for the week of March 1, 2020

Welcome! We are pleased that you have chosen to worship at Church of the Cross today. Please complete the Ritual of Friendship form found in your pew near the center aisle. If you would like more information about the life and ministries of Church of the Cross, or are interested in becoming a member, call 402-333-7466 or visit churchofthecrossomaha.org.

SERVING IN MINISTRY TODAY

Music		Carillon Choir, Larry Frederickson, director Mary Lynn Bennett, flute; Haley Allen Mendick, Percussion	
Information Center	9:00	Carol Futhey	11:10 Susan Price
Audio/Visual	9:00	Logan Voss and Ben Fritz	11:10 Noah Sekle and Ethan Bennett
Ushers	9:00	Fred Henry, Captain Tom Stalnaker Tim Zimmerman David Berry Gary Lippstreu	11:10 Jim Chapin, Captain Paul Holubeck Doug Reid Carole Sieck Inga Wagner
Greeters			
Circle Drive	9:00	Kathy Nickel	11:10 Kris Goodman
North Door	9:00	Paul and Matt Price	11:10 Mike and Cael Dempsey
South Door	9:00	Doug Larson	11:10 David and Katherine Braunlich
Childcare Ministry		Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, Brandon Fisher	
Coffee Host		Adam Goodwin	

PRAYER CHAIN

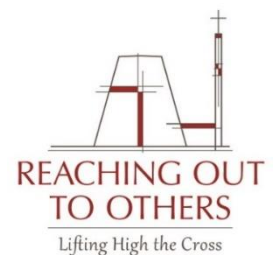
If you would like to be remembered in prayer by the Prayer Chain of our church, there are several ways it can be done. Write a Pew Card request and deliver, call, or email it to the church office. Prayer Requests may also be emailed or called in to Julie Buehler (jbue1959@cox.net or 402-334-2862) or Judy Arms (armsjh@gmail.com or 402-333-9501).

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Flowers in the chancel this morning are given by Don Reed in memory of his wife, Carmen.

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE SESSION

At its February 24 monthly meeting, the Session unanimously approved that PCOC enter into a Capital Campaign, "Reaching Out to Others; Lifting High the Cross." After hearing from the Congregation at informational meetings throughout February, the Session has decided on a process which will include neighborhood meetings in the Deacon Area Groups. Be looking for your informational packet in the mail and an invitation from your area Deacon to attend a home meeting to learn more about our amazing plan to improve and expand our facility.



ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

Composer/arranger and ordained minister Brian Childers was the guest clinician at the 2020 Omaha Rings! Bell Festival, which the Carillon Choir attended in early February. Mr. Childers conducted a massed bell choir on all three pieces presented today. "Cantate!" was written for the wedding of mutual friends and is simultaneously lively and expressive. "The Triumph Song of Life" is a rollicking adaptation of Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" with rhythmic surprises. "All Nature Sings" is a serene adaptation of "This is My Father's World" replete with bells, flute, and percussion.

BLOOD DRIVE IS TODAY! STILL TIME TO SIGN UP!

Today's PCOC Spring Blood Drive is held from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. downstairs in the Great Room. Even if you haven't been able to sign up, you are still welcome to donate - there will be an available spot on the schedule for YOU! Sign up before or after either service, at the red table in the Narthex.



LENTEN STUDY BEGINS TODAY!

Quickly grab your coffee and treats and head to class. Group lists are posted near the Church Office. If you did not sign up, you may still join! Head on over to Room 15 and join that group. Books, folders, and registration forms will be available there.

TODAY - SENIOR HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM CHANGE

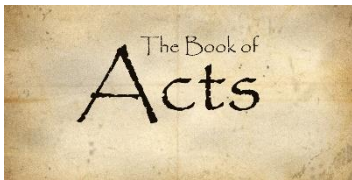
Due to the blood drive being held in the Great Room today, the Senior High Sunday School Class will meet in the Narthex at 10:00 a.m. instead. Join Pastor Christine as she begins leading you in the Lenten Study.

