



GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

"Now Rejoice, Good Christians"

J.S. Bach

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

SILENT MEDITATION

"So even though I'm not always sure why I do it, I keep praying. I pray for the sick and the well, the living and the dying. I pray for peace in the world and for heating fuel in a particular home. I pray for Congress and for criminals. I pray for my enemies and those who love me more than they should. And sometimes I just sit in God's presence, completely out of words to either plead or praise. Because I know God is listening even when I haven't got a prayer." - JoAnn Post

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 68

Sing to God!

Sing praises to his name.

Lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds!

His name is the LORD.

Celebrate his name!

Sing praises to the LORD.

Let us join the with the Great Congregation.

Let us Bless God in worship and praise.

PRAISE AND ADORATION

*OPENING HYMN #305

Come Sing, O Church in Joy

DARWALL'S 148TH

(*Please stand if you are able)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we know that you care for us, that you strengthen us and that you restore us. Yet, we do not trust you, and we go about our lives filled with anxiety, questioning you and your claim on our lives. Forgive us and help walk confidently in your grace that we might be a comforting presence to others, provide for those in need and give hope to all who fear for tomorrow. God, we now pray silently for what is on our hearts and minds.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND PETITION

KYRIE ELEISON (#551)

“Lord, Have Mercy”

LAND OF REST

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA PATRI (#240)**

“Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks!”

ALLELUIA NO. 1

Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ris-en Lord. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia! Give praise to his name. Je-sus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of cre - a - tion. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ris-en Lord. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, Give praise to his name.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECOGNITION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION VOLUNTEERS

Heather Berry

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 45: 1-7

page 588 of the pew Bible

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

“Esto Les Digo”

Kinley Lange

Where two or three are gathered in My name, there will I be also.

PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 17:1-11

page 879 of the pew Bible

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Departing in Prayer”

Rev. Dempsey

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

“You Must Have That True Religion”

arr. Roland M. Carter

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from the PCUSA study catechism

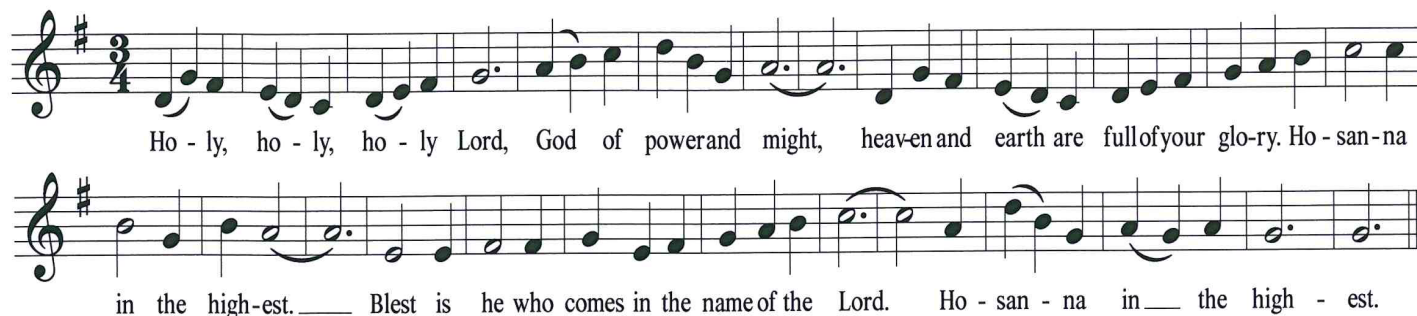
What is prayer?

Prayer means calling upon God whose Spirit is always present with us. In prayer we approach God with reverence, confidence and humility. Prayer involves both addressing God in praise, confession, thanksgiving, and supplication, and listening for God's word within our hearts. When we adore God, we are filled with wonder, love and praise before God's heavenly glory, not least when we find it hidden in the cross of Golgotha. When confessing our guilt to God, we ask for forgiveness with humble and sorry hearts, remembering that God is gracious as well as holy. When giving thanks to God, we acknowledge God's great goodness, rejoicing in God for all that is so wonderfully provided for us. Finally, when calling upon God to hear our requests, we affirm that God draws near in every need and sorrow of life and ask God to do so again.

