



Welcome to Worship

September 14, 2025

9:00 and 11:10 in the Sanctuary

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude

My Shepherd, You Supply My Need (9:00)
Aria (11:10)

Robert Hobby
Gerald Near

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

Silent Meditation

"...before I can live with other folks, I've got to live with myself. The one thing that doesn't abide by majority rule is a person's conscience."

To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee

Call to Worship

Give praise to the Lord who formed the heavens and the earth

Give praise to the God who led us out of the wilderness

Give praise to the Lord who dwelt in the Temple of Jerusalem

Give praise to the God who stood by us in exile

Give praise to the Lord who died upon the cross for us

Give praise to the God who came back because he loved us – let us worship God!

Praise and Adoration

*Hymn #611

(*Please stand, if you are able)

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

Confession and Pardon

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

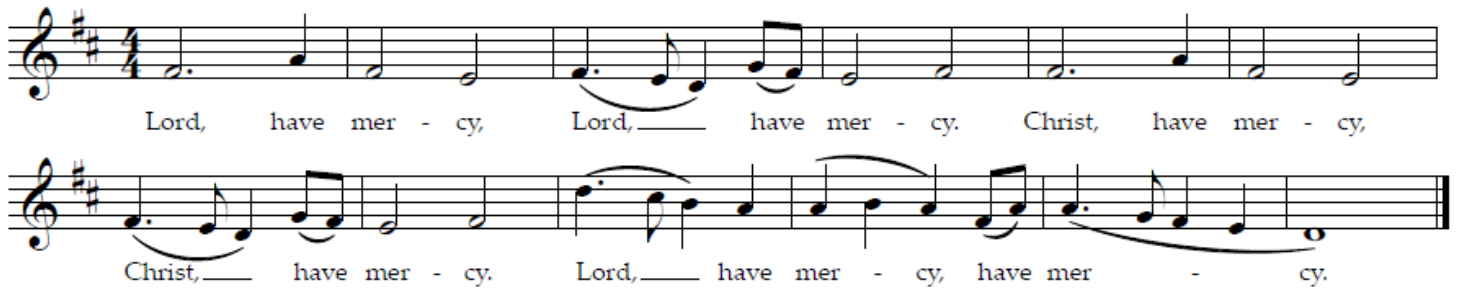
God of eternal life, we come to You this day conscious of the barriers we build between each other, visible and invisible. You set a table before us where all are welcome. And yet we keep others at a distance. Forgive us, Lord. Help us to live into Your Kingdom on earth, instead of living into the kingdoms of earth. Give us the courage to let You guide us when we are lost. Give us the heart to lengthen our tables. Give us the patience to lead others to You when they are lost too. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Kyrie Eleison

Lord, Have Mercy

Schubert



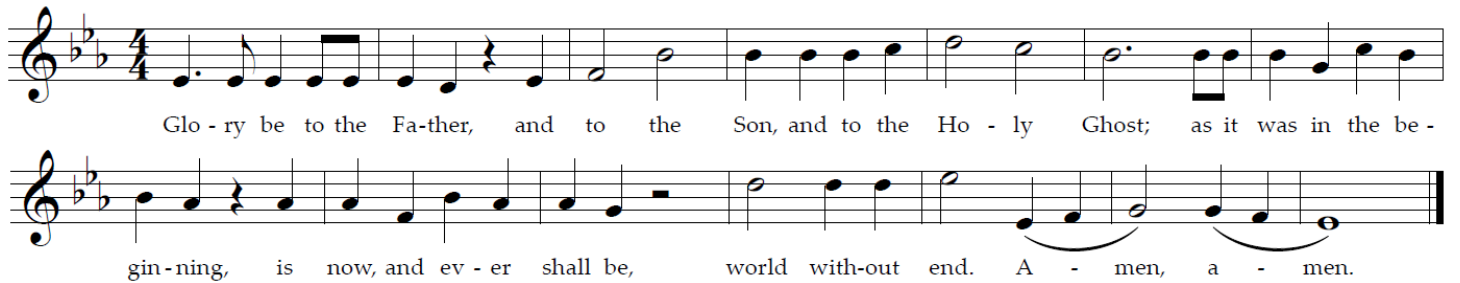
Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy,
Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Assurance of Pardon

***Congregational Response (#581)**

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI (Creatorex)



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

Time For Young Disciples

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.

