REFORMATION SUNDAY

Presbyterians celebrate the tradition that grounds our faith on Reformation Sunday. It is always the last Sunday in October, marking the occasion in 1517 when Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Today we look to 2025 and ask God's blessing as we plan for the future. You may drop your 2025 pledge card in the offering plate today or mail it to the church office asap!

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE Fugue in G Minor J.S. Bach

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

SILENT MEDITATION

"Our wisdom, in so far it ought to be deemed true and solid wisdom, consists almost entirely of two parts: the knowledge of God and of ourselves."

Institutes of the Christian Religion, John Calvin

CALL TO WORSHIP

Who is the King of Glory?

The Lord, strong and mighty!

Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors!

That the King of Glory may come in!

PRAISE AND ADORATION

*HYMN #93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

(*Please stand, if you are able)

CONFESSION AND PARDON

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving and Gracious God, we come before you acknowledging that we have not fully lived into the new life you have promised and set before us. We are called to constantly be reforming, and yet we so often resist change. We are called to a life of renewal and joy, and yet so often we want a life of ease and comfort. Forgive us, Lord. Help us to hear your Holy Word and respond to it accordingly. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND PETITION



Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

KYRIE ELEISON (Pardini)

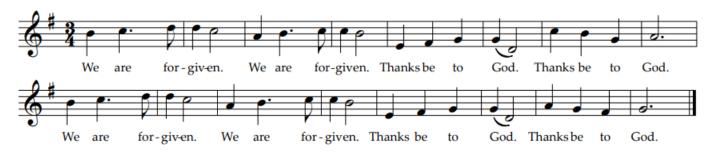


ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Belinda Greiner

Elder, Moderator of the Finance Committee

*HYMN #712

As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought

FOREST GREEN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (11:10)

Amy Boesen or Brenda Grauman

Co-Moderator of the Membership Committee

Joining today: Jo Anderson, Wendy Anderson, Robert Dehner, Penny Dehner, Kathy Gross

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

Grace before Sleep (9:00) Andante (11:10) Susan LaBarr Justus Friedrich Dotzauer

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 28:19-20

page 812 of the pew Bible

SERMON

"A Legacy Undefined"

Joshua Garry

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from the Heidelberg Catechism

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord, who was conceived of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to choose the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.



Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI



PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Jubilate Deo (9:00) Dona Nobis Pacem (11:10) Benjamin Britten Mozart; arr. Susan Brown

*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.

*RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF ALL THE 2025 PLEDGES

Creator of all, the earth is yours, the world and all who live in it.

You have entrusted us with gifts - time, talent, energy, money - and asked us to use them to build your kingdom. With thanks and praise, we respond to your call.

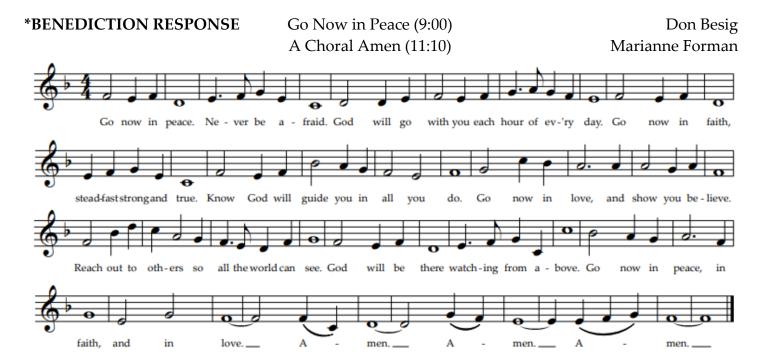
We bring these gifts you have given, returning your generosity, paying it forward.

We offer ourselves, our lives, our hopes and fears, our dollars and our hours. We commit ourselves to work for your world, to love and serve wherever you call.

We ask your blessing on this, your church, as we seek to follow you with heart, mind, and soul.