*SANCTUS (#572)

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Thomas Pavlechko



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na
in the high-est. — Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in — the high - est.

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

“Come Before the Table”

Karen Marrolli

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Lord God, we are in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people. We give ourselves to you, and now go out to live as changed people because we have shared the bread of Christ. Ask

much of us, enable much by us, and encourage many through us. It is through our service to you, that we find the hope of peace throughout our world and the promise of restoration. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #260	Alleluia! Sing to Jesus	HYFRYDOL
*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION		
*BENEDICTION RESPONSE	“God With Me”	Stephen Paulus
POSTLUDE	“Toccata”	John Weaver

SERVING IN MINISTRY TODAY

Liturgist	Rev. Stephen Niles, HR	
Musicians	Chamber Singers; Olivia Hacker and Jayne Frederickson, soloists; Patty Ritchie, drum; Annette White, organ	
Childcare Ministry	Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, and Brandon Fisher	
Ushers	9:00 Tim Graumann (captain), Brenda Graumann, Kathy Moore, Cheryl Bedell, Jeff Boyum 11:10 David Hopp (captain), Josh Murray, Joe Weaver, Barb & Dan Scanlan	
Greeters	North Door: 9:00 Karen Saunders South Door: 9:00 Doug Larson	11:10 Sue Meusey 11:10 Pam Swenson
Information Center	9:00 Kathy Nickel	11:10 Stephanie Weaver
Coffee Hosts	John Sparks	

STAFF

Rev. Marshall Zieman, D. Min.	Pastor, Head of Staff	marshall@pcoc.us
Rev. Christine Dempsey, Ph.D.	Associate Pastor	christine@pcoc.us
Kristi Treu, M.A. Music	Director of Music, Executive Director Vesper Concerts	kristi@pcoc.us
Heather Berry	Christian Education Director	heather@pcoc.us
Rock Sumner	Business Administrator	rock@pcoc.us
Gayle Kerr-McFadden	Communications Coordinator	gayle@pcoc.us
Anne Wattles	Administrative Assistant	churchofthecross@pcoc.us
Annette White, S.M.M.	Interim Organist	



Announcements

For the week of May 21, 2023

The Week at a Glance

Sunday, May 21

Pantry Sunday/Communion/CE Recognition

9:00 Worship in Sanctuary/Livestream
10:00 Coffee Fellowship
11:10 Worship in Sanctuary

Monday, May 22

9 & 11 Music & Movement
10:00 Tai Chi
6:30 Session Meeting

Tuesday, May 23

9:30 Staff Meeting
2:00 Active Minds

Wednesday, May 24

10:00 OAC Meeting

Thursday, May 25

9 & 11 Music & Movement
10:00 Tai Chi

Sunday, May 28

10:00 Worship in Sanctuary/Livestream
11:00 Coffee Fellowship

Summer Schedule May 28 – September 3

Single Worship Service at 10 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship at 11 a.m.

No Sunday school

Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

Joys and Concerns. Thank you to all our Christian Education volunteers! Find their names on the last page of the announcements.

The flowers in the chancel are given by Bruce & Mary Cramer in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary. The rosebud today is to honor Stella Mae Karges, born May 13 to Matt and Sunny Karges.

Please keep these members and families in prayer:

- Member Ron Mau passed away on May 18 at the age of 85. Service arrangements are pending. Please keep his wife Donna and family in prayer.
- Gene Pugh, Sue Barger, and Johnny Baddley are in the hospital.
- Deb Schmadeke is dealing with medical issues/concerns.
- The father of Emily Murray, Joel Gatewood, Jr., passed away on May 17 in Burke, Virginia. The family is planning a funeral at PCOC in the future.

Pastor Christine will be leaving PCOC to answer a new call to become the Pastor of the Presbyterian Community Church of Estes Park, Colorado. Christine's last day with us will be Sunday, July 2. We are sad to see her go but excited for her new opportunity. We'll have details coming soon about an all-church celebration in her honor on July 2.