TONIGHT - SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

Join us tonight for some fun at Sky Zone. We'll meet at church at 4:40 for those needing to carpool. Those not needing to carpool, meet at Sky Zone at 4:50 p.m. Pickup is at 6:15 p.m. at Sky Zone. **Parents, you must fill out a waiver online:** <https://omahastore.skyzone.com/waiver/>.

49ERS THIS WEEK!

Our speaker will be Otis Twelve, KVNO's morning host since fall of 2006, 6-10 am. Otis Twelve has enjoyed an eclectic career that includes stints as a trainee Benedictine monk, stand-up comedian, radio host, TV critic and concert narrator. September 2002, he turned his attention to writing for newspapers, radio, television, advertising, symphony orchestra and the stage. His novels "On The Albino Farm", "Sometimes A Prozac Notion", "The Goodness of Trees", "Life Among the Bean Bags" have won awards from the 2003 and 2004 British Crime Writers Association Debut Dagger Award, the Power of Purpose Awards, winner of the UK Second Annual Lit Idol contest (March 2005). and Kurt Vonnegut Fiction Prize. We meet at Gorat's, 4917 Center Street, the first Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome, whether or not you are 49. Come join us! We will order from a special menu. For reservations or questions, please contact Donna Turner 402-397-3643 or Judy Sundberg 402-333-6981. We also have a sign-up sheet at the Information Center.



TUESDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY

We are currently studying the New Testament book of Acts. This book tells the story of "The Acts of the Apostles" in forming the Early Church. This week we study Acts 9, joining Saul on the Road to Damascus. Bring your Bible and join us! *Tuesdays, from 1:00 -2:00 p.m. in Room 15, hosted by Pastor Ziemann.*

ANNOUNCING OUR NEW PART-TIME ASSOCIATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS!

PCOC church member Gayle Kerr-McFadden has recently been selected to become a part-time church employee to strengthen all our communication venues, especially our new website. Gayle has been a PCOC member since 1998. Gayle and husband, Matt, have raised their three sons, Quinn, Evan, and Josh at PCOC. Please congratulate Gayle when you see her. Gayle begins her duties March 1.

ACTIVE MINDS

Active Minds will be playing 10-point Pitch and Hearts for the month of March. Join us 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. on Tuesdays in the lower level Great Room. We will teach you to play! Pick up a schedule on a green card at the Information Center and drop in when your schedule allows! Questions? Contact Earlene Uhrig at 402-650-5077 or earleneu@cox.net.

NEW MEMBER CLASS - MARCH 15

The Class will meet after the 11:10 service and begins with a light lunch.

Our second New Members class of 2020 is offered on Sunday, March 15, from 12:15 - 2:00 p.m. in Room 15. The class provides information from church leaders about the Presbyterian faith, Church of the Cross history, current committees, and fellowship opportunities. Members, please extend a personal invitation to those who may be interested. Sign up at the Information Center or in the Office.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Please join us Thursday, March 5, at 9:00 a.m. for the morning Presbyterian Women's Church Circle. We will be studying "Love Carved in Stone." Cindy Nisley will lead us in Lesson 7, with Kathy Nickel as our hostess at Church of the Cross, Room 13. Hope to see you there! Please call Jacquie Kluck, 402-651-1443, with questions.

FRIDAY NIGHT GOURMETS

Join us at Friday Night Gourmets at Taxi's restaurant on 120th and Blondo on March 13 at 6:30 p.m. Co-host are Inga Wagner 402-397-1219 and Alta Empkey 402-392-0636.

INTERESTED TO TRAVELING TO RUSSIA WITH PCOC THIS SUMMER?

At the Russia Information Meeting, the members who plan to make the trip to Gnozdovo decided on a 10-day trip during the first two weeks in July 2020. If you were unable to come to the meeting but are still interested in being part of the team who visits our partner church in Russia, there is time before we begin the visa application process in early March. Please contact Karen Morey (kmorey815@gmail.com) or 402-618-5802 to get all the details.



