

# GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

# PRELUDE

"Spiegel im Spiegel" (9:00) "Choral" (11:10)

Arvo Pärt Joseph Jongen

As the prelude begins, you are invited to begin your personal preparation for worship.

# SILENT MEDITATION

"Our job is to love others without stopping to inquire whether or not they are worthy. That is not our business, and, in fact, it is nobody's business. What we are asked to do is to love, and this love itself will render both ourselves and our neighbors worthy." - Thomas Merton

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP (11:10)

"The Glory of the Father"

Egil Hovland

# CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise, shine; for our light has come! The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Let us kneel down before him to give him honor, glory and praise

# Jesus Christ is the light of the world

Let us offer him all the treasures of our hearts and our lives

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

# PRAISE AND ADORATION

**\*OPENING HYMN #150** (\*Please stand, if you are able.) "As with Gladness Men of Old"

DIX

# CALL TO CONFESSION

# PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that we have ignored others. We turn away from the poor, we ignore cries for justice, we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and pour out the gifts of your Spirit to renew us.

# SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION



# ASSURANCE OF PARDON



# WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Isaiah 60: 1-6 page 602 of the pew Bible These verses are traditionally read as fulfilled in the visit of the Magi

# **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.

# PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

 SCRIPTURE READING
 Matthew 2: 1-12
 page 783 of the pew Bible

 Pastor:
 This is the Word of the Lord.
 People:
 Thanks be to God.

 SERMON
 "The First Question for the New Year"
 Dr. Zieman

\*HYMN OF PRAISE #152 "What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright" PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

# **RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

## **OFFERTORY**

"The Sussex Mummers' Christmas Carol" (9:00) "Christ, Be Born in Us" (11:10)

Percy Grainger Kyle Pederson

# THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## **INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

#### **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

\*DOXOLOGY (#609) "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" LASST UNS ERFREUEN Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia! Praise God, in Jesus fully known; Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE SERVING OF THE BREAD Rev. Dempsey will walk down the center aisle with gluten-free bread

# THE CUP OF THE NEW COVENANT

COMMUNION ANTHEM	"La Captive" (9:00)	Amy Beach
	"Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether" (11:10)	Harold Friedell

# \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We bless you, O God, for your gifts of bread and cup, and for sustaining us in hope every day of our lives. We pray for your strength as we prepare to serve you and your world. We offer to you lives of witness and worship in this world you have made. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #159	"O Sing a Song of Bethlehem"	KINGSFOLD
<b>*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION</b>		
POSTLUDE	"Trumpet Tune"	Tommaso Albinoni

#### **MUSIC NOTES**

"Spiegel im Spiegel," translated as "*Mirror in the Mirror*," is by Estonian composer Arto Pärt. Written in 1978, it uses a minimalist, meditative style and evokes a calm, still environment. Mummers are a troupe of traveling actors in the British Isles, especially in Sussex, that can be traced back to at least medieval times. Their plays end with the singing of songs, notably a Christmas Carol. The carol played in today's service was discovered by composer Percy Grainer, who set it originally for violin or cello and piano. "O mortal man, remember well when Christ our Lord was born; he was crucified between two thieves, and crowned with the thorn." Amy Beach was one of the first American women to achieve a reputation as a composer.

#### **EPIPHANY STARS**

As you leave worship today, we invite you to take an Epiphany star from the baskets in the Narthex. Each star holds a single word. Take your star home and keep it in a place where it will catch your eye and make you pause for a moment of reflection throughout the year. How will the star word speak to you and how will you be led by a star in 2023?

#### SERVING IN MINISTRY TODAY

Music	9:00 11:10	Bill Ritchie, double bass; Kristi Treu, pi Alleluia Singers; Kristi Treu, director; A	0
Childcare Ministry	Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, and Brandon Fisher		
Elders serving Communion	9:00	Darold Bauer, Tim Graumann, Ken Kluck, Kathy Moore, John Sparks, Patti Sparks, Sandi Stuckey, Mimi Quinn, Nancy Utman, and Roger Utman	
	11:10	Alta Empkey, Neal Hubbard, Kristin Ja Amanda Stalnaker, Carl Greiner, John S	
Ushers	9:00	Jim Miller (captain), Linda Miller, Gary Frank McMullen	Marron, Marsha Marron,
	11:10	Dennis Boesen, Amy Boesen, Judy Sun	dberg, Patty Ritchie
Greeters	North Door:9:00 Doug Larson11:10South Door:9:00 Betsy Conway11:10 Tim and Kris G		11:10 11:10 Tim and Kris Goodman
Information Center	9:00	Mary Ann Pederson	11:10 Judy Arms
Coffee Hosts	Jeremy	v Cunningham	

