



Welcome to Worship

Sunday, January 19, 2025

9:00 and 11:10 in the Sanctuary

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude

Of the Father's Love Begotten

David Cherwien

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

Silent Meditation

"Ah, yes, I've been missing it and I didn't want to miss it, I love that passage: it's Cana of Galilee, the first miracle... ah, that miracle, ah, that lovely miracle! Not grief, but mankind's joy Christ visited when he worked his first miracle, he helped people's joy... 'He who loves mankind, loves their joy...'
The Brothers Karamavoz, Fyodor Dostoevsky

Call to Worship

Psalm 36

Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,

Your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,

Your judgments are like the great deep.

You save humans and animals alike, O LORD.

How precious is your steadfast love, O God! We will worship thee, O God!

Praise and Adoration

***Hymn #477**

Thy Mercy and Thy Truth, O Lord

TALLIS' ORDINAL

(*Please stand, if you are able)

Confession and Pardon

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and Loving God, again and again You set a banquet before us. You anoint our heads with oil. You make our cups run over. And yet so often we do not show up to our own party. We busy ourselves with other things. We sit down at other tables. We drink from a different cup. We ignore and forsake our own anointing. Forgive us. Help us to see and enjoy all the wonderful things You do for us, O Lord.

Silent Prayers of Confession and Petition

Kyrie Eleison (#434)

Restore in Us, O God

BAYLOR

Restore in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.

Assurance of Pardon***Gloria Patri (#581)**

GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)

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.

WelcomeDuring the welcome, children are invited to come forward for a time with Rev. Garry.***Time for Young Disciples*****Hymn #175**

Seek Ye First

TUNE

Announcements**Moment for Mission**

Karen Morey, for the Mission Committee

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

I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light (9:00)

Thomerson; arr. Tom Trenney

A Chorister's Prayer (11:10)

Jacob Dishman

Proclamation of God's Word

Scripture Lesson

Ecclesiastes 8: 14-15

page 541 of the pew Bible

John 2: 1-11

page 863 of the pew Bible

Sermon

“You’re Invited”

Rev. Garry

Our Response to God’s Word

***Affirmation of Faith**

F-1.0304, *The Book of Order*

We believe in the great ends of the Church: the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God; the maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the Truth; the promotion of social righteousness; and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Take My Life, and Let It Be Consecrated (9:00)

Mark Hayes

What a Friend We Have in Jesus (11:10)

Matthew Armstrong

***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**

Almighty God, because You give to us everything, we know it is right to give back to You. Let what we give be a source of joy for others in this world. Let what we give be in accordance with Your will. Almighty God, we dedicate these tithes and offerings to You in Your holy name. Amen.

***Hymn of Dedication #157**

I Danced in the Morning

TUNE

***Charge and Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

Go Now in Peace (9:00)

Don Besig

(Lyrics found on next page)

Peace I Leave with You (11:10)

H. H. A. Beach

***Benediction Response**

Go Now in Peace (9:00)

Don Besig

Go now in peace. Ne - ver be a - fraid. God will go with you each hour of ev-'ry day. Go now in faith, stead-faststrongand true. Know God will guide you in all you do. Go now in love, and show you be-lieve. Reach out to oth-ers so all the world can see. God will be there watch-ing from a - bove. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. A - men. A - men. A - men.

Postlude

Lord of the Dance

John Behnke

SERVING IN MINISTRY TODAY

Music 9:00 Kara Penniston, soprano; Mark Kanitz, organ
11:10 Alleluia Singers; Mark Kanitz, organ

Childcare Ministry Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, Tami Lancaster

Ushers 9:00 Darold Bauer, Captain; Mimi Bauer, Kathy Moore, Jeff Boyum, Tim Zimmerman
11:10 Josh Murray, Captain; Julie Buehler, Kathy Gross, Richard and Trudy Meyer

Greeters 9:00 North Door: Doug Larson Welcome Center Door: Mary Ann and Dave Pederson
11:10 North Door: Kristine Gasko Welcome Center Door: Kris and Tim Goodman

Coffee Host 10:00 Jane Burch

Information Center 9:00 Judy Thomas 11:10 Kris Goodman

STAFF

Rev. Marshall Zieman, D. Min.	Pastor, Head of Staff	marshall@pcoc.us
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Rev. Kirk Ryckman, D. Min.	Pastor Emeritus	

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Announcements

For the week of January 19, 2025

The Week at a Glance

Sunday, January 19 Pantry Sunday

- 9:00 Worship
10:00 Coffee, Children's & Youth SS Classes
10:00 More Than Words Class
Theologians, Philosophers, Composers, and the Pursuit of Beauty Class
11:10 Worship
4-8 JHF/SHF PMRV Glow Party at West Hills

Monday, January 20

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

Tuesday, January 21

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

Wednesday, January 22

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

Thursday, January 23

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

Saturday, January 25

- 8:00 Presbyterian Men Breakfast

Sunday, January 26

- 9:00 **NO 9:00 WORSHIP SERVICE**
10:00 Coffee, Kids & Youth SS Classes
10:00 Theologians, Philosophers, Composers, and the Pursuit of Beauty Class
More Than Words Class
11:10 Worship and Annual Meeting
12:00 All Church Soup Luncheon
4:45 JHF/Make Blessings Bags
4:45 SHF/Game Night at the Fritz's

Joys and Concerns.

