



Welcome to Worship

Sunday, April 6, 2025

9:00 and 11:10 in the Sanctuary

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude

Lord Jesus, Think on Me

J. Bert Carlson

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

Silent Meditation

"Resurrection means that the worst thing is never the last thing."

Frederick Buechner

Call to Worship

from Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,

we were like those who dreamed.

Our mouths were filled with laughter,

our tongues with songs of joy.

It was said among the nations,

The Lord has done great things for them.

The Lord has done great things for us,

and we are filled with joy. Let us worship God!



Praise and Adoration

*Opening Hymn #53

(*Please stand, if you are able)

O God, Who Gives Us Life

NOEL

Confession and Pardon

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Ever-Present God, you offer us restoration and wholeness, yet we resist you. We reduce the purpose of this life to the amount of stuff we can retain, and we disregard the damage done to our planet, our neighbors, and to ourselves in the process. We confess that we would rather remain as we are than risk the change that results from your presence in our lives. In this season of Lent, help us to realize just how much we depend on one another. Guide us to reorient our lives towards your goodness and your joy.

Silent Prayers of Confession and Petition

Confessional Response (#417)

Lord Jesus, Think on Me

SOUTHWELL



Lord Je-sus, think on me, and purge a-way my sin. From earth-born pas-sions set me free, and make me pure with-in.

Assurance of Pardon

***Welcome**

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

Time for Young Disciples

***Hymn #212**

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

MARTYRDOM

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

Turn Thee to Me (9:00)
Lamb of God Most Holy (11:10)

Antonin Dvořák
Robert Pearsall

Proclamation of God's Word

Scripture Lesson

John 12: 1-11

page 874 of the pew Bible

Sermon

"The Costly Fragrance of Love"

Dr. Zieman

Our Response to God's Word

***Affirmation of Faith**

from A Brief Statement of Faith (1991)

In life and death, we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, Come, Lord Jesus!

***Sanctus (#569)**

Holy, Holy, Holy

SANCTUS (Oliver)

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of power and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry, Ho - san-na in the highest.
 Blest is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high-est.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Hear my prayer, O Lord (9:00)
My Jesus, I Love Thee (11:10)

Antonin Dvořák
arr. Paul Sjolund

***Doxology (#608)**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

PRAISE GOD (Hopson)

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Christ, all peo-ple here be - low;
 praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more; praise Tri-une God, whome we a - dore.

***Prayer of Dedication**

God of all gifts, we are grateful for the many ways you continue to provide for us. As we offer a portion of these gifts today, we ask you to receive them and transform them. Allow these gifts to become acts of restoration and hope, both in our community and beyond, that all of your children might live into the abundance and the joy that you offer us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***Hymn of Dedication #440**

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

ABERYSTWYTH

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Ashley Grote

SERVING IN MINISTRY TODAY

Music	9:00	Marietta Morhardt; Dirk Lindner, guest organist	
	11:10	Alleluia Singers, Mary Lynn Bennett, flute; Cayce Wilkinson, piano Dirk Lindner, guest organist	
Childcare Ministry		Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, Tami Lancaster	
Ushers	9:00	Dave Berry, Captain; Brad Burch, Tim Jerry, Dawn Zimmerman	
	11:10	Jim Chapin, Captain; Doug Reid, Inga Wagner, Kim Banat, Kim Reid	
Greeters	9:00	North Door: Doug Larson	Welcome Center Door: Dave and Mary Ann Pederson
	11:10	North Door: Carol Crawford	Welcome Center Door: Lowell and Donna Wilhite
Information Center	9:00	Kathy Nickel	11:10: Kris Goodman
Coffee Host	10:00	Linda Miller	

STAFF

Rev. Marshall Zieman, D. Min.	Pastor, Head of Staff	marshall@pcoc.us
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Announcements

For the week of April 6, 2025

The Week at a Glance

Sunday, April 6

- 9:00 Worship
- 10:00 Coffee, Kids and Youth SS Classes
- 10:00 Lenten Study
- 11:10 Worship
- 12:15 New Member Discussion
- 4:45 SHF May Baskets
- 4:45 JHF Games
- 5:00 Lenten Study

Monday, April 7

- 9 & 11 Music and Movement
- 10:00 Tai Chi
- 1:30 Lenten Study
- 6:00 Worship and Music Committee
- 6:30 Building and Grounds Committee

Tuesday, April 8

- 7:00 Men's Bible Study
- 9:30 Staff Meeting
- 1:00 Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study
- 1:30 Active Minds
- 5:00 Brass Rehearsal
- 5:00 Membership Committee
- 6:30 Film "Divisible" at Omaha Conserv. of Music

