



Welcome to Worship

Sunday, August 20, 2023

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

"Soul, Adorn Thyself with Gladness"

Charles Ore

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

SILENT MEDITATION

"I will have nothing to do with a God who cares only occasionally. I need a God who is with us always, everywhere, in the deepest depths as well as the highest heights. It is when things go wrong, when good things do not happen, when our prayers seem to have been lost, that God is most present. We do not need the sheltering wings when things go smoothly. We are closest to God in the darkness, stumbling along blindly."

Madeline L'Engle

CALL TO WORSHIP

Turn us, O God,

away from the world's temptations and distractions.

Return us, O God,

to the quiet calm of your presence.

Restore us, O God,

to the path you call us to follow.

Orient us, O God,

to the hope of all that is possible through you.

PRAISE AND ADORATION

*OPENING HYMN #805

Come, Sing to God

ELLACOMBE

(*Please stand, if you are able.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

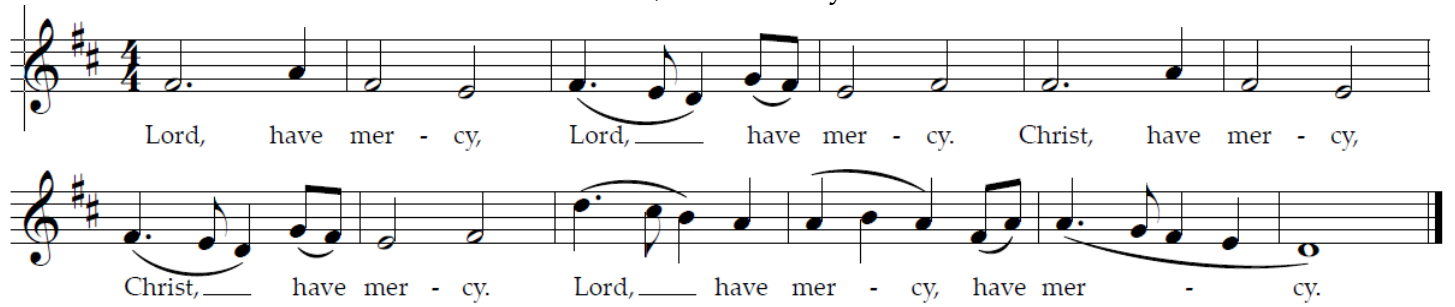
God our refuge, you hear our cries for mercy. You lift the lowly and offer hope to the hopeless. But we, who benefit from your grace, do not emulate you and your ways. We are quick to condemn, exaggerate critique and act mercilessly. We confess the ways we demean and dehumanize others. We pray for your forgiveness. Hear us now, as we confess our sins in the silence of our hearts...

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

KYRIE ELEISON

"Lord, Have Mercy"

Schubert

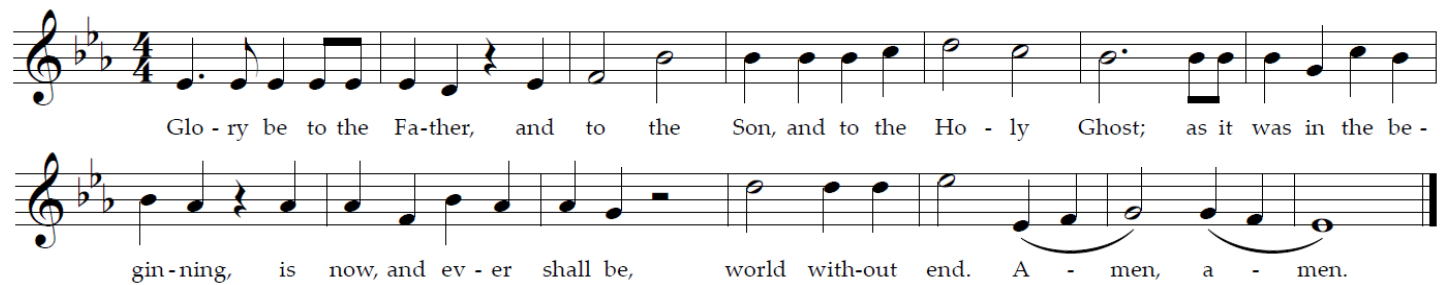


Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy,
Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON***GLORIA PATRI (#581)**

"Glory Be to the Father"

GLORIA PATRI



Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -
gin-ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A - men, a - men.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**MINUTE FOR EDUCATION**