The sympathy of the congregation goes out to the Jeff Friesen family on the death of Jeff's father. A service will be held this Wednesday in Saskatoon, Canada.

The flowers in the chancel this morning are given by Nadine Jenkins in loving memory of her husband, Dick and in gratitude and celebration of 50 wonderful years of membership since we joined Church of the Cross in 1974.

Next Sunday Is Our Annual Congregational Meeting. So that all members may attend, there is only one worship service, at 11:10. The meeting begins near the conclusion of the worship service. Everyone is invited to stay for the meeting, although only PCOC members may vote or participate. A soup luncheon follows the meeting. An informational packet will be available next Sunday, which includes the 2025 budget, committee summaries, congregational statistics, and staff reports. Besides receiving this information, the congregation is asked to vote on a new class of elders and deacons, the new Nominating Committee for next year, and any changes to the pastor's salary package. The meeting should be brief but informative. The following PCOC members have been nominated:

for Elder: Jimmy Downes, Jon Fritz, Susan Geschwender, Charlotte Hubbard, Gary Marron, Trudy Meyer, Scott Stalnaker, and Pam Swenson.

for Deacon: Russ Beernink, Cheri Carpenter, Anna Flairty, Barbara Haar-Rightmyer, Ann Pearson, Corey Prideaux, Sandy Simpson, Barbara Thompson, and Kristine Gasko (1-yr.)

Those nominated for next year's **Nominating Committee** are Darold Bauer, Kris Goodman, Gary Lynn, and Marietta Morhardt, with Tim Graumann & Tina Morgan serving as alternates. Nominated to be the **Congregational Representative** on the Personnel Committee is Jim Miller (2-year term).

Per our standing rules, any nominations from the floor need to have been given to the Moderator (Dr. Zieman) before the meeting has begun.

Lunch Next Sunday. After the congregational meeting, an all-church soup luncheon will follow, provided by the Congregational Life Committee. No sign up is needed!



**Presbyterian Disaster Aid for the Ongoing California Fires –
Matching Grant from the Mission Committee**

Please support the crucial work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance as they support the presbyteries and communities impacted by the disastrous ongoing fires in California. Tens of thousands of residents have been forced to evacuate and more than 57,000 homes are threatened.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is in communication with the affected presbyteries to offer resources in the aftermath of the fires. So far, we are aware of one Presbyterian church destroyed (Pacific Palisades Presbyterian Church) and several more are threatened. We will know more once the fires are contained and evacuation orders have been lifted. Pray for those affected, and for the safety, strength and resilience of the first responders battling these historic blazes, and for the families and communities devastated by unimaginable loss.

The Mission Committee has set aside up to \$5,000 to match your individual contributions. You may donate online at churchofthecrossomaha.org by clicking on the Giving button, then selecting Disaster Relief from the drop-down menu, or via our blue pew envelopes, or send checks to PCOC designating PDA in the memo

Giving Envelopes for 2025. New year giving envelopes are now available in the Welcome Center on a table close to the Information Desk. If you don't find your envelopes or would like to use envelopes, please contact Rock in the church office.

The Tuesday Bible Studies Have Resumed. Our Tuesday gatherings continue in our study of Romans. Newcomers are always welcome; just bring your favorite Bible and join us in the classroom in the Welcome Center at 7:00 a.m. (men's only) or 1:00 p.m. (everyone).

Active Minds in January

Come join the fun and laughs with Active Minds. We will be playing Spades and Five Crowns. Please join us when the weather and your schedule allows. We meet on Tuesdays from 1:30-4:00 pm in the lower level — couch area /Great room. You are welcome to come down after Bible Study dismisses. New players are welcome at any time. Friends who are not Members of PCOC are always welcomed also. Questions? Earlene Uhrig.

Presbyterian Men – On Saturday, January 25th at 9:00 am, PCOC men are invited to attend a continental breakfast and program in the Welcome Center. Our speaker will feature Josh Planos, VP of Marketing, Communications & PR, at Better Business Bureau of the Midwest Plains. He will speak about "Scam Prevention" covering key strategies to protect yourself from scams and what to be on the lookout for in today's increasingly digital world. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how to safeguard your finances and personal information. Please sign-up to attend at the Information Desk by Sunday, January 19th, and feel free to invite a friend to join you! Contact Jon Boomgaarden with questions.