#### STAFF

Rev. Marshall Zieman, D. Min.	Pastor, Head of Staff	marshall@pcoc.us
Rev. Christine Dempsey, Ph.D.	Associate Pastor	christine@pcoc.us
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Anne Wattles	Administrative Assistant chur	chofthecross@pcoc.us
Annette White, S.M.M.	Interim Organist	

Would you like to help in our weekly ministry? We have usher and greeter openings.

- For ushering, you may sign up for individual Sundays or join a monthly ushering team as a permanent member. Sign up online. Questions? Contact Jayne Frederickson.
- For greeting, just choose your preferred service and door to welcome people to worship. We have greeters at the North door (at the bottom of the stairs) and inside the South Sanctuary entrance. A name tag will be provided for you. Sign up online or at the Information Center.

# Announcements

For the week of January 8, 2023

#### The Week at a Glance

PRESBYTERIAN Church of the Cross

#### Sunday, January 8

- 9:00 Worship in Sanctuary & Livestream
  10:00 Sunday School & New Member
- Reception 11:00 Don & Millie's Caring and Sharing Day until 3 p.m.
- 11:10 Worship
- Noon Cross Roads YA Fellowship
- 4:15 Serve at Siena Francis House
- 4:45 JHF Fun & Games
- 8:00 College Bible Study on Zoom

#### Monday, January 9

- 9 & 11 Music & Movement10:00 Tai Chi6:30 Worship & Music Committee
- 6:30 B&G Meeting
- 0.50 D&G Meeting

#### Tuesday, January 10

- 7:00 Men's Bible Study
- 9:30 Staff Meeting
- 1:00 Afternoon Bible Study
- 1:00 Active Minds (details to right)
- 6:30 Refugee Meeting

#### Wednesday, January 11

- 5:15 Children's Choir
- 5:50 Chamber Singers
- 6:00 Cornerstone Dinner
- 6:30 Bible Study preschool-7th grades, Confirmation Class, & Parables Class for adults
   6:50 Alleluia Singers

#### Thursday, January 12

9 & 11	Music & Movement	
10:00	Tai Chi	
11:30	Educator's Lunch Meeting	
Noon	OSS Serve Lunch	
Sunday, January 15		
9:00	Worship in Sanctuary &	
	Livestroom	

# 10:00 Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship 11:10 Worship

- 4:45 JHF & SHF at church
- 8:00 College Bible Study on Zoom

#### Joys & Concerns

- The flowers in the chancel this week are given by George and Tina Morgan in honor of their 45th wedding anniversary.
- Jody Watt's memorial service will be Saturday, January 14 at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary & a lunch in Fellowship Hall
- Jane Bowers' memorial service will be Saturday, February 18, at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary & a lunch in Fellowship Hall

**New Member Reception at 10 Today.** Join us in Fellowship Hall to welcome the members who joined the church in 2020 through 2022.

**Youth Groups Today.** JHF will meet at 4:45 today for fun & games. No SHF today as they had their progressive dinner/lock on Friday.

**Today is a Don & Millie's Caring & Sharing Day.** Stop by Don & Millie's at 108th & Center to grab lunch from 11 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. today. Tell them you're with PCOC, and 20% of your bill comes back to us to support next year's JHF Mission Trip.

**Cross Roads Fellowship Meets at 12:45 Today.** This is a fellowship group for young adults (ages 20-40). We will meet at Noli's pizza on 107th and Pacific at 12:45 today to enjoy food and fellowship.

**College Bible Study Resumes Tonight at 8.** Hey college-age kids, join us at 8 p.m. on Zoom to stay in touch with your church friends and lead a life of faith while away from home. Zoom Meeting ID: 935 9134 2777 Passcode: 924535.

