



# Welcome to Worship

Sunday, March 17, 2024

9:00 and 11:10 a.m.

## GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

### PRELUDE

Prelude & Fugue in E Minor

J.S. Bach

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

### SILENT MEDITATION

"In a civilization that glorifies success and happiness and is blind to the sufferings of others, people's eyes can be opened to the truth if they remember that at the centre of the Christian faith stands an unsuccessful, tormented Christ, dying in forsakenness." - Jürgen Moltmann, German theologian, b.1926



Fifth Sunday in

### CALL TO WORSHIP (9:00)

from Psalm 51

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love;

**According to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions.**

You desire truth in our deepest selves, so teach our hearts wisdom.

**Let us hear your joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**

Create in us clean hearts, O God; put new and right spirits within us.

**Sustain in us willing spirits and restore us to the joy of your salvation. Let us worship God!**

### CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP (11:10)

Part of the Plan

Natalie Sleeth

## PRAISE AND ADORATION

### \*LENTEN HYMN #221

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

PASSION CHORALE

(\*Please stand if you are able)

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Living Christ, with whom we journey to the cross, we confess that we are always looking for an easier way. We long for the fullness of life with you, but we are slow to abandon the comforts of the life we know. We seek the fruit of new life, but we are not willing to die to ourselves. You call us to life in community, but we stubbornly cling to "me and mine." Yet you offer the grace of life abundant, even and especially when our best efforts fall short. Transform us, renew us, and free us from our attachment to what was, so that you might bring us into the glory of what will be...

## SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND PETITION

KYRIE ELEISON (#417)

Lord Jesus, Think on Me

SOUTHWELL



Lord Je-sus, think on me, and purge a-way my sin. From earth-born pas-sions set me free, and make me pure with-in.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*HYMN #649

Amazing Grace

AMAZING GRACE

\*WELCOME

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

ANTHEM (11:10)

How Majestic Is Your Name

Mark Patterson

## TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

page 642 of the pew Bible

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 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)

Abide with Me

Eurydice V. Osterman

## PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 12: 20-36

page 875 of the pew Bible

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

SERMON

"We Wish to See Jesus"

Dr. Zieman

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

from The Heidelberg Catechism, Q & A 43

Q: What further benefit do we receive by the sacrifice and death of Christ on the cross?

A: Through Christ's death our old selves are crucified, put to death, and buried with him, so that the evil desires of the flesh may no longer rule us, but that instead we may dedicate ourselves as an offering of gratitude to him.

**\*SANCTUS (#1)**

Holy, Holy, Holy

NICAEA

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

**RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY**

O Love Divine (9:00)  
Beside the Still Waters (11:10)

arr. John Hudson  
John Turner

**\*DOXOLOGY (#711)**

Lord of All Good

TOULON

Lord of all good, our gifts we bring to you; use them your ho - ly purpose to ful - fill,  
to - kens of love and pledg - es brought a - new, that our whole life is of - fered to your will.

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Gracious God, it is our joy to return the gifts of our lives to you. May our offerings this morning forever bring glory to your name, and may we continue to work tirelessly for the well-being of your whole creation. Amen.

**\*HYMN OF DEDICATION #450**

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

ST. PATRICK'S BRESTPLATE

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me,  
**Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left,**  
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise,  
**Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,**  
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,  
**Christ in every eye that sees me,**  
Christ in every ear that hears me.

**\*POSTLUDE**

Fugue in B-flat

J.S. Bach

## SERVING IN MINISTRY TODAY

<b>Liturgist</b>	Don Metzger, elder on the Worship & Music Committee		
<b>Music</b>	9:00	Alleluia Singers; Annette White, organ	
	11:10	Children's Choir, Jayne Frederickson, director; Annette White, organ	
<b>Ushers</b>	9:00	Tim Graumann, Captain; Brenda Graumann, Kathy Moore, Cheryl Bedell, Jeff Boyum	
	11:10	Josh Murray, Captain; Joe Weaver, Sue and Arlin Kiel, John Morris	
<b>Greeters</b>	North Door:	9:00 Kristin Jacobi	11:10 Susan Emmert
	Welcome Center	9:00 Doug Larson	11:10 Pam and John Swenson
<b>Coffee Host</b>	Lloyd Meyer		
<b>Information Center</b>	9:00	Judy Thomas	11:10 Sue Jenkins
	<b>Childcare Ministry</b> Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, Brandon Fisher		

**For your convenience during worship:** Bibles, hymnals, and sign-in books are in the pews. Blue envelopes are provided for the offering, and yellow prayer request cards are also provided. Prayer requests are confidential. 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](mailto:communications@pcoc.us). Thank you!

