



Welcome to Worship

Sunday, February 16, 2025
9:00 and 11:10 in the Sanctuary

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude

March Religiuse

Alexandre Guilmant

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

Silent Meditation

"How far you go in life depends on you being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak and the strong. Because, someday in life, you will have been all these."
- George Washington Carver

Choral Call to Worship (9:00)

Into My Heart

Harry D. Clarke

Call to Worship (11:10)

based on Psalm 1

Like trees planted by streams of water

Let us trust in the Lord

and meditate on God's Word

so we can yield good and bountiful fruit. Let us worship God!

Praise and Adoration

***Opening Hymn #619**

Praise My Soul, the God of Heaven

LAUDA ANIMA

(*Please stand, if you are able)

Confession and Pardon

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of grace, you remind us that we are blessed when we trust in you. Yet, we acknowledge that we do not always trust you. When the day-to-day problems of life bear down on our lives, we look to simple fixes instead of your guidance. We lash out in anger and hate instead of turning to you in prayer and petition. God, have mercy on us. Help us lean into your love and patiently wait for your guidance. Now God, in silence, we confess those times when we have not trusted you, and express the matters that weigh most heavily on our hearts.

Silent Prayers of Confession and Petition

Confessional Response (#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.

***Welcome**

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

Time for Young Disciples

***Hymn #172**

Blest Are They

BLEST ARE THEY

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

Hymn of Promise (9:00)

Natalie Sleeth/arr. Bradley Ellingboe

Ubi Caritas (11:10)

Ola Gjeilo

Where charity and love are, God is there.

The love of Christ has gathered us together. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Let us revere and love the living God.

And from a sincere heart let us love one another. Amen.

Proclamation of God's Word

Scripture Lesson

Luke 6: 17-26

page xxx of the pew Bible

Sermon

"How Will You Measure Happiness?"

Dr. Zieman

Our Response to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith

The Confession of 1967, 9.15

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.

*Sanctus

Holy, Holy, God Almighty

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Ho - ly, ho - ly, God al - mighty, Heav'n and earth Your prais - ses sing!
Shout Ho - san - nas to the Sav - iour, Bless - ing, hon - or to - the King.
In the name of the Lord, the bear - er of light tri - umphs o'er the dark of night
ev - er - more and ev - er - more. A - men.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Hallelujah, Get on Board! (9:00)

arr. Rollo Dilworth

All That Hath Life and Breath Praise Ye the Lord! (11:10)

René Clausen

*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

God, you have sustained us in lean times and led us to sources of living water. Take these gifts and multiply their blessings for those who are hungry, hurting and in need of your strength. Amen.

*Hymn of Dedication #634

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

*Charge and Benediction

***Benediction Response**

"Go Now in Peace"

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, steadfaststrongand 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

"Fanfare on SLANE"

Charles Ore

Serving in Ministry Today

- Music** 9:00 Children’s Choir, Jayne Frederickson, director; Mark Kanitz, organ
11:10 Chamber Singers; Mark Kanitz, organ
- Childcare Ministry** Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, Tami Lancaster
- Ushers** 9:00 Tim Graumann, Captain; Brenda Graumann, Kathy Moore, Jeff Boyum
11:10 Joe Weaver, Captain; Julie Buehler, Kathy Gross, John Bennett
- Greeters** 9:00 North Door: Sally Hanley Welcome Center Door: Bob and Judy Thomas
11:10 North Door: Sue Jenkins Welcome Center Door: Kristine Gasko
- Information Center** 9:00 Judy Thomas 11:10: Stephanie Weaver
- Coffee Host** 10:00 Tim Jerry

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 February 16, 2025

The Week at a Glance

Sunday, February 16 **Pantry Sunday**

9:00 Worship
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
3:00 Vesper Concert
4:45 SHF Fellowship/NO JHF

Monday, February 17

9 & 11 Music and Movement
10:00 Tai Chi

Tuesday, February 18

7:00 Men's Bible Study
9:30 Staff Meeting
1:00 Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study
1:30 Active Minds
5:30 Finance
6:00 Vesper Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 19

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

Thursday, February 20

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

Friday, February 21

Cross Currents Deadline

7:00 JHF Lock In

Saturday, February 22

9:00 Presbyterian Men Breakfast

Sunday, February 23

9:00 Worship
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
4:45 SHF Olympics/NO JHF

Joys and Concerns.