Wednesday, April 9

- 5:30 Chamber Singers
- 6:00 Communion Class
- 6:30 Alleluia Singers

Thursday, April 10

- 9 & 11 Music and Movement
- 10:00 Tai Chi
- 12:00 Serve lunch at OSS
- 7:00 Lenten Study

Saturday, April 12

- 9-12 SHF Scattered Joy Acres service project

Sunday, April 13 – Palm Sunday

- 9:00 Worship
- 10:00 Coffee, Kids and Youth SS Classes
- 10:00 Lenten Study
- 11:10 Worship
- 11-2 Caring and Sharing at Don and Millie's
- 4:15 Serve Dinner at Siena Francis House
- 4:45 JHF Stuff Eggs
- 4:45 No SHF Fellowship
- 5:00 Lenten Study

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.

The flowers in the chancel this morning are given by Mimi and Darold Bauer in celebration of the marriage on April 5 of Erin Bauer and Quinn Parker!

Thinking about membership at PCOC? A New Member Discussion will be held today, directly following the second worship service. This is an opportunity to learn more about Presbyterian Church of the Cross and to ask questions as you explore the decision to join our congregation. A light lunch will be served so please call the church office or fill out the online form. Let us know of any dietary restrictions. Meet in the Welcome Center at approximately 12:15.

Pinwheels for Prevention.

April is child abuse awareness month, and we're helping our mission partner Project Harmony bring attention to the issue by participating in the annual Pinwheels for Prevention campaign. You'll notice a multitude of blue pinwheels spinning in our front flowerbeds. You're invited after the service to the circle drive entrance to plant a pinwheel to show your support.

Attend the Movie "Divisible" on Tuesday, April 8.

Many have already signed up to see the documentary film, "Divisible" to be shown at the Omaha Conservatory of Music on Tuesday April 8 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. We hope more of you will join us for this documentary, explaining the history, mechanics, and ramifications of redlining in our city, which was prevalent in the last century. Thanks to sponsorships from churches, including Church of the Cross and the Presbytery of Missouri River Valley, tickets are free. You just need to register in advance either online at <https://bit.ly/OmahaRedlining> or following this QR code. If you don't use a computer or want to carpool, there is a signup sheet at the Information Desk.



Communion Class for Children. Parents and children in the 3rd grade are invited to participate in our Communion Class to learn about the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The class takes place this Wednesday, April 9, from 6 – 7:30 p.m. Any older children who were unable to attend this class before may also join us. Dinner is included and childcare is available. Registration ends today. Click here to register:



Friday Night Gourmets Meets Next on April 11.

We will meet at Jericho's, 11732 W. Dodge Road (402-496-0222). Cocktails will be at 6:30 p.m. and Dinner at 7:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet is located at the Information Desk. Please sign up by noon on Wednesday, April 9. Reservations are limited to 44. Hosts are Janet Wallace, Jan Steffa, and Linda Grohs. Please join us to help welcome Spring!

Give to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS). OGHS is the single largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. This special offering enables us to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. Our Sunday School children received their Gracie fish banks. During Lent, children are encouraged to fill up their banks, and bring them back to church on Easter Sunday, April 20.



Children's Palm Parade is Next Sunday.

Children of all ages are invited to participate in the Parade of Palms next Sunday, April 13 during both services. Meet Heather in the Narthex 10 minutes before worship starts to receive your palm and instructions. Parents, if your children are too shy to walk by themselves, you are invited to join the parade. The more the merrier!

Fancy Fellowship Snacks next Sunday, April 13. The service will be one of celebration as the choirs, congregation, and trumpet join in the jubilation. We invite everyone to continue the celebration with "Fancy Fellowship" between services in Fellowship Hall. **Bring a goodie to share during fellowship between services!**

May Basket Silent Auction begins Next Sunday.

Do you have a special woman in your life that deserves to be pampered? Of course you do! 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 begins April 13 and the bidding ends May 4. Come by the Lobby to find the perfect gift for the woman in your life. You'll be notified right after late church on May 4 if you win. As always, thanks for your support!

Easter Egg Hunt Candy Donations.

We're still accepting donations of individually wrapped candy to fill the eggs for our hunt. Please bring your donations by next Sunday and place them in the plastic bin by the Information Desk in the Welcome Center.

Easter Egg Hunt.

