



Welcome to Worship

September 8, 2024

9:00 and 11:10 in the Sanctuary

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals
Sigfrid Karg-Elert; arr. Sondra Tucker

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

SILENT MEDITATION

"When someone is broken, don't try to fix them - you can't. When someone is hurting, don't attempt to take away their pain - you can't. Instead, love them by walking beside them in the hurt - you can. Because sometimes what people need is simply to know they aren't alone."

- Jenny Albers, as quoted in 'Our Daily Bread'

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 146

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God.

PRAISE AND ADORATION

*HYMN #267

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

(*Please stand, if you are able)

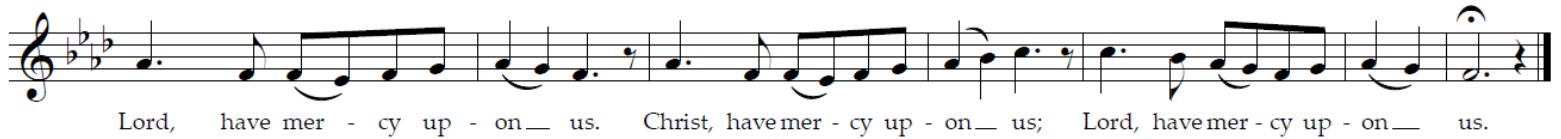
CONFESSION AND PARDON

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

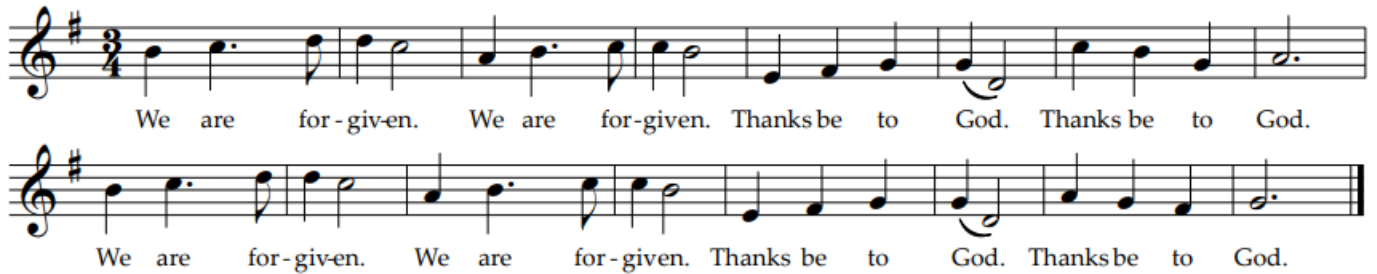
Holy God, although we honor you with our words and worship, our hearts are often far from you. We are quick to judge, quick to exclude, quick to put others down instead of building them up. Forgive us, God. Help us amend our ways. Help us embrace the inclusive love you graciously offer us and expect us to offer others. Hear this our prayer, and the prayers we offer to you in silence now...

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND PETITION

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON*****CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (#447)**

We Are Forgiven

WE ARE FORGIVEN

**WELCOME***During the welcome, children are invited to come forward for a time with Dr. Zieman.***TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES****THE NEW TESTAMANT READING**

James 2: 1-10

page 981 of the pew Bible

ANNOUNCEMENTS**MOMENT FOR MISSION**

Karen Morey, for the International Peacemaker Program

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

Be Thou My Vision

Bob Chilcott

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

Mark 7: 24-37

page 819 of the pew Bible

SERMON

"Astounded Beyond Measure"

Dr. Zieman

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Book of Common Worship; from Romans 8

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose.

We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

When Morning Gilds the Skies

John A. Behnke

*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

Holy God, how often we take for granted all that we have. How often we fail to recognize how blessed we are. Take these gifts we give in response to your generosity, and use them to further Christ's mission and ministry in a hurting world. Amen.

