



Welcome to Worship

Sunday, November 19, 2023

9:00 & 11:10 a.m.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

Fanfare, Chorale, Trio and Adagio
from "Partita on Now Thank We All Our God"

Charles Callahan

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

SILENT MEDITATION

Pride slays thanksgiving, but a humble mind is the soil out of which thanks naturally grow. A proud man is seldom a grateful man, for he never thinks he gets as much as he deserves.

Henry Ward Beecher (1813-1887)

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

"Thanksgiving!" (9:00)
"This Is the Day" (11:10)

John Ness Beck
Natalie Sleeth

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lord, you have been the voice that guides us;

we come today to listen.

You have been the host who feeds us;

we come today to be filled.

You have been our joy and crown;

we come today to sing your praise!

PRAISE AND ADORATION

*OPENING HYMN #336

We Gather Together

KREMSER

(*Please stand, if you are able.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that once again, we have made mistakes. We've made missteps. We have hurt people, by action and inaction. We have wounded creation, by action and inaction. We have chosen our ways over yours, by action and inaction. We ask you to turn us towards goodness. Forgive our past and shape our future, that we might build your kingdom here.

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

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn "We Are Forgiven". The music is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is simple and repetitive. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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

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

ANTHEM (11:10)

“Lord, We Give Thanks”

Mark Patterson

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION

John Bennett, for our PCOC special Christmas offerings

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 (9:00)

“Like a River in My Soul”

Tim Osiek

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25:14-30

page 807 of the pew Bible

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

SERMON

“A Talent Show”

Dr. Richard Meyer, HR

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

from A Brief Statement of Faith (1991)

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!

***SANCTUS (#572)**

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

(Pavlechko)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heav-en 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)

Eric Nelson

Meditation from “Partita on Now Thank We All Our God” (11:10) Charles Callahan

*** DOXOLOGY (#607)**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

OLD HUNDREDTH

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**

Generous God, with Thanksgiving quickly approaching, we are reminded to give you thanks for the ministries of this congregation which you have entrusted us with. We are honored by the opportunity to be your holy body here. Bless this offering, and the offering of our lives, that our efforts would bring glory to your name. Amen.

***HYMN OF DEDICATION #367**

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ST. GEORGE’S WINDSOR

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

“Amen” (9:00)

John Rutter

“Go Now In Peace” (11:10)

Don Besig

POSTLUDE

Postlude from “Partita on Now Thank We All Our God”

Charles Callahan

SERVING IN MINISTRY TODAY

Music	9:00 Alleluia Singers; Mark Kanitz, organ	
	11:10 Children's Choir, Jayne Frederickson, director; Mark Kanitz, organ	
Ushers	9:00 Tim Graumann, Captain, Brenda Graumann, Kathy Moore, Cheryl Bedell, Jeff Boyum	
	11:10 Josh Murry, Captain, Joe Weaver, Sue Kiel, Arlin Siel	
Greeters	9:00 North Door: Karen Saunders Welcome Center: Ken and Cindy Nisley	
	11:10 North Door: Josh and Kara Versaw Welcome Center: Carol Gasko	
Information Center	9:00 Linda Miller	11:10 Stephanie Weaver
Childcare Ministry	Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, and Brandon Fisher	
Coffee Host	Jeremy Cunningham, Kathy Nickel	
Flowers	The flowers in the chancel this morning are given by Dave and Mary Ann Pederson in honor of their 54 th anniversary and also Linda Grohs in memory of her daughter, Jessica Dorn.	

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
Christian Fritz	Communications	communications@pcoc.us
Julie Hansen	Office Administrator	churchofthecross@pcoc.us
Mark Kanitz	Organist	
Rev. Kirk Ryckman, D. Min.	Pastor Emeritus	

Please note: If you would like to have an item included in the Bulletin Announcements, the deadline for submissions is Wednesday night each week. Once an item has been submitted, it will be included automatically until the event has passed. Send your information to communications@pcoc.us. Thank you!



Announcements

For the week of November 19, 2023

The Week at a Glance

Sunday, November 19 – Pantry Sunday

- 9:00 Worship in Sanctuary
- 10:00 Children's/Youth Sunday School, In Welcome Center - Coffee Fellowship/International Mission Forum
- 11:10 Worship in Sanctuary/Livestream
- 12:00 Advent Workshop
- 12:00 Nominating Committee

Monday, November 20

- 9 & 11 Music and Movement
- 10:00 Tai Chi
- 6:30 Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, November 21

- 7:00 Men's Bible Study
- 9:00 Staff Meeting
- 12:00 Choir Sectional for Christmas Music
- 1:00 Tuesday Bible Study
- 1:00 Active Minds

Thursday, November 23

Happy Thanksgiving - Office Closed

Friday, November 24

Office Closed

Sunday, November 26

- 9:00 Worship
- 10:00 Children's/Youth Sunday School, Coffee Fellowship
- 11:10 Worship

No JHF/SHF Fellowship

Joys & Concerns. Ardys Hansum had knee surgery this week.