Dr. Carl Greiner

HYMN #435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

IN BABILONE

During the hymn, children are invited to come forward for a time with Dr. Zieman

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Isaiah 56: 1,6-8

page 599 of the pew Bible

*The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!***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

"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

Jan Reese

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 15: 21-28

page 797 of the pew Bible

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Lord, Have Mercy"

Dr. Zieman

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

***SANCTUS**

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

SANCTUS (Schubert)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, _____

ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, _____

heav - en and earth are full, _____ full _____ of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

“Cantate Domino”
(Sing to the Lord)

Natalie Sleeth

* 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!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, the gifts we offer reflect only a portion of all that you have given us. Take these offerings and multiply them for your use. May our offerings be a blessing to those most in need, to those most vulnerable. May our offerings, given in a spirit of generosity, abate the desire to hoard, and spread the desire to share. Amen.

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #299

You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

HANOVER

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

“A Clare Benediction”

John Rutter

POSTLUDE

“Prelude and Fugue in F Major”

J.S. Bach

SERVING IN MINISTRY TODAY

Liturgist

Linda Matson, elder on Session

Music

Women’s Ensemble, Kristi Treu, piano; Mark Kanitz, organ

Ushers

Richard & Trudy Meyer, Tim & Brenda Graumann, Annie Wattles

Greeters

North Door: Brentleigh Bowen South Door: Alta Empkey

Information Center

Pam Swenson

Childcare Ministry

Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, and Brandon Fisher

Coffee Host

Mimi Bauer

STAFF

Rev. Marshall Zieman, D. Min.

Pastor, Head of Staff

marshall@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

Mark Kanitz

Organist



Announcements

For the week of August 20, 2023

The Week at a Glance

Sunday, August 20

Pantry Sunday

10:00 Worship in Sanctuary/Livestream

11:00 Coffee Fellowship

Monday, August 21

9 & 11 Music & Movement

10:00 Tai Chi

6:30 Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, August 22

9:30 Staff Meeting

2:00 Active Minds

Wednesday, August 23

8:00 *Cross Currents* team

5:30 Chamber Singers

Thursday, August 24

9 & 11 Music & Movement

10:00 Tai Chi

6:00 Presbyterian Men's Baseball Night/
Storm Chasers game starting at 7:05

Friday, August 25

6:00 GALS Night at Soaring Wings until 9:00

Sunday, August 27

10:00 Worship in Sanctuary/Livestream

11:00 Fancy Fellowship/Welcome for Mark Kanitz

SHF Car Wash until 1 p.m.

Nominating Comm meets in Rm. 13

Summer Schedule Through September 10

Single Worship Service at 10 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship at 11 a.m. | No Sunday School

Office Hours: 9:00 to 3:30 Monday-Friday

Joys & Concerns. The flowers in the chancel this week are given by Russ Beernink and Dianne Witmer in memory of Don and June Beernink. These members had surgery this week: Amy Boesen, Donna Wilhite, and Jean Lynn.

TODAY is Pantry Sunday. If you forgot to bring your food and hygiene items to worship today, you still have time to drop them inside the circle drive doors at church anytime. The most needed items can be found on the church website.

Upcoming Agape Events. UNO Design the Redline Exhibit on Wednesday, August 23 at 2:00 p.m. United We Walk on Sunday, September 10 from 3-6 p.m. at Tri-Faith Commons. Find the details on the sign up page of the church website.

Presbyterian Men's Annual Baseball Outing on August 24. You're invited to join us for fellowship and fun on "Thirsty" Thursday on August 24 at 7:05 p.m. for the Omaha Storm Chasers vs. St. Paul Saints at Werner Park. The cost is \$11.00 per ticket. Sign up/pay at the Information Desk. Questions? Bruce Cramer.

PCOC GALS Event on August 25. Join the GALS for an evening of fellowship on Picnic Night at Soaring Wings Winery (17111 S 138th St, Springfield, NE) on Friday, August 25 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Gates open at 6:00 p.m., and there is a \$5 cover charge. Bring a blanket, lawn chair, and picnic as we enjoy time together on their lawn with live music by the band Out Loud. The winery does not allow outside alcohol, but they sell wine on the property. Sign up online.

Time to Play Ball. The AllPlay Miracle Baseball League's fall season runs August 12 – September 16. 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 and many different positions are available. Each shift is 2 hours. Please sign up online to help this PCOC mission partner!

Summer Ushers Needed. We need a couple more ushers for our 10 a.m. service on August 27 and September 3. No experience needed – we'll provide directions! Questions? Contact Jayne Frederickson. Sign up online.