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #546

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

SICILIAN MARINERS

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Peter Lutkin

*POSTLUDE

Postlude

Douglas E. Wagner

SERVING IN MINISTRY TODAY

Music	Alleluia Singers, Jayne Frederickson & Sarah Frederickson, soloists Trinity Brass; Mark Kanitz, organ	
Childcare Ministry	Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, Tami Lancaster	
Ushers	9:00 Jim Miller, Captain; Linda Miller, Gary Marron, Marsha Marron, Frank McMullen 11:10 Tim Goodman, Captain; Kris Goodman, Judy Sundberg, Barb Scanlan, Dan Scanlan	
Greeters	9:00 North Door: Paul and Kathy Nickel Welcome Center Door: Bob and Judy Thomas 11:10 North Door: Holdren/Hansen Family Welcome Center Door: Nancy Anderson	
Information Center	9:00 Judy Thomas 11:10 Sue Jenkins	
Coffee Host	Mission Committee	

STAFF

Rev. Marshall Zieman, D. Min.	Pastor, Head of Staff	marshall@pcoc.us
Joshua Garry, M.Div.	Associate Pastor	josh@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	mark@pcoc.us
Rev. Kirk Ryckman, D. Min.	Pastor Emeritus	

Presbyterian Church of the Cross

1517 S. 114th Street – Omaha, NE 68144-1799

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



Announcements

For the week of September 8, 2024

The Week at a Glance

Sunday, September 8

- 9:00 Worship
- 10:00 Youth and Children SS Classes
- 10:00 Coffee Fellowship and Mission Mixer
- 11:10 Worship
- 11-2 PCOC Day at Don & Millie's
- 4:15 Serve Dinner at Siena Francis House
- 4:45 Youth Fellowship

Monday, September 9

- 9 & 11 Music and Movement
- 10:00 Tai Chi
- 6:30 Building and Grounds Committee
- 6:30 Christian Education Committee

Tuesday, September 10

- 7:00 Men's Bible Study
- 9:30 Staff Meeting
- 1:00 Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study
- 1:30 Active Minds
- 5:00 Membership
- 5:30 Congregational Life Committee at Weaver's
- 6:30 Mission Committee

Wednesday, September 11

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

Thursday, September 12

- 9 & 11 Music and Movement
- 10:00 Tai Chi
- 11:30 Educators Lunch
- 12:00 Serve lunch at OSS

Friday, September 13

- 6:30 Friday Night Gourmets

Saturday, September 14

- 7:00 Vesper Concert

Sunday, September 15 Pantry Sunday

- 9:00 Worship with Communion
- 10:00 Youth and Children SS Classes
- 10:00 Theologians, Composers, Spirituality and Icons of Sacred Music Class
- 10:00 Coffee Fellowship
- 11:10 Worship with Communion
- 12:15 Youth Choir Rehearsal
- 4:45 Youth Bible Study with Josh

Joys and Concerns.

The flowers in the chancel this morning are given by Tim and Kris Goodman in honor of their 38th wedding anniversary.

'Mission Mixer' Today at 10:00 in Fellowship Hall

Join us today **for a Mission Mixer!** This event offers a chance to connect with the Mission Committee & learn firsthand the impact of your mission dollars. Enjoy coffee, treats, and insightful discussions about the missions that our committees champion. We'll gather while the kids are in Sunday School for a fun mix of fellowship & mission updates. Come to enjoy coffee and to explore how together we're making a difference locally & beyond!

Today is PCOC DAY
at Don & Millie's! Grab your family and friends and join us



between 11-2 today at the West Center & 108th Street location. 20% of every dollar spent on food and drink will go toward our Junior High Mission Trip next summer. This is yet another way you can support the youth of our church and enjoy a meal that you don't have to prepare or clean up! Be sure to mention Presbyterian Church of the Cross when your order is placed.

Local Disaster Relief. If you wish to offer financial support toward disaster relief in our area you may do so by designating on the memo line of your check to PCOC, "PMRV PDA." To date, we have donated over \$5,000!

The Tuesday Bible Studies resume Tuesday, September 10

We will begin our fall session on Tuesday, September 10, studying the book of Romans. Consider joining these two robust groups for an informative and fun fall study! Register online, in the Welcome Center, or just show up with your Bible!