Today Is Pantry Sunday. If you forgot to bring your food and hygiene items to church today, you can drop them inside the circle drive doors anytime. Find the list of needed items on the church website.

Summer Hours. Beginning next Sunday, summer worship is held at 10:00 a.m. only, and there is no Sunday School. On Monday, May 29, the office will be closed in observance of Memorial Day. Beginning Tuesday, May 30, our summer office hours are 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Monday – Friday.

Pancakes & a Peek on June 4! Join us for the Pancake Man after the worship service. The cost is \$5.00 per person and \$20.00 maximum per family. Proceeds will help our new refugee family. We will also host another walk-through of our new Welcome Center which is nearly 80% complete.

No Bible Studies on Tuesday, May 23. We will resume on May 30 and continue during the summer.

49ers on June 6. Our June speaker is Morgan Mattson, Lead Volunteer Coordinator Refugee Services at Lutheran Family Services (LFS), who will cover a broad overview of Refugee Resettlement and how LFS supports newly arrived refugees in Nebraska and Iowa. We will meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. at WHEATFIELDS, 1224 South 103rd Street (One Pacific Place) in the Garden Room, and we will order from a special menu provided. Everyone is welcome - whether you are 49, younger, or older - come join us! For reservations or questions, please contact Mary Ott or Judy Sundberg. Or, sign up at the Information Center in the Narthex.

Great News About Our Refugee Family! The wait is over, and our assigned refugee family should arrive in Omaha on May 25. The eight-member family is from Syria – a mother, father, five daughters (ages 18, 15, 12, 10, 8) and one son (age 5). Lutheran Family Services is finding housing, and our mission group will furnish their household before they arrive. Please pray for all to go smoothly and for the family's safe arrival. Thanks again to everyone who has helped our effort so far. We will keep you informed about what's next in supporting this family as they start a new life in Omaha. The family will not be a part of our congregation; however, our mission team will continue to help them adapt to life in the U.S. Questions? Contact Jeanne Smay or Paula Allen.

PCOC Event, Volunteer, and Mission Sign Up Opportunities

Just scan the QR code to access our sign-up page, locate your event, and sign up!



New Member Discussion on Sunday, June 11. If you are interested in joining the church, please attend our next New Member Discussion following worship on Sunday, June 11 in Room 15. The discussion will last about an hour and a light lunch will be served. Sign up online or call the church office.

Summer Ushers Needed. Looking for a way to serve the church? Sign up to usher on a Sunday that works for you! We are looking for ushers June 4 through September 3.

2023 Habitat for Humanity Faith House Build Day. If you are interested in helping with our Habitat for Humanity project this year, our build day will be on Saturday, June 3 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Anyone 16 or over can volunteer, and we have room for 10 on our PCOC crew. We will meet at the site at 8 a.m., and Rob Bailey will provide the address the week before the event to those signed up. Lunch and water will be provided. Work gloves, work boots, long sleeve shirt, and pants are suggested. Goggles and hardhat will be provided. Sign up online.

AllPlay Miracle Baseball League's Volunteers Needed for Spring Season (May 6-June 24). You can help make game days great for these special needs kids as they have fun playing baseball. Over 125 volunteers are needed each game day. Volunteer positions include being a player buddy, greeting, serving concessions, announcing the game, serving as umpire, being a mascot, or setting up before/cleaning up after the games. Each shift is 2 hours. Sign up online to help this mission partner!

Young Adult Mission Weekend June 21-25, 2023. Our young adults will be staying at Calvin Crest and venturing out for mission outreach throughout the metro area. Find the full itinerary online.

And Much More. . . Check out our summer children's/youth activities, too! Details on next page.



Hero Hotline VBS

June 13-15 — 9 a.m. to Noon

For ages 4-year-olds through just completed 5th grade.

Cost is \$10 per child/
max \$20 per family.

Sign up by June 1.