Bless also these gifts, our investment in your future, that they may multiply in faith, hope, and love. Amen.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION



*POSTLUDE

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Helmut Walcha

SERVING IN MINISTRY TODAY

| Music | 9:00 11:10 | Chamber Singers; Mark Kanitz, organ All-Church Orchestra, Patty Ritchie, director Kate Hoybook, flute; Jeff Friesen & Jean Bardy, clarinet; Brynn Stalnaker & Scott Stalnaker, trombone; Max Rieke, violin; Dmitri Garry & Camille Hinz, cello; Bill Ritchie and Larry Frederickson, double bass; Kristi Treu, piano; Mark Kanitz, organ | |
|--------------------|---------------|--|--|
| Ushers | 9:00 11:10 | Darold Bauer, Captain; Mimi Bauer, Mike Shannon, Sherryl Shannon, Doug Rathman Dennis Boesen, Captain; Amy Boesen, Alta Empkey, Zach Metzger | |
| Greeters | 9:00 11:10 | North Door: Doug Larson North Door: Lowell and Donna Wilhite | Welcome Center Door: Dave and Mary Ann Pederson Welcome Center Door: Nancy Anderson |
| Information Center | | 9:00 Kristin Jacobi | 11:10 Susan Price |
| Childcare Ministry | | Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, Tami Lancaster | |
| Coffee Host | | Lloyd Meyer | |

Presbyterian Church of the Cross

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

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The Week at a Glance

Sunday, October 27

9:00 Worship

 $10:\!00 \qquad \hbox{Theologians, Composers, Spirituality and Icons}$

of Sacred Music Class

10:00 Coffee Fellowship, Kids & Youth SS Classes

10:00 PieceMakers Fabric Sale

11:10 Worship

3:00 Trunk or Treat

JHF and SHF

5:30 Race and Reconciliation Dinner

Monday, October 28

9 & 11 Music and Movement

10:00 Tai Chi

6:30 Session Meeting

Tuesday, October 29

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

1:00 Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study

1:30 Active Minds

Wednesday, October 30

5:15 Children's Choir5:50 Chamber Singers6:00 Cornerstone Dinner

6:30 Bible Study and Adult Education

6:30 Confirmation Class 6:50 Alleluia Singers

Thursday, October 31

9 & 11 Music and Movement

10:00 Tai Chi

Sunday, November 3

9:00 Worship

10:00 Coffee Fellowship, Kids & Youth SS Classes10:00 Embracing Community Connections Speaker

Series - Agape

4:00 Josh Garry Ordination and Installation

4:45 SHF – Friendsgiving4:45 JHF Set Up Angel Tree

Worship Services at 9:00 & 11:10 a.m. Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship at 10 a.m. Office Hours: 9:00 to 4:30 Monday-Friday

Joys and Concerns

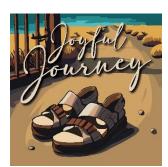
Flowers on the chancel this morning are given by Bev and Rob Koch in honor of Dr. Taylor and Cory Jacobson's marriage on October 26, 2024.

2024 Stewardship Campaign

We ask that you return your Commitment Card in the offering plate today, or please mail it to the office so Session may complete the process of preparing the 2025 budget.

Joyful Journey of Stewardship

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY! Church of the Cross is grateful for the years of tradition our congregation has for its fall stewardship campaign and for its continued success with member responses. Thank you to everyone who has prayerfully considered your support and investment in the future of our church.



Every pledge is important – make your pledge count. To date, Church of the Cross has received 143 pledge cards totaling \$660,158 committed to our 2025 budget. Together, we can make each step count. Thank you.

MIGHTY KIDS - BEEKEEPING GOALS

Last Sunday during Young Disciples, Rock challenged our Mighty Kids (children and youth) to increase their giving by year end to reach a goal of \$240. This would allow Church of the Cross to use their annual giving for a beekeeping opportunity for a farmer.