UKRAINIAN EGG WORKSHOP

- o Class requires two days and is limited to 20 people, Saturdays - March 14 and March 21
- o Bring your own lunch and beverage - Class will be from 10:00 a.m. to about 2:00 p.m.
- o Class is limited to members over 14 years old
- o \$15 per person, payable to PCOC
- o Bring an empty cardboard egg carton
- o Sign up at the Information Center
- o Please join Sue Thomas for a messy, creative, & fun couple of Saturdays!

JUNIOR HIGH SPRING RETREAT IN MAY

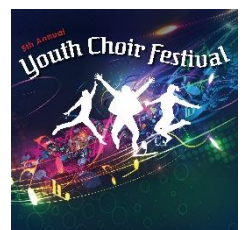
All 6th – 8th Graders are invited to attend an overnight retreat at Calvin Crest on Friday, May 1 - Saturday, May 2. Registration forms have been mailed out or can be found in the Church Office. Please return with payment by March 15 to secure your spot.

COLLEGE-AGE MISSION TRIP – CHICAGO MAY 28-31

Hey, 18-20-somethings! Are you looking to reconnect? To expand your horizons for today's challenges. For a chance to give back. Come join us for an unforgettable weekend of mission, fellowship, study, and Chicago pizza! If interested or even a little curious, contact Pastor Christine!

ANNOUNCING THE 5TH ANNUAL SUMMER YOUTH CHOIR FESTIVAL!

Save the date for this summer's festival, June 22-28. This week-long festival is for singers finishing grades 8-12. Rehearsals take place Monday – Thursday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (snack included!). The Outreach Tour is all day Saturday, and we conclude the week with Sunday morning worship at PCOC. Cost is \$45. Online registration is coming soon!



CALENDAR

Sunday, March 1	Monday, March 2	Tuesday, March 3	Wednesday, March 4	Thursday, March 5	Friday, March 6	Saturday, March 7	Sunday, March 8
9:00 & 11:10 Worship	9:15 & 11:00 M&M Exercise	9:45 Staff	5:00 PieceMakers	9:15 & 11:00 M&M Exercise			9:00 & 11:10 Worship
9-2 Blood Drive	10:00 Tai Chi & Music	11:30 49ers	5:30 Cornerstone	10:00 Tai Chi & Music			10:00 Education
10:00 Education		1:00 Tuesday Bible Study	5:30 Chamber Singers				4:00 Credo Choir
10:00 JHF Bake Sale	4:00 Congregational Life	2-4 Active Minds	6:00 Dinner				4:15 Serve Dinner at Siena Francis House
4:00 Credo Choir	6:30 Building & Grounds	6:00 Vesper Board Meeting	6:30 Adult Bible Study and Confirmation Class				4:45 Youth Fellowship
4:45 Youth Fellowship	6:30 Worship & Music		6:50 Alleluia Singers				
	6:30 CE						

STAFF

Rev. Marshall Ziemann, D. Min.
 Rev. Christine Dempsey, Ph.D.
 Kristi Treu, M.A. Music
 Dana Sloan, M.M.
 Heather Berry
 Rock Sumner
 Julie Hansen
 Gayle Kerr-McFadden
 Rev. Kirk Ryckman, D. Min.

Pastor, Head of Staff
 Associate Pastor
 Director of Music, Executive Director Vesper Concerts
 Organist
 Christian Education Director
 Business Administrator
 Administrative Assistant
 Communications
 Pastor Emeritus

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Haley Allen
 Taylor Arvie
 David Schaefer
 Larry Frederickson
 Carla and Jonathan Fritz, Julie Evers and Nickie Johnson
 Dawn and Brad Gibson, Holly Baddley, Ethan Bennett

Director, Sunbeam Choir
 Director, Carol Choir
 Director, Credo Choir
 Director, Carillon Choir
 Junior High Leaders
 Senior High Leaders