Our guest preacher this morning is Rev. Dr. Richard Meyer, a retired Presbyterian minister who served in our presbytery for many years. Richard and his wife, Trudy, made PCOC their church home several years ago. Trudy serves as a liturgist in worship and is a member of our Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.

Mission Report from Romania and Moldova is TODAY!

Join us at 10:00 a.m. in the Courtyard Room to see photos and learn about Karen Morey and Annie Wattles' trip to the region earlier this year.

Advent Workshop is TODAY after late worship. For those who signed up, the Senior High Fellowship (SHF) group will prepare and serve lunch before the crafting begins today. There is no cost to attend this event, but a freewill donation is encouraged. This fundraiser supports the SHF mission trip.

Nominate an Officer Today! In the Presbyterian Church, we have the privilege and responsibility of nominating and electing our own congregational leaders. Now is the time to nominate a new class of Elders and Deacons. Your input is both appreciated and necessary! Forms are available online, in the Church Office, and at the Information Desk. The deadline is December 17. Questions? Contact a member of the church nominating committee: John Bennett, John Fettig, Susan Geschwender, Pam Swenson, Mimi Bauer, and Lowell Wilhite.

Office Closures for Thanksgiving. Please note that the office will be closed starting at noon on Wednesday, November 22, and all day on Thursday, November 23 and Friday November 24. Enjoy Thanksgiving!

Happy Thanksgiving



Thanksgiving Offering. Through the end of the month, we will collect funds to support our annual PCOC Thanksgiving offering that benefits families in need through our mission partner Completely Kids. From last year's efforts, we were able to provide 90 Thanksgiving baskets that will be distributed to families next week. Please use the special giving envelope for this donation, or write Thanksgiving Donation on the memo line of your check. All funds will go towards next year's baskets.

Presbyterian Women's Gifting Gals Project. For a special project to benefit Heartland Hope Mission's lady clients, the Presbyterian Women's circle is collecting bath and hygiene items in November (soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, etc.) If you would like to help this effort, you can find their donation bin next to HHM's blue bin inside the Circle Drive doors. Thank you! Questions? Contact Cindy Nisley.

Presbyterian Women Christmas Project. The Presbyterian Women have a Christmas Project for the kids through Heartland Hope Mission. They are collecting crayons, pencils, erasers, and candy to stuff Christmas Stockings. Find the poster and donation bin in the Lobby by the office.

Annual Hanging of the Greens - Saturday, December 2. Join us at 10:00 a.m. to assemble and decorate Christmas trees, hang wreaths and garlands, and enjoy treats and music. This is a fun event for the entire family. Sign up online if you plan to attend, so we know you're coming!

GALS Cookie & Candy Exchange on December 2. Let's have some fun and fellowship trading our homemade Christmas goodies on Saturday, December 2 from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Welcome Center. Sign up online! Questions? Contact Staci Voss.

Children's Christmas Pageant & Advent Dinner - Sunday, December 3. The Children's Christmas Pageant starts at 5 p.m., and the Advent Dinner follows. Find the menu details when you sign up for the dinner online or at the Information Desk.

Tables for Eight. The registration for the Winter Session (January, February, March, April) of Tables for Eight is December 10. New participants (couples or singles) are always welcome to join this fellowship opportunity. You can choose to be a "regular" or a "substitute." Details are on the Tables for Eight on the registration form, which is available at the Information Desk in the Welcome Center and online. For the upcoming Winter Session, current "regular" members are automatically assigned to a new group and "substitutes" will remain on the list unless you notify Pam Otto. If you dropped out last session and want to return as a regular or substitute, please contact Pam by phone, text, or email.

Light the Advent Candles. Starting December 3, we need families to light the Advent candles and read the Call to Worship during worship. Please sign up at the Information Desk.



Friday Night Gourmets on Friday, December 8. The Friday Night Gourmets will meet on Friday, December 8, at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Tim and Kris Goodman (address available in church directory). Please sign up at the Information Desk in the Welcome Center for what you would like to bring to this hearty hors d'oeuvre evening. This is a BYOB event, but the hosts will serve a signature cocktail. For questions call Kris Kris or AJ and Judy Sundberg. It's sure to be a festive evening!!

Presbyterian Men Bell Ringing on December 16. Help ring bells for the Salvation Army's Christmas campaign on Saturday, December 16 at Hy-Vee on 132nd and Dodge. Each volunteer rings during a 1-hour shift from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. We will have two ringers at each door (east and west) per shift. This is an easy, enjoyable opportunity to assist the Salvation Army's efforts in helping those in need this Christmas. Please sign up at the Information Desk by Sunday, December 10. Thanks to Jim Chapin for coordinating this activity.

Stewardship Update. If you have not yet participated in this fall's stewardship campaign, I encourage you to make an effort this week. Finance, Personnel and Session will be working on this to set the 2024 budget in early December. Thank you for your support. Rock

Presbyterian Church of the Cross

1517 S. 114th Street – Omaha, NE 68114-1799 | Phone: (402)333-7466
Email: churchofthecross@pcoc.us | Website: churchofthecrossomaha.org
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00-4:30

**Scan to Go to Our
Online Signup Page**