Fancy Fellowship & Welcome for Mark Kanitz on August 27. The Congregational Life Committee would like to invite everyone to enjoy an extended coffee fellowship time as well as welcome our new organist Mark Kanitz to PCOC. We ask that everyone bring goodies to share. Please have food cut and ready to serve.

Bring Goodies



to Share!



SHF Car Wash Fundraiser on August 27. Bring your dirty cars to church on Sunday, August 27, and plan to stop by the car wash station in the north parking lot to have your car cleaned by the SHF group! The event begins immediately after worship and ends at 1:00 p.m. Donations will be accepted. All proceeds will go towards next year's mission trip. Thanks for your support!

Music Department Fall Kick-Off Party on September 4. All PCOC members who participate in a music activity at the church (choirs, bell choir, brass, children's choir, etc.) are invited to a fall kick-off party hosted by Kristi Treu in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up online. More details will be shared after you sign up!

49ers on September 5. Nick Salick, Development Officer/Nebraska Field Officer, will inform us about the Nature Conservancy and their mission to protect the lands and waters on which all life depends. In Nebraska they steward prairies, work with farmers to implement conservation practices, and protect the Platte River - the world's foremost stopover for sandhill cranes. Join us to hear about the exciting work they are doing in our state. We meet at 11:30 a.m. at WHEATFIELDS, 1224 South 103rd Street (One Pacific Place). For reservation or questions, please contact Mary Ott or Judy Sundberg. Sign up at the Information Center.

Friday Night Gourmets Returns on September 8. Join us at Farmer Brown's, 2620 River Rd Dr., Waterloo NE (402-779-2353). We will be ordering off their party menu which includes steak/prime rib, chicken, and seafood. Social Hour is at 6:30 p.m. and dinner at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to join us for this September "Tradition" of great food, friends, and lively conversations. Sign up at the Information Desk by Sunday, September 3. Contact hosts Gene/Verta Pugh and Curt Field/Launie Lambert with questions.

New Season Begins - Free Vesper Concert on September 8. Vesper Concerts kicks off its milestone 35th season with its first concert on Friday, September 8, at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. The duo of violinist Cristian Fatu and guitarist Beau Bledsoe present a concert titled "World View," a program featuring musical styles from around the world, from classical to tango. Fatu is recognized as one of today's most exciting young violinists and has more than twenty-five national and international violin competitions around the world. Bledsoe performs and records classical music, jazz and folkloric music, especially the music of Spain and Portugal. The concert is free.



Active Minds. We're still playing Canasta for this month, but Active Minds will switch to North Dakota Whist in September. Join us when your schedule allows on Tuesdays, lower level, 2-4 p.m. New members and friends are always welcome. Questions? Contact Earlene Uhrig.

Presbyterian Women Return on September 7. The Morning Circle will begin a new study Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts. Luke provides a perspective on the person and works of Jesus Christ with the scope of His message and inclusivity of God's love and salvation. In Acts, the apostles with the Holy Spirit continue this mission of mercy and compassion. Lessons invite today's church to take caring beyond our congregation to inclusion in our communities of faith. We meet on the first Thursday of the month at 9:00 am in Room 15. Questions? Contact Cindy Nisley.

Presbyterian Men September Projects at Calvin Crest. The Presbyterian Men of PCOC will have a project workday at Camp Calvin Crest on Friday, September 8 and/or Saturday, September 9 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Our projects include replacing deck boards on the GaGa Ball Court and finishing a couple cabin decks. We will carpool (more details later) and have a no-cost lunch. Please sign up at the Information Center. Questions? Contact Coordinator Jon Boomgaarden.

We're Hiring Church Support Staff

The church is looking to fill the following openings in the near future. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Rock in the church office.

Administrative Assistant (part time)

Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., but open to flexible schedule based on needs

Responsibilities: Answer the phone/greet visitors in the office and point inquiries to the right staff person; print weekly bulletin, funeral programs as needed, and monthly *Cross Currents*; maintain the church calendar; update the membership database; and other general administrative work as needed.

Communications Coordinator (part time)

Hours: 20 hours per week/some flexibility with days; Tuesday mornings and Sunday mornings required

Responsibilities: Write and send congregational email every Friday; create the announcements section in the Sunday bulletin; maintain church website/update content weekly; compile, design, and edit *Cross Currents* each month; create online sign-up forms; create advertisements for church online signage (TVs)/update weekly; create and stage the Sunday morning service livestream/coordinate who will run; and maintain church Facebook page.