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



# Announcements

For the week of March 17, 2024

## The Week Briefly

### **Sunday, March 17 Pantry Sunday**

- 9:00 Worship
- 10:00 Lenten Study, Children's, Youth SS Classes
- 10:00 Coffee Fellowship
- 11:10 Worship
- 4-7 SHF Chopped Competition
- 4:45 JHF Fellowship

### **Monday, March 18**

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

### **Tuesday, March 19**

- 7:00 Men's Bible Study
- 9:30 Staff Meeting
- 1:00 Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study
- 2:00 Active Minds
- 5:30 Finance Committee

### **Wednesday, March 20**

- 5:15 PCOC Book Group
- 5:30 Chamber Singers
- 6:30 Alleluia Singers

### **Thursday, March 21**

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

### **Friday, March 22**

- 11:00 Don Sievers Memorial Service & Lunch
- 2:00 Nancy Drews Memorial Service at Heafeys

### **Saturday March 23**

### **Sunday, March 24 Palm Sunday**

- 9:00 Worship
- 10:00 Lenten Study, Children's, Youth SS Classes
- 10:00 Coffee Fellowship
- 11:10 Worship
- 4:45 Youth Fellowship

## **Joys and Concerns.**

Flowers in the chancel this morning are given by Alta Greer Empeky in loving memory of her mother, Mabel Greer.

Don Sievers passed away on March 11. Don's funeral service will be this Friday, March 22, at 11:00 in the sanctuary, with lunch to follow, provided by our Deacons.

Nancy Drews passed away on March 13. Nancy's funeral service will also be held on Friday, March 22, at 2:00 p.m. at the Heafey-Hoffman Mortuary at 7805 W. Center Road.

**Today's Lenten Study.** The theme for this week's Lenten Study is chapter 5's topic: Cleansing: Jesus Makes You Clean. When was there a time when you had a stain that you could not remove on your own? What did you ultimately do about it? What would it look like for you to surrender to the cleansing power of Jesus? What difference will that make in you? How will you choose the way of self-sacrifice instead of the way of self-preservation?

**Active Minds in March.** Active Minds is playing the game of Somerset in March. Join us in the Lower Level Great Room on Tuesdays from 2-4 p.m. Beginners are always welcome. Questions? Earlene Uhrig

## **Give to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS).**

OGHS is the single largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. This special offering enables us to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.



Our Sunday School children received their Gracie fish banks. During Lent, children are encouraged to fill up their banks, and bring them back to church on Easter Sunday, March 31.

**Children's Palm Parade on March 24.** All children are invited to participate in the Palm Parade on Palm Sunday. Meet Heather in the Narthex 10 minutes before each worship service to get your palm and instructions. Parents are welcome to join us as well!

**Easter Egg Hunt on March 30.** Easter is just around the corner! Hop on over to the East Lawn and Fellowship Hall on Saturday, March 30 for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. We'll begin at 10:00 a.m. with crafts in Fellowship Hall and then head out to the East Lawn for the hunt at 10:30 a.m. Be sure to bring a basket to collect eggs. And keep an eye out – maybe you'll spot Peter Cottontail! We are accepting donations of individually wrapped candy for the egg hunt. Place your donations in the plastic tote in the Lobby.

**Doubling Your Donation to Heartland Hope Mission.** Through April 15, one of our local mission partners, Heartland Hope Mission, is matching all gifts received. Please consider making your donation now.

**49ERS on April 2.** Our speaker will be Ken Gruber, President of Omaha Rapid Response. He will speak about Rapid Response' ongoing efforts to help the tornado victims in Kentucky and Mississippi and update everyone on Rapid Responses' 2024 trips to Ukraine (war), Fort Meyers (hurricane), and the continued rebuilding of houses in King Lake, NE. We meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. at WHEATFIELDS, 1224 South 103rd Street (One Pacific Place). We order from a special menu provided for our group. Everyone is welcome, whether or not you are 49, younger or older. Come join us. Reservations and/or questions, please contact Mary Ott or Judy Sundberg, or sign up at the Information Desk in the 3 ring binder.

**Friday Night Gourmets on April 12.** We will meet at Gorat's Steakhouse, 4917 Center Street, at 6:00 pm and order from a special menu. There will be separate checks. Our hosts for the evening are Kim Banat and Betty Goodwin and Alta Empeky and Inga Wagner. Please sign up at the Information Desk in the Welcome Center.

**Spring Speaker Series - Embracing Community Connections.** Agape for All invites all to attend three unique presentations featuring leaders from our Omaha community. What exciting progress is being made in the area of social justice? Join us in the Courtyard Classroom at 10 a.m. on April 7, 14 and 21 to find out! Online registration is preferred, but walk-ins are always welcome.

- April 7 Connecting with No More Empty Pots – led by Leah Wambui Keinama
- April 14 Connecting with the Tri-Faith Initiative – led by Jeremy Fricke
- April 21 Connecting with the Empowerment Network – led by Willie Barney

The speaker on April 7, Leah Wambui Keinama, began her career as a systems engineer and integrator in the software industry. Today, she combines the technology skills with knowledge of soil health and conservation to develop independent food systems so our community can thrive rather than just survive. No More Empty Pots (NMEP) is a dynamic Omaha non-profit that strives to improve self-sufficiency, regional food security, and economic resilience through advocacy and action. NMEP fulfills their mission and vision by collaborating with organizations, farms, individuals, and entrepreneurs to bring life to community programs like the Culinary Certificate Program, Community Harvest Program, and the Entrepreneur Journey.

---

**Presbyterian Church of the Cross**

1517 S. 114<sup>th</sup> Street – Omaha, NE 68114-1799 | Phone: (402)333-7466 | Fax: (402)697-9084

Email: [churchofthecross@pcoc.us](mailto:churchofthecross@pcoc.us) | Website: [churchofthecrossomaha.org](http://churchofthecrossomaha.org)

---