



Welcome to Worship

Sunday, September 3, 2023

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

Improvisations on BOURBON

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

SILENT MEDITATION

What is both good and new about the good news is the mad insistence that Jesus lives on among us not just as another haunting memory but as the outlandish, holy, and invisible power of God working not just through the sacraments, but in countless hidden ways to make even slobs like us loving and whole beyond anything we could conceivably pull off by ourselves. - Frederick Buechner

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather hoping to see God.

Here in worship, we realize that we see God in one another.

We can see God

when we show one another honor,

when we pursue hospitality to strangers,

when we live in harmony with one another,

when we rejoice in hope.

Let us worship the God who is present in our midst today.

PRAISE AND ADORATION

***OPENING HYMN #826**

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

(*Please stand, if you are able.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

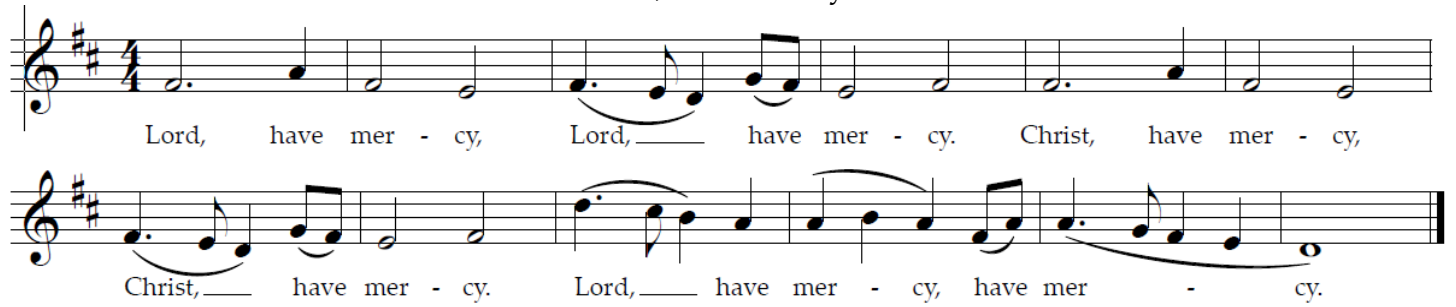
God of love, you ask us to love one another from the center of who we are, you tell us to bless one another, you encourage us to do good. But we have not listened to your words. Instead of loving, we have practiced hatred, instead of blessing, we have perfected cursing, instead of doing good, we have sought to get even. Forgive us for giving up. Give us grace to try again, and encouragement to make your ways, our ways. We pray, we wait, and we hope. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

KYRIE ELEISON

“Lord, Have Mercy”

Schubert



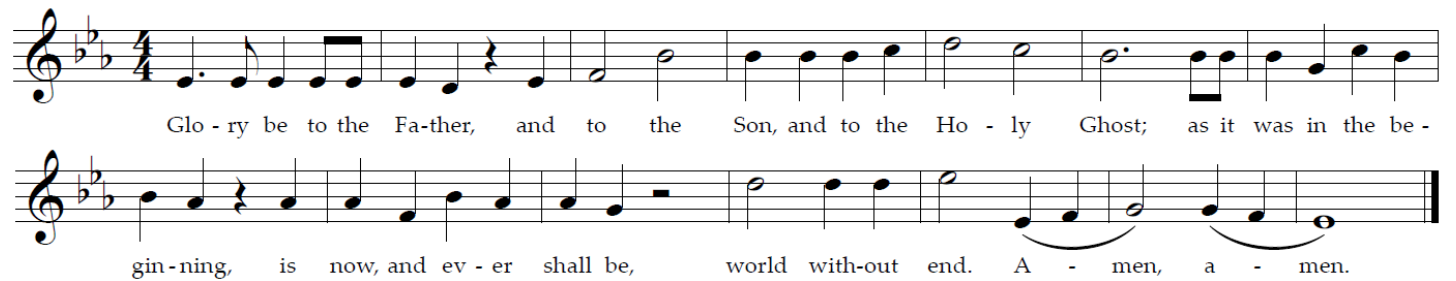
Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

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 GREETING

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

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Amanda DeVries and Kathy Kazor, Heartland Hope Mission

FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 16: 21-28

page 798 of the pew Bible

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Messiah 2.0”

Dr. Zieman

PRAYER

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

“Prelude” from Suite No. 1 in G Major

J.S. Bach

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from the Heidelberg Catechism (1563), 4.066

Q. What are sacraments?

A. Sacraments are visible, holy signs and seals. They were instituted by God so that by our use of them he might make us understand more clearly the promise of the gospel, and seal that promise. And this is God’s gospel promise: to grant us forgiveness of sins and eternal life by grace because of Christ’s one sacrifice accomplished on the cross.

