



Welcome to Worship

Sunday, September 24, 2023

9:00 & 11:10 a.m.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

"Adagio" from Sonata No. 1 Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy

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

SILENT MEDITATION

After centuries of handling and mishandling, most religious words have become so shopworn nobody's much interested any more. Not so with *grace*, for some reason. Mysteriously, even derivatives like *gracious* and *graceful* still have some of the bloom left. Grace is something you can never get but only be given. There's no way to earn it or deserve it or bring it about any more than you can deserve the taste of raspberries and cream or earn good looks or bring about your own birth.

Frederick Buechner, originally published in *Wishful Thinking*

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP (11:10)

"Sing Ye to the Lord"

Everett Titcomb

CALL TO WORSHIP

(from Psalm 107:1-3, 43)

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those he redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Let those who are wise give heed to these things,

and consider the steadfast love of the Lord. Let us worship God!

PRAISE AND ADORATION

*OPENING HYMN #664

Morning Has Broken

BUNESSAN

(*Please stand, if you are able.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, forgive us when we grumble and complain against your goodness as the Israelites did in the desert, as the elder brother did to his father, as the workers in the field did to the landowner.

We judge and weigh your gifts according to our standards. We often question your fairness instead of receiving your grace with thanksgiving and joy. Help us to see your world through your eyes and with your spirit of generosity and grace, that we may welcome the chance to serve in your kingdom and all who join with us. Forgive us, Lord, in your grace and mercy through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

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 (#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**MOMENT FOR MISSION**

Karen Morey, elder on the Mission Committee

***HYMN #744**

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

FESTAL SONG

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

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Exodus 16: 2-15

page 55 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

"In This Very Room" (9:00)

Ron and Carol Harris

"For the fruits of this creation" (11:10)

Austin C. Lovelace

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD**SCRIPTURE READING**

Matthew 20: 1-16

page 801 of the pew Bible

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

SERMON

“Grumbling in the Face of Grace”

Dr. Ziemann

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

from A Brief Statement of Faith (1991)

In life and death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

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. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, Come, Lord Jesus!

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***SANCTUS (#572)**

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

(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.

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

“For the Beauty of the Earth” (9:00)

John Rutter

“Come, Labor On” (11:10)

Jeremy J. Bankson

*** DOXOLOGY (#607)**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

OLD HUNDRETH

Arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

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**

Gracious God, we know that every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from you. We thank you for your many blessings, especially your perfect gift of your Son Jesus Christ, your indescribable gift! Help us to receive your gifts and grace with thanksgiving and humility and to use them faithfully in and for your kingdom. We ask this in the name of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

***HYMN OF DEDICATION #435**

There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy

IN BABILONE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“Go Now In Peace” (9:00)

“Benedictus” (11:10)

Don Besig

Craig Curry

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

“Gloria” from *A Liturgical Organ Suite*

Craig Philips

SERVING IN MINISTRY TODAY

Liturgist	Don Metzger
Music	9:00 Marietta Morhardt, mezzo soprano; Kristi Treu, piano; Mark Kanitz, organ 11:10 Alleluia Singers; Mark Kanitz, organ
Ushers	9:00: Darold Bauer (Captain), Mimi Bauer, Mike Shannon, Sherryl Shannon, Julie Buehler 11:10 Dennis Boesen (Captain), Amy Boesen, Trudy Meyer, Richard Meyer
Greeters	9:00 North Door: Kristin Jacobi 9:00 Welcome Center: Ken and Cindy Nisley : 11:10 North Door: Inga Wagner 11:10 Welcome Center: Neal Hubbard
Information Center	Kathy Nickel
Childcare Ministry	Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, and Brandon Fisher
Coffee Host	Cindy Rieke
Flowers	The flowers this morning are given by the Alleluia Singers to the Glory of God in memory of our beloved colleague, Dana Sloan, on the occasion of his birthday.

STAFF

Rev. Marshall Zieman, D. Min.	Pastor, Head of Staff	marshall@pcoc.us
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Rev. Kirk Ryckman, D. Min.	Pastor Emeritus	



Announcements

For the week of September 24, 2023

The Week at a Glance

Sunday, September 24

- 9:00 Worship in Sanctuary
"We Are Americans" in Room 15
Deacon Blood Drive until 2 p.m.
10:00 Children's/Youth Sunday School
Coffee Fellowship
11:10 Worship in Sanctuary/Livestream
4:45 JHF Fun & Games
SHF Games - bring your dog!

Monday, September 25

- 9 & 11 Music & Movement
10:00 Tai Chi
6:30 Session Meeting in Room 16

Tuesday, September 26

- 7:00 Men's Bible Study in Room 16
9:30 Staff Meeting
1:00 Tuesday Bible Study in Room 16
2:00 Active Minds
6:00 Cross Care Connections potluck & meeting

Wednesday, September 27

- 5:15 Children's Choir
5:50 Chamber Singers
6:00 Dinner
6:30 Adult Education, Bible Study, and
Confirmation Class
6:50 Alleluia Singers

Thursday, September 28

- 9 & 11 Music & Movement
10:00 Tai Chi
6:00 Carillon Choir

Sunday, October 1

- 9:00 Worship in Sanctuary with communion
"We Are Americans" in Room 15
10:00 Children's/Youth Sunday School
Coffee Fellowship
11:10 Worship in Sanctuary with Communion and
Livestream
Noon New Member Discussion with light lunch
4:00 JHF & SHF at Skinny Bones until 7:00 p.m.

