GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE Beatitudo Charles Callahan

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

SILENT MEDITATION

The suffering we endure is not wasteful cutting, but pruning for a more abundant future and, that no matter what happens, Jesus will not abandon us.

David Lose

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather this day in joy and Christian fellowship,

for we are the church of Jesus Christ!

We pray for the Holy Spirit to be among us,

opening our hearts and minds to the worship of God!

PRAISE AND ADORATION

*HYMN #667

When Morning Gilds the Skies

LAUDES DOMINI

(*Please stand, if you are able)

CONFESSION AND PARDON

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, our hearts are restless until they find their home in you. Forgive our pursuit of things that separate us from you. We pursue success, realizing it will never be enough. We desire more possessions, knowing they are empty. We turn toward the world and hope we will find peace, knowing the world cannot provide it. Forgive us, we pray, and may our wandering hearts find their rest in you alone. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND PETITION

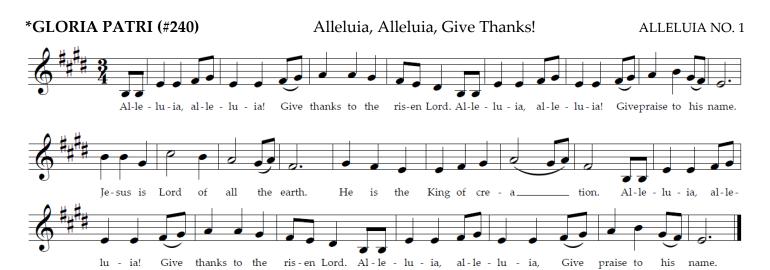
KYRIE ELEISON (#551)

"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



WELCOME

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

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

*HYMN #300

We Are One in the Spirit

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Matt Darling, for Habitat for Humanity

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 19: 1-9

page 57 of the pew Bible

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

Crown Him with Many Crowns (9:00) Jubilate Deo (11:10)

arr. Lloyd Larson Peter Anglea

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness, come before His presence with singing. For the Lord is good, His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations.

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 15: 1-8

page 878 of the pew Bible

SERMON

"A Recipe for Spiritual Success"

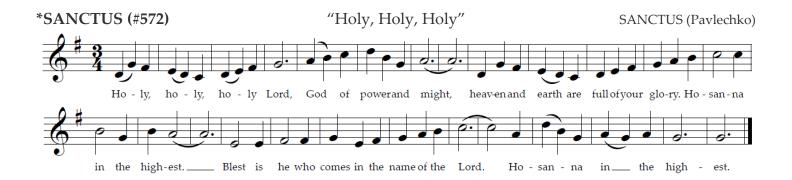
Dr. Zieman

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(adapted from Belonging to God: A First Catechism)

We are the church: the people who believe the good news about Jesus, who are baptized, and who share in the Lord's Supper. Through these means of grace, the Spirit renews us so that we may serve God in love. We believe the good news that gives us comfort that we belong to our faithful Savior Jesus Christ, who died and rose again for our sake, so that nothing will ever separate us from God's love. We know this good news through reading the Bible and hearing it taught and preached. The Holy Spirit inspired those who wrote the Bible and helps us rely on its promises today.



PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

The Church's One Foundation (9:00) Alleluia (11:10) Dale Grotenhuis Elaine Hagenberg

*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!

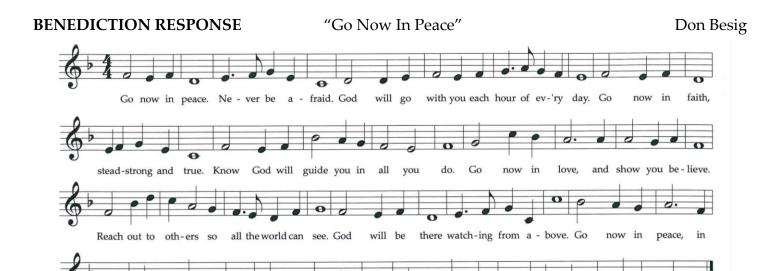
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, please accept these gifts and use them for the coming of your kingdom in this time and place. In gratitude for all we have, and for your love for us, we pray with thanksgiving. Amen.

*HYMN #526

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

LINSTEAD



POSTLUDE Gigue Gordon Young

men.

men.

SERVING IN MINISTRY TODAY

Music 9:00 Trinity Brass: Marty McGuire & Gary Lynn, trumpets; Ann Pearson, horn; Keith

Allen, trombone; John Broderick, tuba

Mark Kanitz, organ

11:10 Chamber Singers; Mark Kanitz, organ

Childcare Ministry Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, Brandon Fisher

love._

Ushers 9:00 Darold Bauer, Captain; Mimi Bauer, Mike Shannon, Sherryl Shannon

11:10 Tim Goodman, Captain; Kris Goodman, Bidong Tot, Alta Empkey

Greeters 9:00 North Door: Barb Haar-Rightmyer Welcome Center Door: Paul and Kathy Nickel