Easter is just around the corner! Hop on over to the church on Saturday, April 19 for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. We'll start our time with crafts in Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m., then we'll move outside to the east lawn for the hunt at 10:30 a.m. Be sure to bring your own basket to collect eggs. And keep an eye out – maybe you'll spot Peter Cottontail!

Active Minds.

Canasta will be the game for April at the Active Minds Fellowship Group. Join us when your schedule allows: Tuesdays, 1:30-4:00pm, lower-level Great Room. New players and friends are welcome. We have very patient teachers. Feel free to stop by after Tuesday Bible Study. Questions? Contact Earlene Uhrig.



We met the goal of filling three tables at the **Omaha Street School Gala** on April 15! Details on the Gala will be emailed to those who signed up! Thank you.

Tables for Eight – Spring/Summer Session 2025. The deadline for new registrations or making a change for the spring/summer session (May, June, July, and August) is April 10. If you are currently in Tables for Eight as a “Regular” or a “Sub”, you will automatically be reassigned to a new group or stay a “Sub. However, if you choose not to participate or want to change your current status,” contact Pam Otto 402 830-6375 or pottomt@cox.net. New “Regular” participants or “Substitutes” (couples or singles) are always welcome to join this fellowship opportunity. “Tables for Eight Registration Form” is on the Website www.churchofthecrossomaha.org.

Agape for All Speaker Series – Register Online - Sundays at 10:00 a.m. in the Welcome Center

Connecting with Omaha Welcomes the Stranger (OWS) – April 27

OWS, formed in 2022, strives to serve migrants fleeing violence and persecution in their home countries by providing safety, hospitality, hope and assistance with establishing new lives in the United States. Learn more about their work and ways they collaborate with local churches, service providers, and volunteers, in order to fulfill its mission of providing compassionate care to immigrants.

Connecting with the Center for Immigrant and Refugee Advancement (CIRA) – May 4

CIRA’s history is embedded in the 1997 founding of the Southern Sudan Community Associations. This led to Omaha having one of the largest Sudanese communities in the country. A 2022 merger between two refugee resettlement organizations created the CIRA. Erik Omar will summarize the array of services they now provide including legal, resettlement and social services in a growing number of locations spanning from Council Bluffs to Scottsbluff. He also has important information to share with us about the changes underway in our country and the challenges faced within their agency and the immigrant community.

Summer Fun for Children and Youth. We don’t want you to miss out on our summer activities at Church of the Cross. Put these dates on your calendar now: Vacation Bible School is July 15 - 17, 9 a.m. to Noon, and Art & Music Camp is August 5 – 8, 9 – Noon & 12:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Spotlight on our Library. Stop by our library to check out a book. For April, books by our members are on display. Or choose from 53 “Agape” books on social issues, or 56 biographies, or over 600 children’s books!

Camp Calvin Crest.

Hey Parents – are you wondering what to do with your kids this summer? Check out Camp Calvin Crest and give them the opportunity to learn more about God and their faith in a fun, outdoor adventure! Visit www.calvincrest.camp to learn more!

Children’s Worship Kits.

Parents, be sure to pick up worship kits for your children on the way to worship on Sunday mornings (located on a cart in the Narthex). There are two types of kits: for ages 3 – 6, and 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.



Holy Week at Church of the Cross



Maundy Thursday, April 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Tenebrae service with communion in the Sanctuary and on livestream.

Good Friday, April 18 at 7:00 p.m.

The Alleluia and Chamber Singers, together with professional soloists and instrumentalists, will present "St. John Passion" by Bob Chilcott. This hour-long work uses the text from St. John's gospel to tell the story of Christ's trial and crucifixion. The soloists and choir bring the drama to life. A brass quintet, solo viola, cello, timpani, and organ provide the instrumentation. The piece also includes five Passiontide hymn texts, which will be sung by the choir and congregation together.

Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, April 19 at 10:00 a.m.

Meet in Fellowship Hall for crafts. We will hunt for eggs at 10:30. Bring your basket to collect eggs!

Easter Sunday, April 20 at 9:00 and 11:10 a.m.

Rejoice in worship in our beautiful, flower-filled Sanctuary. The late service is livestreamed.



**Spring
Clean-Up!**

Saturday, April 26
9am - Noon

*Bring your work gloves, your rakes,
or your trash can to help haul the debris.*

*Bring your smile, your enthusiasm
and your non-stop energy!*

*Help spruce up our church's lawn
and landscaping by lending a hand.*

Juice, coffee and snacks will be available.

 **PRESBYTERIAN**
Church of the Cross

All church event sponsored by your B&G Committee
Rain date set for Saturday, May 3