The flowers in the chancel are given by Ken and Cindy Nisley in honor of their 17th wedding anniversary on February 9!

The rosebud in the chancel is in celebration of Sue Meusy's new grandson, Richard Allan Stemm III, "Tripp", born on February 7 to Rich and Maddie Stemm and siblings Hazel and Scarlett.

In the month of February, we highlight the Deacon Fund

Did you know that Deacons are not supported by our regular budget? That's why in February, we encourage everyone to make a gift to our Deacons Fund. Your faithful support helps ensure that our Deacons are able to care for each neighborhood, send cards, make visits, prepare and serve funeral luncheons, and organize the Advent Dinner each year. You are welcome to use the envelope that is included with the regular weekly giving envelopes, or write "Deacons" on a blue giving envelope (located in the pew racks). Or, you may pay online - choose Deacons Envelope as the fund.



Bel Canto Duo Performs Today at 3:00 p.m.

Vesper Concerts presents Darci Gamirl and David Downing, partners in life and on the stage in the Bel Canto Duo. Darci is an oboe and English horn specialist, composer, and producer who performs as a soloist and orchestral musician with various orchestras and national touring productions. (Interesting fact: Darci played at PCOC with the chamber ensemble and choir last December.) David is a Grammy-nominated cellist and sought-after recording artist who studied at prestigious schools such as the Interlochen Arts Academy, the Harid Conservatory of Music, and the Cleveland Institute of Music. Darci and David formed the Bel Canto Duo in 2016. The duo was awarded Outstanding New Artist by the Omaha Entertainment Awards (2023) and was a finalist (American Prize) for chamber music composition and the Ernst Bacon Prive for the performance of American music.

Chancel Flowers. Time to sign up for chancel flowers for 2025! A signup sheet is available at the Information Center or you can call the church office, 402-333-7466. The cost is \$25.00. This is an excellent way to celebrate a special event or honor someone special.



**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.

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. Presbyterian Church of the Cross members have given more than \$5,100 this year and the Mission Committee is matching another \$5,000. A check will be sent this week to aid with relief efforts in the Southern California areas. Thank you.

Active Minds in February

Active Minds will be adding Pinochle to our games in February. Newcomers and friends are always welcome. Tuesdays, 1:30-4:00 in the lower level Great Room. We have very patient teachers available every week! Please join us as your schedule allows. You are welcome to join us after Bible Study. Contact Person, Earlene Uhrig.



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).

Adult Education Classes – 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 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

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.



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).



GALS on Saturday, February 22

Join GALS as we take a guided tour of the Joslyn Museum from 10:30 - 12:30. It will be a morning of fellowship, beauty, and learning. We will meet inside the main entrance of the museum, with the guided tour starting at 11:00. Following the tour, you are free to enjoy lunch at the onsite café, visit other museum exhibits, or proceed with your other Saturday events. There is no cost for the tour, but the museum accepts donations, if you choose. Any Questions? Contact Anne Wattles or Staci Voss.

Presbyterian Men February 22

On Saturday, February 22 at 9:00 am, PCOC men are invited to attend a continental breakfast and program in the Welcome Center featuring Jim Dingman. He will speak about Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), personal experiences and the ways he is giving back. Please sign-up to attend at the Information Desk by Sunday, February 16. Invite someone to attend with you. Contact Jon Boomgaarden.

PCOC Blood Drive is Sunday, March 2

The Deacons Health and Wellness Committee is sponsoring a Red Cross blood drive at PCOC on Sunday, March 2. The drive will be from 9:00 - 2:00 in the PCOC lower-level Great Room. Please see Chris Voss or Carla Fritz if you need assistance registering or you may sign up using the Red Cross App or this address - www.redcrossblood.org. All donations come with a \$10 gift card and HGB A1C testing. The Hemoglobin (HGB) A1C test is a diagnostic blood test to help diagnose and track Type 2 diabetes (more commonly called adult-onset diabetes).



Children's Worship Kits

Parents, be sure to pick up worship kits for your children on the way into worship on Sunday mornings. The kits are located on a cart in the Narthex. There are two types of kits: one for ages 3 – 6 and one for ages 7+. These kits contain paper, crayons, pencils, and children’s bulletins that help children follow along during the service. After worship, return the bags to the cart so they can be restocked and ready for next Sunday.