Proclamation of God's Word

Scripture Lesson

Luke 15:1-10

page 850 of the pew Bible

Sermon

"The Space Between"

Rev. Joshua Garry

Prayer

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

For the Life That You Have Given (9:00)
Hear Me, Redeemer (11:10)

Charles Callahan
Henry Mollicone

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The elders will serve you in the pews. All baptized Christians are invited to partake.

We ask that you hold on to the piece of bread or the cup until all have been served, so that we may partake as one body.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer

*Affirmation of Faith

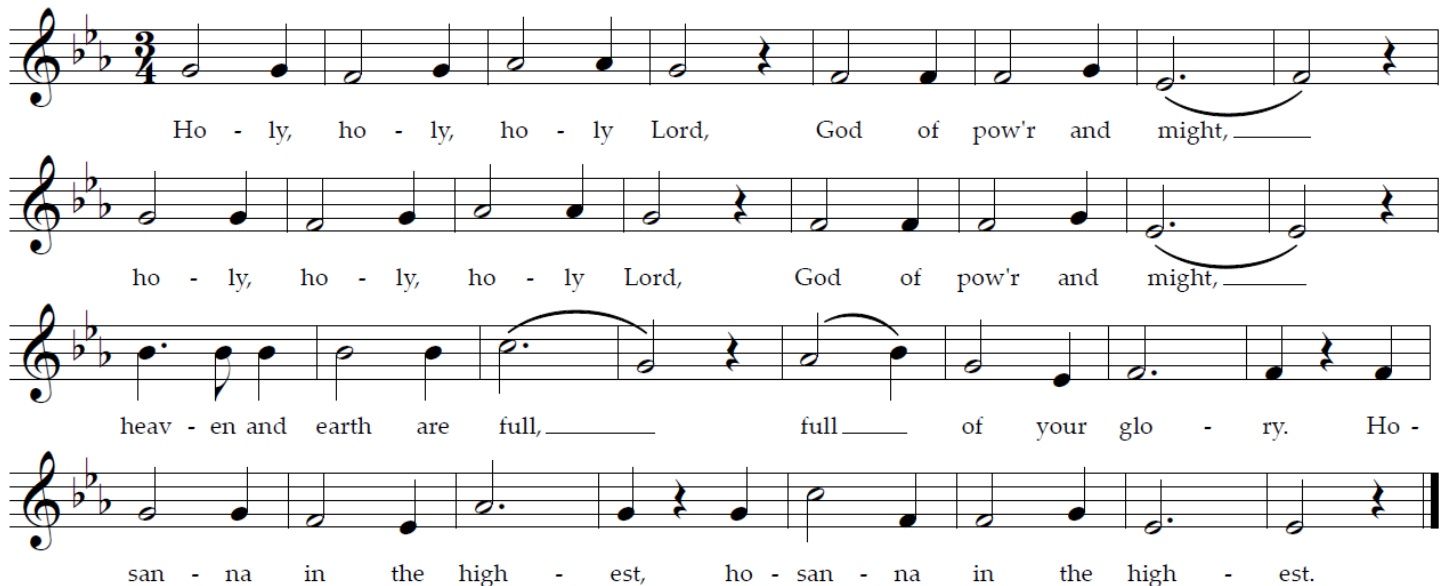
The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

*Sanctus (#562)

Holy, Holy, Holy

SANCTUS (Schubert)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, _____
ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, _____
heav - en and earth are full, _____ full _____ of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Words of Institution

Serving the Bread

The pastors will walk down the aisles with gluten-free bread.

Anthem

Aria (9:00)
Come to the Water (11:10)

Gerald Near
John Foley; arr. Lynda Hasseler

Serving the Cup of the New Covenant

*Prayer of Dedication

Jesus, Lord of all that is given, we offer to you this day what we can. We ask that as an extension of Your boundless love, and by Your grace, our gifts become part of Your ministry in this world. Amen.