Friday Night Gourmets this Friday, September 13

Friday Night Gourmets will be opening its 2024-2025 dining-out season on September 13 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 pm and Dinner at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to join us for this September "Tradition" of great food, friends, and lively conversations. Check Information Desk for sign-up sheet. Please sign up by Sunday, September 8. Hosts: Gene/Verta Pugh and Curt Field/Launie Lambert. Contact hosts with any questions.

Vesper Concerts Kick Off Season 36

The Borowsky Trio will kick off Season 36 this SATURDAY evening, September 14, at 7:00 p.m.!

Hailed by the international press as "American Virtuosi," siblings Frances, Emmanuel, and Elizabeth Borowsky have won their way into the hearts and minds of audiences throughout North America, Central America, Europe, Asia, and The Middle East. With performances rooted in their cohesive and loving familial bond, the trio has delighted listeners of all ages with their commanding interpretations of standard repertoire and dazzling original compositions.



People of all ages will enjoy this world-class performance in the beautiful environment of our sanctuary. As always, the concert is FREE and open to the public. Invite a friend or colleague to enjoy an exquisite evening of music with you.

From the Deacons - Attention Parents of Young Adults

If you have a child who is between the ages of 18-23, (whether they went to college, a trade school, or got a job) please call the church office and provide their current address. Your Deacons reach out to them and provide a \$25 Target gift card for Halloween and again for Valentines Day as a reminder that PCOC is thinking of them and keeping them in our thoughts and prayers. We want to remind them that they always have a home at PCOC. We would appreciate this information by September 20, so we have time to purchase these gift cards and get them mailed to your child in a timely manner.

OUR FALL SCHEDULE BEGINS!

Children and Youth Sunday School Begins Today

Preschool Sunday School

Our Preschool Sunday School Class is designed for three, four, and five-year-olds that haven't attended kindergarten. The class meets in Room 7, which is adjacent to the Childcare Room, in the hallway connecting the Narthex and Fellowship Hall. The class is taught by Anna Flairty and Anne Wattles. Class begins at 10:00 a.m. and ends at 10:50 a.m. The class will be learning from the curriculum, *Growing in Grace and Gratitude*, a publication from the PC(USA).

When your children are in class, they will gather to explore and respond to God's grace and be sent out to love and serve God by being:

- Rooted in the foundation of Presbyterian identity where God's grace and our gratitude are the heartbeat of our faith, life, and worship;
- Invited to discipleship that inspires them to learn and practice hospitality, generosity, and love; and
- Encouraged to reach beyond Sunday mornings and church walls to live their lives as an expression of God's grace.

If your child is most comfortable with a parent or grandparent attending class with them, we encourage that!

Bible Explorers Sunday School

Our Bible Explorers Program is designed for elementary aged children who are in kindergarten - 5th grade. The children are divided by age into four groups: kinder and 1st grade, 2nd grade, 3rd grade, and 4th and 5th grade. The children enjoy the rotation-based curriculum, *Deep Blue*, which is published by Cokesbury. Children visit learning stations each week and explore the theme from many different angles: Art, Games, Science, Drama, Missions, Spiritual Practices, and Cooking. Parent volunteers lead the classes.

At 10:00 a.m., the children meet as a group for an opening activity led by Sue Thomas downstairs in the Gathering Space. Then the classes split up and move to their assigned rooms. Each group has a dedicated adult assigned to them called a Shepherd. Shepherds lead their groups to the correct room and stay with them during class. At 10:50 a.m., Shepherds guide the children back to the Gathering Space where parents will pick them up.

Youth Sunday School

Our Youth Sunday School Classes are divided into two classes, 6th – 8th grade, and 9th – 12th grade. Both classes will be using the Feasting on the Word Curriculum. The curriculum follows the Revised Common Lectionary and is published by PC(USA). Holly Baddley will be leading the Junior High Class (6th – 8th grade). They will meet downstairs in Room 8. Dan Kerr will be leading the Senior High Class (9th – 12th grade). They will meet downstairs in the Great Room. Youth are invited and encouraged to attend each week as we dive a little deeper into God's Word and how we can apply the Bible's teachings to our own lives. Can't make it every week? That's ok! Come when you can. You are *always* welcome, no matter how long you've been gone.