*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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SERVING OF THE ELEMENTS

*Please come forward as directed by an usher. All baptized Christians are encouraged to partake – by taking a piece of bread and dipping it into the cup. Gluten-free bread is at the station closer to the pulpit.
If you are unable to come forward, an elder will serve you in the pew.*

ANTHEM

“Allemande” from Suite No. 1 in G Major

J.S. Bach

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“Go Now In Peace”

Don Besig

Go now in peace. Ne - ver be a - fraid. God will go with you each hour of ev-'ry day. Go now in faith,
 stead-strong and true. Know God will guide you in all you do. Go now in love, and show you be - lieve.
 Reach out to oth - ers so all the world can see. God will be there watch - ing from a - bove. Go now in peace, in
 faith, and in love. — A - men. — A - men. — A - men. —

POSTLUDE

“The Emperor’s Fanfare”

Antonio Soler; arr. E. Power Biggs

SERVING IN MINISTRY TODAY

- Liturgist** Mike Howland
- Elders serving Communion** Curt Field, Mary Ott, Neal Hubbard, Linda Matson, Mike Howland
- Music** Annika Shaw, cello; Mark Kanitz, organ
- Ushers** Rick & Sheri Sessions, Patty Ritchie, Alta Empkey, Inga Wagner
- Greeters** North Door: Betsy and Jim Conway South Door: Bidong Tot
Welcome Center: Doug Larson
- Information Center** Kathy Nickel
- Childcare Ministry** Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, and Brandon Fisher
- Coffee Host** Karen Smith

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 communications@pcoc.us
- Mark Kanitz Organist
- Julie Hansen Administrative Assistant churchofthecross@pcoc.us



Announcements

For the week of September 3, 2023

The Week at a Glance

Sunday, September 3

- 10:00 Worship in Sanctuary with Communion/
Livestream
- 11:00 Coffee Fellowship

Monday, September 4 – Labor Day

The Church Office is closed.

- 5:00 Music Dept. Party in Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, September 5

- 7:00 Men's Bible Study offsite breakfast
- 9:30 Staff Meeting
- 11:30 49ers at Wheatfield's
- 2:00 Active Minds
- 4:00 Congregational Life Committee
- 5:00 Nominating Committee

Wednesday, September 6

- 5:30 Chamber Singers
- 6:30 Alleluia Singers
- 6:30 Confirmation Parent Meeting

Thursday, September 7

- 9:00 Music & Movement
- 9:30 PW Bible Study & Meeting
- 10:00 Tai Chi
- 11:00 Music & Movement

Friday, September 8

- 8:00 Presbyterian Men Workday
at Camp Calvin Crest
- 6:00 Friday Night Gourmets at Farmer Brown's
- 7:00 Vesper Concert

Saturday, September 9

- 8:00 Presbyterian Men Workday
at Camp Calvin Crest

Sunday, September 10

- 10:00 Worship with Welcome Center Dedication
- 11:00 Ice Cream Sundaes after Dedication
- 11:00 Caring & Sharing Day at Don & Millie's
until 3 p.m.
- 4:15 Serve Dinner at Siena Francis House

**We return to our two-service schedule
with Sunday School on September 17.**

Joys & Concerns. The flowers in the chancel this week are given by Diane and Kevin Wetuski in loving memory of a loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Madeline Stebbins. Don Reed was in Methodist Hospital this week.

Activity Updates. No Tai Chi or Music and Movement on Monday, Sept. 4.

PCOC Music Dept Party – September 4. For those who signed up to attend, remember your side dish or dessert and join us for food, fun, and fellowship from 5-7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

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.

Donations for Maui. Funds are being collected for disaster relief for the Maui fire. Funds will be administered through PDA when rebuilding efforts begin. You can donate by check or give online. Please indicate "Disaster Relief" as the memo/fund.



New Game for Active Minds. Our group will play 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 – new time. 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 9:30 a.m. in Room 15. Questions? Contact Cindy Nisley.

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 or Curt Field/Launie Lambert with questions.

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 Desk in the Welcome Center. Questions? Contact Coordinator Jon Boomgaarden.

New Season Begins - Free Vesper Concert on September 8. Vesper Concerts kicks off its milestone 35th season with its first free 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 won prizes in 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.



Upcoming Agape Events. United We Walk on Sunday, September 10 from 3-6 p.m. at Tri-Faith Commons. Fort Omaha Intertribal Powwow on September 23 from 1-7 p.m. Find the details on the sign up page of the church website.

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!

HHM Volunteer Opportunity on September 23. On Saturday, September 23 from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., we need 5 to 10 PCOC volunteers to help distribute pantry items, restock, and anything else they need us to do. Please contact John Bennett at if interested in assisting with this event.

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 Zieman | 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

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