**Dinner Servers Needed at Siena Francis House Today!** It's PCOC's turn to serve dinner, and we need volunteers to serve from 4:15 to 6:15 p.m. Questions? Contact Sandi Stuckey. Sign up online.

Active Minds Resumes January 10. Active Minds will play Mahjongg. We meet in the lower level on Tuesday afternoons from 2-4 p.m. Please let Earlene Uhrig know if you will join us, so we have enough game sets for all to play! Never played, but want to try? This is your chance. For Tuesday, January 10, we will have six tables set up. People new to Mahjongg can come at 1 p.m. for lessons, and the full group will meet at 2 p.m.

**Cornerstone Starts This Wednesday (January 11).** You still have time to sign up! Build strong ties with God and one another every Wednesday night with Bible study, music, and dinner. Note the time change for children's choir – it now starts at 5:15 p.m.

*Stories for Life in God's World: A Study of Parables* Class Begins Wednesday. Using a study from the Kerygma Bible Study Series, Kirk Ryckman will lead a study of these timeless stories that speak to our faith and influence the decisions we make while discovering what makes a parable unique. We hope to grow in our appreciation of how Jesus used these short and seemingly simple stories to express the heart of the good news he brought.

Scan & Sign Up for Classes/Events Online



**Drug Education Class for Parents and Children on Wednesday, January 11 at 6:30 p.m.** Join members of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Omaha Division as they provide an overview on the latest drug threats facing the country and specifically Nebraska.

**Communion Class on Wednesday, January 18.** Join Pastor Marshall to learn about the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. This class is for children in 2nd grade and older that haven't had a chance to participate before. Join us for dinner at 6:00 and activities from 6:30-7:30. Childcare will be provided for younger siblings.

**The Ten Commandments - Past, Present, and Future.** Led by Pastor Christine on Sundays, January 29 – February 19 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 15. The Ten Commandments are foundational to our faith and to God's story. It's the "setting in stone" of God's expectations for humanity. Yet, the law has had different emphases in the Christian tradition over the years. In this class, we will analyze the Ten Commandments from several different lenses from Biblical scholarship to history to contemporary culture. There is no book, but Pastor Christine will provide some readings for you throughout the study.

**Stay Active This Winter!** Music & Movement meets at 9 and 11 a.m. on Mondays and Thursdays. Questions? Contact Betty Baddley. Tai Chi meets at 10 a.m. on Mondays and Thursdays. Questions? Contact Paula Allen. Both groups meet on the lower level in the Great Room.

**Agape for All Event on January 14.** You are invited to join us for a tour of the Malcolm X Museum in North Omaha on Saturday, January 14 at 10:30 a.m. Meet in the north church parking lot at 10:00 a.m. if you would like to car pool. You can sign up on the church website, email Patty Ritchie, or sign up at the Information Desk.

**New Member Class on January 15.** If you are interested in joining the church, our next new member class will be Sunday, January 15 after late service in Room 15. The class will last about an hour, and a light lunch will be served. Sign up online or call the church office.

**No Friday Night Gourmets in January.** Friday Night Gourmets will not be meeting and eating in January. Watch the bulletin for information about our outing on February 10.

**49ers on Break for January – Sign Up for February.** Our speaker for Tuesday, February 7, 2023, will be Carol Foreman, Ticket Manager, College World Series of Omaha, Inc. Lunch will be at 11:30 at Wheatfield's at One Pacific Place. Sign up at the Information Desk. Questions? Contact Judy Sundberg or Mary Ott.

**Annual Meeting** — **Sunday**, **January 29.** We will have a single service at 11:10 a.m. with our Annual Meeting immediately following in the Sanctuary. A soup & salad lunch will follow in Fellowship Hall.

**More Church Volunteer Opportunities.** Contact Annie or Rock in the church office during regular hours with questions or to sign up to help with these efforts. Thank you!

- Monday Morning Kitchen Crew: Each 2-person crew completes a "Weekly Maintenance" checklist. This non-strenuous job requires about an hour of your time.
- Monthly Cross Currents Mailing Volunteers: Duties include collating on Tuesday afternoons and folding on Wednesday mornings after the Friday Cross Current deadline.

# Presbyterian Church of the Cross

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