For instance, in Guatemala a farmer could increase his annual salary by 23% by selling honey each month. Last Sunday, our Mighty Kids gave **\$221.75**. They now have nearly enough for two hive opportunities! Maybe together, by year's end it might be three or four hives! SWEET GIVING and thanks to all our children and youth.



Piecemakers Fabric Sale Today

The Piecemakers are having a "sale" of fabric and quilting accessories on Sunday, October 27 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Our entire inventory of fabrics, scraps, notions, patterns, and accessories will be available for you for your own personal projects. Your free-will donations for these items will go to support our summer Youth Mission Trips. After 23 years of providing over 250 baby quilts, as well as making over 35 bed quilts for our partner church in Russia, the Piecemakers are changing the way we do things. Now, instead of meeting as a group, we invite all quilters in the congregation to make their quilts at home. Thus, we no longer need to keep an inventory stored at church. As always, if you wish to donate a hand-made baby quilt to add to our supply for newborns, contact Karen Morey or Linda Miller.

Trunk or Treat is Today at 3 p.m.

Join us today for food, games, and trunk or treating. Be sure to wear your costume and bring a bucket for your treats. If you are hosting a trunk, THANK YOU! Please arrive at 2:30 p.m. and park your vehicle on the road that connects the north and south lot. Face your trunk so that it opens to the west (towards the grass). Be ready to accept trunk or treaters by 3 p.m. We hope to see you all there!

The Tuesday Bible Studies will resume this Tuesday, October 29.

We'll continue our study of the book of Romans, picking up in chapter 5.

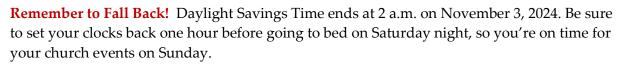
Children's Christmas Pageant Registration



The Children's Christmas Pageant will be on Sunday, December 8 at 5 p.m. All children (preschool – 5th grade) will be wearing costumes and singing. Confirmands will be reading Bible verses. Junior and senior high youth will be helping with the set. All are invited to join us! If you have any questions, please contact Heather.

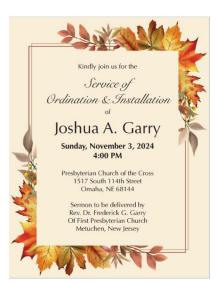
You can use this QR code to register by November 1.

NEXT SUNDAY, NOV. 3





Service of Ordination and Installation



Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend the Service of Ordination and Installation for Joshua A. Garry. Ordination services are a once-in-a-lifetime event that hallmark years of scholastic commitment and service to our denomination. Given the magnitude of this ordination and installation service, much of Josh's family will be flying into Omaha for this major life event. Many of them have never been to PCOC before and they are very excited to see the church that Josh has told them so much about. The service itself will feature a sermon by Josh's father, Fred Garry, and will also include a wonderful rite of passage – Josh will preside over communion for the first time (which he will get to serve with his sister Rev. Zoe Garry at his side). Additionally, we will be hosting guests from the Missouri River Valley Presbytery and honored guests Rev. Gregg and Cheryl Miller from Ft Calhoun (family friends of the Garry's for over 30 years – Gregg and Josh's father Fred were classmates at Princeton). Josh has never walked at any of his graduations post high school, so this is a

rare and unique opportunity for those who love him and support him to celebrate his hard work. A reception will be held in the Welcome Center following the service and is hosted by the Congregational Life Committee.

Embracing Community Connections Speaker Series

On Sundays November 3, 10 and 17 at 10:00 a.m. in the Courtyard Classroom, our Agape for All team will host a series to hear from some of Omaha's community leaders. On November 3, we begin with Albert Varas, the CEO of the Latino Center of the Midlands. As a seasoned leader with over two decades of experience in education, nonprofit, business, and public health sectors, Alberto has dedicated his career to making a tangible difference in his community. In his role as CEO of the Latino Center of the Midlands for the past six years, he has spearheaded numerous initiatives, modernizing the organization's finances and technology and cultivating vital partnerships with community organizations, businesses, and other key stakeholders. Please register for this class online.