11:10 North Door: Judy Sundberg Welcome Center Door: Sue Jenkins

Information Center 9:00 Karen Saunders 11:10 Pam Swenson

Coffee Host Andrew Ebert

faith,

and

in

The Week at a Glance

Sunday, April 28

9:00 Worship

10:00 Coffee Fellowship, Children and Youth SS

11:10 Worship

12:00 SHF/JHF Fellowship to the Zoo

12:30 APNC Committee

Monday, April 29

9 & 11 Music and Movement

10:00 Tai Chi

Tuesday, April 30

7:00 Men's Bible Study9:30 Staff Meeting

1:00 Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study

2:00 Active Minds

Wednesday, May 1

5:30 Chamber Singers6:30 Alleluia Singers

Thursday, May 2

9 & 11 Music and Movement10:00 PW Bible Study

10:00 Tai Chi

11:30 Educators Meeting4:00 Youth Sunday Rehearsal

6:00 Carillon Choir

Saturday, May 4

2:15 Vesper Rehearsal

Sunday, May 5 - Youth Sunday

9:00 Worship

10:00 Coffee Fellowship, Children and Youth SS

10:00 Agape Spring Series Recap

11:10 Worship

3:00 Vesper Concert

4:45 JHF Fellowship

4:45 SHF Progressive Dinner

Joys & Concerns. The flowers this morning in the chancel are given by Nancy Koehler and Susan Price in loving memory of husband, father, and grandfather, Roger.

Lois Decker has been moved to the Josie Harper Hospice House.

Next Sunday, May 5 is Youth Sunday! Join us as our youth lead worship at both hours. This one-of-a-kind service is presented entirely by our youth, from scripture to liturgical readings, to music to senior faith talks. Graduates and their families will enjoy a brunch hosted by the Deacons that morning between services.

Celebrating Women Baskets Silent Auction. Do you have a special woman in your life that deserves to be pampered? Not sure what to get her? Well, look no further because SHF is



assembling baskets just in time for Mother's Day. The silent auction began on April 14 and ends on May 5. Come by the Lobby and find the perfect gift for the woman in your life. You'll be notified right after late church on May 5 if you win. As always, SHF thanks you for your support!

49ERS on Tuesday, May 7. Our speaker will be Matthew Hansen, editor of the Flatwater Free Press, Nebraska's first statewide nonprofit news source. Hansen, a 16-year veteran of Nebraska newspapers, has previously worked as a reporter at the Lincoln Journal Star and then a reporter and metro columnist at the Omaha World-Herald. During his time in newspapers, he travelled to Cuba and Afghanistan and won multiple state, regional and national awards for investigative stories, feature stories and columns. 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 you are 49, younger, or older - come join us! For reservations and/ or questions, please contact Mary Ott or Judy Sundberg. Sign up at the Information Desk.

Habitat for Humanity Build – Saturday, May 18, 8 am to 3:00 pm. We need your help to make the dream of decent, affordable housing a reality for all our neighbors in Omaha! Presbyterian Church of the Cross will again be participating in a Habitat Build Day. Registration is limited to the first ten volunteers. You can register online here: https://cerv.is/0119gBpaWmz. Must be 16 years of age and no tools or previous construction experience is required. Please contact Matt Darling with questions on the registration process.

Agape for All Next Sunday. How do we really "Embrace Community Connections"? Join us on May 5 in the Welcome Center at 10:00. Let's come together one more time and have a discussion on some next steps. We've learned a lot, so let's gather to hear more and delve into some thoughts and ideas a little more deeply.

Friday Night Gourmets. Make plans to join the Friday Night Gourmets on May 10 in the Hacienda Real Party Room at 78th and Cass Street at 6:30. Co-hosts are Charlene & Stan Weyand, and Don & Cindy Hiltgen.

Pentecost Offering begins. As one of the four Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people in Christ and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. 40% of the amount PCOC collects will



remain with us to support ministries with children and youth in our church and local community. We will officially collect this special offering on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, but donations may begin now by making your check out to PCOC and indicating Pentecost Offering in the memo line.

Active Minds is playing 10-point Pitch for the month of May. On Tuesdays, join us in the Lower-Level Great Room from 2-4 p.m. This is an easy game to learn, and we have patient teachers available to help. Coordinator: Earlene Uhrig

Presbytery Men's Retreat at Camp Calvin Crest. May 17-18, Camp Calvin Crest in Fremont, NE is hosting a Men's Retreat. Rev. Stephen Niles, a member of the Alleluia Singers, is on the planning team. The featured speaker will be Rev. J. D. Georlett, Senior Pastor at Dundee Presbyterian Church. Bob Bennett, an award-winning musician, will be the retreat's song leader. All men from our presbytery are invited to attend. Registration is held on the Calvin Crest website. For more information and pricing details talk with Stephen Niles or go to CalvinCrest.org/men.

Vesper Concert Season Finale! On Sunday, May 5 at 3:00 p.m., we welcome Dr. David von Behren. The award-winning organist, pianist, violinist, and teacher is a Nebraska native who is currently serving as the Assistant University Organist and Choirmaster of the Memorial Church at Harvard University. Dr. von Behren will perform solo pieces on the organ and several pieces in collaboration with a small string ensemble. This concert has been aptly named the "Vesper Legacy Concert" as a tribute to our founder, Dana



Sloan. In addition to the Sunday afternoon concert, Dr. von Behren will serve as our guest organist for our worship services that morning.

STAFF

Pastor, Head of Staff Rev. Marshall Zieman, D. Min. marshall@pcoc.us Director of Music, Executive Director Vesper Concerts Kristi Treu, M.A. Music 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 Office Administrator Julie Hansen churchofthecross@pcoc.us

Mark Kanitz Organist

Rev. Kirk Ryckman, D. Min. Pastor Emeritus

Presbyterian Church of the Cross

1517 S. 114th Street - Omaha, NE 68114-1799

Phone: (402)333-7466 | Fax: (40)697-9084 | Email: churchofthecross@pcoc.us | Website: churchofthecrossomaha.org