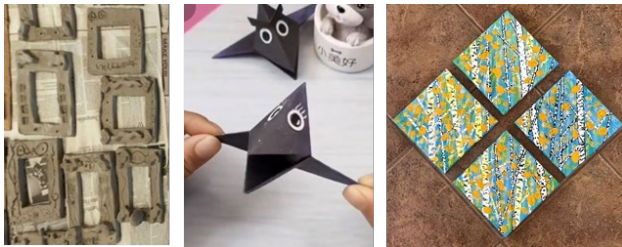


2023 Youth Choir Festival June 19-25

Rehearsals Mon-Thurs. 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Outreach Tour on Saturday.

Sing in worship on Sunday.



Art Camp with Sue Thomas

July 11-14 — 9:00 a.m. to Noon

Held in the Gathering Space

For children 1st - 5th grade (completed)

Cost is \$25 for materials/child.

**Just scan the QR code to access
the PCOC online sign-up page,
locate your activity, and sign up!**



Presbyterian Church of the Cross

1517 S. 114th Street – Omaha, NE 68114-1799

Phone: (402)333-7466 | Fax: (402)697-9084 | Email: churchofthecross@pcoc.us | Website:
churchofthecrossomaha.org

Thank you to our Christian Education volunteers!
We had 97 individuals volunteer for this year's CE programs.



Adult Education

Christine Dempsey
Cross Care Connections
Finance Committee
Kathy Moore
Patty Ritchie
Kirk Ryckman
Anna Sumner
Staci Voss
Marshall Zieman

Lenten Study Leaders

Paula & Keith Allen
Mimi & Darold Bauer
Ardys Hansum
Charlene & Lloyd Meyer
Stephen Niles
Patty Ritchie
Sandi Stuckey
Anna & Rock Sumner
Earlene Uhrig
Jean & Clarence Waters

CE Committee

Jeff Boyum
Jeremy Cunningham
Brad & Dawn Gibson
Tammy Holdren
Matt Kahler
Amy Miller
Cindy Rieke
Jeanette Searson
Kathryn Vint

Confirmation Mentors

Casey Ballou
Gayle Kerr-McFadden
Beth Maxwell
Ann Pearson
Sue Thomas

Library Committee

Judy Arms
Jeremy Cunningham
Carol Futhey
Kristin Jacobi

Advent Workshop

Carla Fritz
Gayle Hoybook

Youth Leaders

Ethan Bennett
Jeremy Cunningham
Julie Evers
Brad & Dawn Gibson
Susan Price
Sara Renner
Ashley Sherlock
John Stalnaker

Children & Youth Education

Holly Baddley
Mary Lynn Bennett
Amy & Dennis Boesen
Brentleigh Bowen
Beth Broderick
Jeffrey Boyum
Sheri Cunningham
Anna Flairty
Jane Hawkins
Angela Holdren
Gayle Hoybook
Emily Justice
Christina Kahler
Kathy Nickel
Margaret Knight
Jenny Koch
Lisa Luke
Beth Maxwell
Quinn McGuire
Emily Murray
Cindy Rieke
Ashley Sherlock
Piper Smith
Kimberly Spencer
Amanda Stalnaker
Barb Stuedemann
Sue Thomas
Bidong & Victoria Tot
Kara Versaw
Kathryn Vint
Staci Voss

Easter Egg Hunt

Junior & Senior High Youth

Children's Worship Kits

Charlotte Hubbard
Sandi Stuckey

VBS

Lauren Ballou
Carol Barnes
Andrew Berry
Amy Boesen
Jeff Boyum
Cadence Fritz
Sue Gollehon
Brenda Graumann
Barbara Haar-Rightmyer
Bethany Haas
Oliver Hansen
Sally Hansen
Jane Hawkins
Angela Holdren
Gayle Kerr-McFadden
Kathy Nickel
Margaret Knight
Brinly Lehmann
Lisa Luke
Evan McFadden
Quinn McGuire
Amy Miller
Linda Miller
Ella Moore
Kathy Moore
Ann Pearson
Aurora Quartoroli
Ashley Sherlock
Piper Smith
Amanda Stalnaker
Anna Sumner
Sue Thomas
Kara Versaw
Kathryn Vint
Anne Wattles
Libby Whitlow
Cheryl Whorlow
Rodney Whorlow
Becky Zieman
Marshall Zieman