Grab a snack & a drink in Fellowship Hall and come on down for class at 10:00 a.m. Feel free to bring a friend!

Sunday Adult Education Begins September 15 – Register Online Now

Theologians, Composers, Spirituality and Icons of Sacred Music, led by Cindy Sloan

Sundays at 10:00 a.m. from September 15 – October 27

Let Justice Roll Down, led by Kathy Moore, Patty Ritchie, and Earlene Uhrig

Thursdays 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. on October 3, 10, 17, 24

Agape for All Speaker Series – Guest Speakers TBD

Sundays at 10:00 a.m. on November 3, 10, & 17

Coping with Grief, presented by Carl Greiner

Sunday, December 8 at 10:00 a.m.

Attend the Pow Wow at Fort Omaha September 21

Metropolitan Community College - on the Fort Omaha Campus Parade Ground (5300 N 30th St.) Attend this inspiring and educational gathering! Experience the thrilling entrance of the tribes, in full ceremonial dancing attire at 1:00 pm. Optional - after the Opening Ceremony you can enjoy craft demonstrations, classes, and delicious food. Contact Earlene Uhrig to get details when more become available.



Deacons Blood Drive on September 29. The Red Cross will be at PCOC during the morning of Sept. 29 for a Blood Drive sponsored by our Deacons. Help us reach our goal of registering 25 donors!

Wednesday Night Cornerstone - Register Online Now

Registration for the fall semester of Cornerstone has begun! For our newcomers, Cornerstone is our mid-week program for all ages. We hope to see you at Bible Study, Confirmation Class, Choir, and of course, dinner! All are welcome, but we ask that you register online by September 1 so we can plan for dinner and class supplies. Cornerstone begins September 11 and ends on November 13.

Choirs

5:15 – 6:00 p.m. Children’s Choir for 1st – 7th graders
5:50 – 6:45 p.m. Chamber Singers
6:50 – 8:20 p.m. Alleluia Singers

Dinner is served between 6 – 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Childcare is provided from 5:30 – 8:15 p.m.

Bible Study

6:30 – 7:15 p.m. Preschool & Kindergarten Class
6:30 – 7:15 p.m. 1st – 4th Grade Class
6:30 – 7:15 p.m. 5th – 7th Grade Class
6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Class (8th Grade) led by Rev. Marshall Zieman
6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Adult Education*

*Adult Cornerstone Class

Nine Essential Things I’ve Learned About Life by Harold Kushner, led by Rev. Kirk Ryckman
Wednesdays 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. from September 11 – November 13.

Youth Choir for Singers in Grades 8-12

Are you a youth who loves to sing, or who would like to try singing? Meet in the Sanctuary on Sundays, September 15 and 22, from 12:15 – 1:00. We’ll have fun working on music to sing at the early service on October 6. Question? Contact Kristi Treu.

49ER’s on October 1

Our program for Tuesday, October 1, 2024, will be John Dineen, General Manager of Sol's Jewelry & Loan. JOHN IS THE FIRST SPEAKER THAT 49ERS HAS EVER HAD AS A REPEAT. John will give each and every one of us an education and new outlook as to what Sol's Jewelry and Loan is all about. I promise you that you will be surprised as to the information he will bring to our meeting as to the business he manages. Sol's is MUCH MORE than a place where people take jewelry or other items to obtain money when they are in need. Quite an interesting program is promised. The lunch location is Wheatfields, One Pacific Place, at 11:30 a.m. Every one is welcome, whether or not you are 49, younger or older, come join us! We will order from a special menu. For reservations or questions, please contact Mary Ott, or Judy Sundberg. We also have a sign-up sheet at the Information Center.

World Communion Sunday

World Communion Sunday this year is October 6. In preparation, during the month of September, a gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering for peacemaking efforts that align with their passion. Mid-councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness. You may donate online at PCOC, or via the blue pew envelopes.