Software skills needed: WordPress, Microsoft Office suite (including Publisher), Mvix, OBS, Vimeo, and Cognito forms (WordPress/Office knowledge required; training for other software will be provided)

Livestream Team Members

Hours: Sunday mornings 1-2 hours

Each Sunday, we need two individuals, one to operate the cameras/livestream and one to operate the microphones. These positions include compensation. Ideally, members will share these tasks in a team atmosphere, so you are not working every Sunday. Training will be provided!

- Livestream responsibilities: operating the cameras and the livestream during the service
- Microphone responsibilities: using a tablet to control microphones during the service

Register Now for Cornerstone and Fall Adult Education

Cornerstone - Register Online by September 1

The fall semester of Cornerstone begins on Wednesday, September 13. **Register online by September 1.**

- Bible Study for children in Preschool – 7th Grade and two classes for adults (details below)
- Confirmation Class for 8th Graders.
- Choir for children in 1st Grade – 7th Grade and Adults
- Dinner for all

Confirmation

Led by Marshall Ziemann | Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. | beginning September 13

Contact Heather if you haven't yet signed up your 8th Grader.

God Saves a People

Led by Kirk Ryckman | Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. | September 13 – November 15

The theme we will tackle this fall is "God Saves a People." There is no more central theme to our faith and our understanding of God's caring for us than this. And this theme of salvation moves from the Old Testament to the New and then the life of the early church. It will trace the saving grace of God from the Exodus, the wanderings, and the Kingdom's rise and fall, on to God's new act of salvation through Jesus, into the early church. Follow the sweep of the story and marvel at the mighty acts of God yet today! This is the heart of understanding our relationship to God. It is well worth the time to study. Please join us. Suggested book donation is \$20. If you plan to eat dinner before class, please also sign up for Cornerstone.

Dementia

Led by Carl Greiner and Steven Wengel | Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. | September 13, 20, 27

Dementia is an illness that can compromise memory, personality, and physical agility. The demographics of dementia are impressive: one in three seniors dies with Alzheimer's. Currently, there are six million American's living with Alzheimer's. It is anticipated that there will be 13 million by 2050. You have the opportunity to learn about this important disease. This course is designed for a general audience and will emphasize questions and answers. It is not necessary to attend all the classes; each class has its own features. Attending the first class is particularly recommended. September 13: Alzheimer's and other problems of memory | September 20: Preventive measures that you can take to reduce risk | September 27: Challenges for caregivers. If you plan to eat dinner before class, please also sign up for Cornerstone.

Note: Some members would like to attend both classes, and we are sorry for the conflicting time schedules. As a result, we will record the Dementia class and make it available for online viewing, so everyone has access.

Sunday Morning Adult Education this Fall

We Are Americans

Led by Charlene Meyer & Earlene Uhrig | Sundays 9-10:30 a.m. | September 24 – November 5

PCOC members come from diverse personal backgrounds in both locations growing up and career strengths. We'll explore how our ancestral diversity, faith diversity, and geographic diversity influenced our individual choices to become members of our caring PCOC community. Can we meet the challenge offered by a Matt Skinner commentary and shared in Marshall's May 28th sermon? Can we continue to grow as a beloved community that is united in purpose and identity? This seven-week adult course will have a unique timeframe, meeting from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. to allow necessary dialogue of the topics and still offer time for fellowship before attending the 11:10 a.m. service. Weekly video/reading homework required.

Albert Schweitzer – A Modern Saint

Led by Carl Greiner | Sundays at 10:00 a.m. | October 22, 29 and November 5, 12

Albert Schweitzer (1875-1965) was an accomplished organist, writer, musician, physician, and missionary. This class will review his autobiography *Out of My Life and Thought* and address two basic questions: How did he put his faith into practice? How did he put his faith into reflection? Suggested book donation is \$15/book.

Tuesday Bible Studies with Dr. Zieman

Led by Marshall Zieman | Tuesdays at 7:00 a.m. (Men) & 1:00pm (Everybody) | Begins September 12

This fall, both Bible Studies will begin a study of the Old Testament Book of Exodus. New members are always welcome to join. Just bring your favorite Bible and come prepared to learn and discuss together. The classes are casual and discussion-oriented. A Zoom option is also offered at 1:00.



Did you see something you'd like to sign up for?

We've made it easy to sign up online! Just scan the QR code (left) to access our sign-up page, locate your event, and complete the online sign-up form!

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