Advent Workshop November 17

The Advent Workshop will have a new feel to it this year! We know how much our families and children have enjoyed spaghetti lunch and craft time in the past. This year we are selecting crafts that ALL ages – the young AND the young at heart – will enjoy creating. This is one of SHF's biggest fundraisers, benefiting their summer mission trip to Colorado. We hope to see all ages at the Advent Workshop and Lunch!

View samples of the crafts and REGISTER ONLINE before November 8. Contact Heather with any questions.

Fall Clean-Up is Saturday, November 9, 9 am to NOON!

All members are invited and welcome to participate! Bring your garden gloves, pruners, rakes, shovels, and trash barrels! If you have a chain saw that would be helpful this year as well. We will rake leaves and debris to spruce up our landscaped areas to prepare our grounds for the winter season ahead. TREATS, juice and coffee will be available for fellowship. Your help will be very much appreciated! Thank you!

A Saturday Evening Vesper Concert on November 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary



The Nebraska Brass Band (NEBB), together with Alleluia Singers and Mark Kanitz, organ, will present "A Fanfare of Praise" on November 9 at 7:00 p.m. Founded and directed by UK transplant Glenn Greet (also founder and owner of Chippy's Omaha), the NEBB is the only British-style brass band in the local area. Consisting of thirty-four musicians, the NEBB has attracted professional players from all

areas of the state and even beyond. Nebraska's premier brass band has a unique sound capable of playing whisper-soft passages and powerful fortissimos. Don't miss a fantastic opportunity to hear great hymns of the faith with brass, choir, organ, and percussion.

One Worship Service on Sunday, November 10 at 11:10 only. Along with our Alleluia Singers, the Nebraska Brass Band will provide special music for worship on November 10. So that all may enjoy the special music, we will have only one worship service that day, at 11:10.

Remembrance Service A personal invitation for you to come and remember your loved one

Remembrance Service is Sunday November 10, 4:00 p.m.

Our church's Cross Care Connections program is reaching out to members and families to come and remember your loved one during our annual afternoon service in our Sanctuary. You are invited to stay after the service for continued fellowship at a reception in the Welcome Center.

Donate to Hurricane Relief Efforts.

Our Mission Committee is matching donations of up to \$3,000 total from the congregation to send to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to aid in the massive relief efforts which will be needed. Write your check to PCOC with PDA in the memo line. To date, the congregation has already given \$12,065!



Two Volunteer Opportunities Available

First, our Cross Currents Folding and Labeling Team meets one time each month to prepare our church newsletter for mailing. This team meets in classroom 13 the Wednesday following the third Friday of the month at 8:30 am. Office Administrator Julie Hansen coordinates this team and will be happy to get you signed up to help. Lots of conversation and fellowship and it usually takes around an hour each month. Thanks.

Second, our Monday morning Kitchen Crew has a couple openings. Usually, a crew consists of two people, and they run the dishwasher to clean the pitchers, cups, glasses, and trays used at coffee fellowship on Sunday. They also restock the kitchen for the next coffee fellowship. One person generally takes home the laundry of dirty dish towels to clean and return by the next week. Business Administrator Rock Sumner coordinates these teams and will be happy to get you assigned to one Monday per month. Thanks.

STAFF

Pastor, Head of Staff Rev. Marshall Zieman, D. Min. 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 **Christian Education Director** Heather Berry heather@pcoc.us Rock Sumner **Business Administrator** rock@pcoc.us Christian Fritz **Communications Coordinator** communications@pcoc.us Iulie Hansen Office Administrator churchofthecross@pcoc.us Mark Kanitz Organist mark@pcoc.us Pastor Emeritus Rev. Kirk Ryckman, D. Min.

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