2025 Lenten Study is March 9 – April 13. Sign up now!

One of our most meaningful churchwide activities is starting soon – The Lenten Study! Small groups will begin a 6-week study on March 9 and end on Palm Sunday, April 13. Rob Fuquay’s book, *The Passion Play, Living the Story of Christ’s Last Days*, has been chosen as this year’s study.

“Perfect for this Lent, this study takes you on a journey to the origins of the Oberammergau Passion Play and helps you understand how the play has been used both as a ritual of praise and, later, as a weapon. The play covers the final period of Jesus’ life from his visit to Jerusalem to the journey to the cross. This study helps readers feel a sense of connection to the play while recognizing their own place in the story of Jesus.”

The Lenten Study is a great opportunity to get to know others in our church family while preparing for Easter. We hope you will join us!

Classes will be offered the following days and times:

Sundays at 10 a.m., Sundays at 5 p.m., Mondays at 1:30 p.m., and Thursdays at 7 p.m. on Zoom



Register Online or use the QR code.

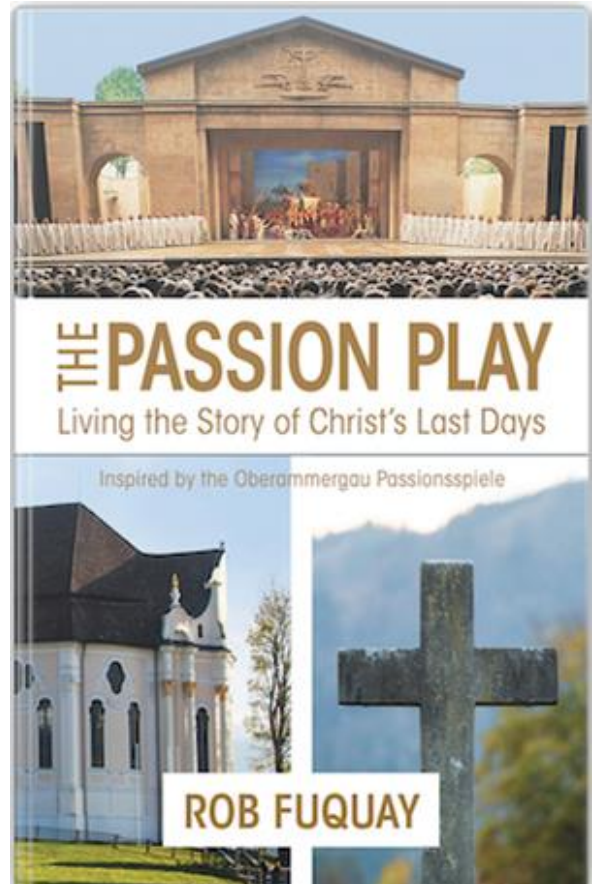
If you need assistance registering, stop by the

Information Desk in the Welcome Center and someone will be happy to help you, or contact Heather in the Church Office.

49ERS on March 4

Our program for Tuesday, March 4, 2025 is Joy Battling of Scatter Joy Acres. Joy Bartling is a native of Nebraska and has 4 children and 7 grandchildren. She was raised on a dairy farm in Herman, Nebraska. In 2006 Scatter Joy Acres (SJA) was founded by Joy to provide a new home, new life, and new meaning by rescuing abused or neglected animals. In 2022 the ranch was relocated to 15 acres inside the city limits of Omaha. 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 and you can find out more about Joy on the sign up sheet as well.

Youth Offering Goals Set for 2025!



In the Gathering Space where the elementary children gather for Sunday School each week, there are goal sheets posted displaying this year's giving effort. To kick off 2025, their first goal is to raise enough money to purchase two sets of 2 Rabbits and a Hutch, which costs \$100 per set. Rabbits reproduce at a very high rate and can be a consistent source of nutrition for a family in need.

During January and the first part of February, our children and youth have already given \$66 towards this effort. WAY TO GO MIGHTY KIDS!

Once they have reached their first goal, their next effort is to raise enough money to purchase fishing equipment and supplies. This is another way for a family to improve their livelihood and become more self-sufficient.

We hope that you will continue to support our youngest Presbyterians as they make a difference in today's world!

2 Rabbits and a Hutch
\$100 x 2 = \$200
Rabbits reproduce at a very high rate and can be a consistent source of nutrition for a family in need. Consider giving a family everything they need to house and raise a family of rabbits.