The Deacons Blood Drive Is TODAY from 9 to 2. Help us reach our goal of registering 25 donors! Drop ins are welcome!

Youth Group News. Today, JHF & SHF both meet at 4:45 at the church. SHF - bring your dog if you have one! Next Sunday, we are heading to Skinny Bones Pumpkin Patch with other churches from our presbytery. The deadline to sign up is TODAY! Please email Heather to let her know you are going, AND complete the online sign up form for the event (register as an individual) – a link is on the sign up page of the church website. Parents, details were sent by email from Heather earlier this week.

Last Chance to Donate. Funds are being collected for disaster relief for the Maui fire and will be administered through PDA when rebuilding efforts begin. You can donate by check or give online. Indicate "Disaster Relief" as the memo/fund.

PW on Thursday, October 5. Come join us as we continue studying Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts. We will meet on October 5 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 15. Karen Saunders will present Lesson 2, The Exorcism in Geraga: Legion the demon-possessed man. Our PW group has a project this year to assist Heartland Hope Mission's lady clients each month. In October, we are collecting period products and will have a box by the current food gathering bin. We would appreciate any donations for our project. Questions? Contact Cindy Nisley.

New Member Discussion on October 1. If you are interested in joining the church, please attend our next new member discussion on Sunday, October 1 following late service. A light lunch will be provided, and our discussion will last about an hour. Sign up online or call the church office.

Serve at Siena Francis House on October 8. PCOC's shift is from 4:15 to 6:15 p.m. Sign up online via the church website. Questions? Contact Keith Allen.

2nd Grade Bibles on October 8. All second graders will receive a Deep Blue Bible during worship on October 8. If you have a second grader and are unable to attend worship that day, please let Heather know.

Vesper Concerts Annual Outdoor Concert on October 8. Join us for a party on the East Lawn on October 8! The Back Alley Brass Band will have you up on your feet with their New Orleans-style jazz, but you should still bring your lawn chairs. This event will be a party for the entire family. Bring Your Appetites! The Corn Dog Company food truck will be here! Certificates for a FREE Mini Corn Dog will be given to the first 50 children ages 12 and under (a \$5 value)! Check out their tasty menu at www.thecorndogco.com/menu.html.

49ers on October 10 - Note the special date (2nd Tuesday in October). Our speakers will be Paula Allen and Jeanne Smay, co-leaders of the PCOC refugee resettlement team, who will update us on the progress of the refugee family that is being sponsored by PCOC. We meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. at WHEATFIELDS, 1224 South 103rd Street (One Pacific Place). For reservations and/or questions, please contact Mary Ott or Judy Sundberg. Sign up at the Information Desk.

Presbyterian Men Outing on October 12. All PCOC men are invited to a free, 90-minute guided tour of the "CLAAS Factory" at 8401 S 132nd St. at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 12. Please arrange carpooling with guys who live near you. We plan to have lunch afterwards at 11:00 a.m. at Shirley's Diner, 13838 R Plaza, and enjoy food & fellowship (pay for your own lunch). Sign up at the Information Desk by Sunday, October 8. Bring a guest, and new members, join us! Questions? Contact Gary Fitch.

Friday Night Gourmets on October 13. Join us for a spooky Friday Night Gourmets on Friday, October 13, at the Pink Poodle in Crescent, Iowa. We will order from a limited menu that includes prime rib, chicken, and more. Sign up online or at the information desk. Drinks will start at 6:30 and dinner at 7:00. Please indicate at signup if you would like to carpool. Hosts are Mary Reid and Charlene Meyer.

Albert Schweitzer – A Modern Saint. Carl Greiner will teach this class on Sundays, 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? Sign up online.

PCOC GALs on Sunday, October 22. Join our fellowship group for a cozy themed fall potluck and craft evening from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Voss home. Sign up online by October 10 to bring a beverage, potluck course, and vase/pot for the craft. Questions? Contact Staci Voss.

Trunk or Treat on October 29. Join us on the East Lawn on Sunday, October 29 at 3:00 p.m. for fun, games, and trunk or treating. Be sure to wear your costume and bring a bucket for your treats. Please sign up online, so we have an idea of how many to expect. We are also accepting candy donations. Please donate individually-wrapped candy or treats. You may drop them in the bin in the Lobby.

Sunday Ushers & Greeters Needed! Ushers: We have a few openings on our usher teams. You may sign up to be a permanent member of a team, or you may sign up to usher on individual Sundays that work with your schedule. Please use the online sign up form. **Greeters:** We also need greeters to welcome folks on Sunday morning. Stop by the Information Desk to sign up for your preferred Sunday and door, or sign up online!

We're Hiring! The church is hiring for these part-time positions: Administrative Assistant, Communications Coordinator, and Livestream Team Members. Find detailed job descriptions at churchofthecrossomaha.org/job-openings/. If interested, send cover letter and resume to rock@pcoc.us.

Presbyterian Church of the Cross

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