Adult Education Classes Have Just Begun – Join One Today at 10:00

10 Values for the Modern Family at 10 a.m. led by Emily and Josh Murray. The values we live and raise our families by are grounded, first, in love. Contrary to many of today's so-called family values, our values go beyond one or two loaded social issues to a wholehearted lifestyle of practicing compassion, hospitality, justice, peace, and belonging. This class is geared towards parents that are currently raising children in their homes. Grandparents are welcome to join us, too! This class meets in Room 15.

Theologians, Philosophers, Composers, and the Pursuit of Beauty at 10 a.m. led by Cindy Sloan - Beauty is essential to our understanding of God and can be a path to God. Dostoevsky claimed that "beauty will save the world". There are many philosophers in the past ten years who have put forward the idea that beauty is essential in the restoration of the sacred (Sir Roger Scruton) and its importance to our world, well-being, and culture. Dana Gioia, former California Poet Laureate and Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, has lectured and written extensively on the arts and their importance for the church and spirituality. He believes that "in the presence of beauty" we "feel a deep human hunger being satisfied". Through the music of Beethoven and Britten we will experience beauty and hopefully sense "the beauty of the Lord." This class meets in the Courtyard Classroom in the Welcome Center.

Cornerstone Has Just Begun – Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

The Spring Semester of Cornerstone's Adult Education Class is "Blessed Are You, The Beatitudes of Jesus in Scripture and in Life," led by Kirk Ryckman, Jan 15 – Mar 19. We hope you will join us for dinner and then this Kerygma Program Bible Study. Please let Heather know if you are interested in attending.

Summer Fun for Children and Youth

Registration for summer camps and activities in our community has begun, but we don't want you to miss out on our activities here at Church of the Cross.

Put these dates on your calendar now:

Senior High Mission Trip – June 1 – 7

Junior High Mission Trip – June 27 – 29

Vacation Bible School – July 15 - 17, 9 a.m. to Noon

Senior High Youth Triennium – July 28 - 31

Calling all knitters!

Our supply of Prayer Shawls that are taken to our hospitalized and shut-in members is running low. If you are a knitter, please consider making one for the Pastors and Deacons to distribute to our members. They are greatly appreciated. You may leave your finished shawl on the counter in Room 15 and I will attach a label stating that it was crafted with love by our Prayer Shawl Ministry. Thank you for using your creative talent for this project. Any questions? Contact Ginger Petersen-Britt, 402-218-9663.

2025 Bible Reading Adventure. In the January Cross Currents, Rock published a daily guide to begin reading the Bible in a year. It is not too late to begin. Together, we begin in Genesis and Matthew, the Old and New Testaments and from there the adventure begins. We may gather periodically throughout the year for support. Join the adventure of a lifetime. Join us as we continue the readings each week in the New Year.

Mighty Kids End the Year with BIG RESULTS. You may remember when Rock wore his Beekeeping hat during a Young Disciples Moment and challenged our young members to donate enough money to give up to \$240 to provide a Beekeeping opportunity for a farmer. They did more than meet that goal, they gave enough to provide THREE Beekeeping opportunities for farmers and more. Marshall, Heather and Rock sat down and decided to include a piglet and a family of chickens. Thank you to our Mighty Kids for making a difference in the world and for helping improve the livelihoods of farmers and families.



49ERS on Tuesday, February 4

Our program for Tuesday, February 4, 2025, will be Amanda Stastny:, Bumbling Bee Native Wildflowers. She will be presenting information regarding the locally native and pollinator wildflowers and grasses which are beneficial for Nebraska and for our environment at large. She recently was featured in the Omaha World Herald. We are limiting our reservations to 40 individuals due to space constraints. The lunch location is Wheatfields, One Pacific Place, at 11:30 a.m. Everyone 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.



Ushers Needed

Extra Ushers and Greeters are Needed.

The usher teams serve one Sunday per month, and we have a few openings. You may sign up to be a permanent member of a team, or you may sign up to usher on individual Sundays that work with your schedule. Sign up online.

We're also looking for greeters on Sundays to welcome folks on Sunday morning. Choose your preferred Sunday and door (North door or Welcome Center door). Sign up at the Information Desk on Sunday or online anytime



Per Capita – What it is and Why?

All members should be aware of the Per Capita Assessment that our church pays each year. This money goes to offset the administrative cost for the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly. As a connectional church, we need to maintain effective channels of communication, and coordination so that our ministry as Presbyterians works well. The per capita assessment supports this process so that all Presbyterian programs, missions, and ministries may function better.

This year our per capita remains at \$40.80 per member. What that means is our church will pay \$28,927.20 by February 15, 2025, for our membership at Church of the Cross. If you decide to give a special gift to cover the per capita cost for your family, it will help the church offset our assessment. That would be:

\$40.80 for a single family member	\$81.60 for a two-member family
\$122.40 for a three- member family	\$163.20 for a four-member family

You are welcome to use the blue pew envelopes. Please drop it in the offering plate or mail your gift to Rock Sumner, Business Administrator at the church office.