*Closing Hymn #450

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Postlude

Douglas Wagner

Serving in Ministry Today

Music 9:00 Kristi Treu, piano; Mark Kanitz, organ
11:10 Alleluia Singers; Mark Kanitz, organ

Elders serving Communion

9:00 Tim Graumann, Laurie Kerr, Gary Marron, Marsh Marron, Roger Utman, Nancy Utman, Rock Sumner, Dawn Buchanan, Kathy Moore, Linda Miller

11:10 Josh Murray, Kathryn Vint, Chuck Baddley, Pam Otto, John Stalnaker, Valerie Fuller, Keith Allen, Paula Allen, Kristin Goodman, Barb Scanlon

Childcare Ministry Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, Tami Lancaster

Ushers 9:00 Jim Miller, Captain; Linda Miller, Gary Marron, Marsha Marron, Frank McMullen
11:10 Dennis Boesen, Captain; Amy Boesen, Judy Sundberg, Barb Scanlan, Dan Scanlan

Greeters 9:00 North Door: Barb Haar-Rightmyer Welcome Center Door: Paul & Kathy Nickel
11:10 North Door: Owen & Karen Saunders Welcome Center Door: John & Pam Swenson

Information Center 9:00 Judy Thomas
11:10 Congregational Life Committee

Coffee Host Cindy Rieke

Staff

Rev. Marshall Ziemann, D. Min.	Pastor, Head of Staff	marshall@pcoc.us
Rev. Joshua Garry, M.Div.	Associate Pastor	josh@pcoc.us
Kristi Treu, M.A. Music	Director of Music, Executive Director Vesper Concerts	kristi@pcoc.us
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Mark Kanitz	Organist	mark@pcoc.us
Rev. Kirk Ryckman, D. Min.	Pastor Emeritus	

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Announcements

For the week of September 14, 2025

The Week at a Glance

Sunday, September 14

- 9:00 Worship with Communion
- 10:00 Welcome Reception for Annika Shaw
Coffee Fellowship and Sunday School
- 11:10 Worship with Communion
- 11-3 Don & Millie's PCOC Day

Monday, September 15

- 9:00 Music and Movement
- 10:00 Tai Chi
- 11:00 Music and Movement
- 6:30 Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, September 16

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

Wednesday, September 17

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

Thursday September 18

- 9:00 Music and Movement
- 11:00 Music and Movement

Friday, September 19

Cross Currents Deadline

Sunday, September 21

- Pantry Sunday
- 9:00 Worship
- 10:00 Coffee Fellowship and Sunday School
- 11:10 Worship

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 & Concerns

The chancel flowers this morning are given by Judy Arms in loving memory of Henry Arms and by the Ron Wax Family in memory of Linda Wax.

A Return to the Fall Schedule

We returned to worship services at 9:00 & 11:10, with the Sunday School hour and Coffee Fellowship Hour at 10:00. The 11:10 service is livestreamed, available from our website. The church office is open 9:00 – 4:30, Monday – Friday.

Welcome Reception for Annika Shaw at 10:00 today!

Congregational Life is welcoming our new Community Engagement Coordinator and Office Administrator, Annika Shaw, with a reception at 10:00 in between the two services. Meet our newest staff member while enjoying donut holes, pastries, and fruit in Fellowship Hall!

Caring and Sharing Day at Don and Millie's from 11-3 today.

Stop by Don & Millie's at 108th & Center to grab lunch from 11 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 14. Tell them you're with PCOC, and 20% of your bill comes back to us to support next year's JHF Mission Trip. You might run into some lovely people!

Sunday School for all ages at 10:00 has begun

Preschool Sunday School – three-, four-, and five-year-olds that haven't been to kindergarten yet will meet upstairs in Room 7. Anna Flairy and Libby Whitlow lead this class.

Bible Explorers – Elementary aged children will meet downstairs in the Gathering Space for a short lesson with Sue Thomas. Then they will split up into different age groups and experience various workshops in rooms 8, 9 and 10. Adults take turns leading these classes.

Junior High – 6th, 7th and 8th graders meet downstairs in Room 11. Holly Baddley is leading this class.

Senior High – 9th – 12th graders will meet downstairs in the Great Room. Dan Kerr is leading this class.

A Beautiful Morning to Volunteer



Last Saturday, a group of volunteers gathered in the south parking lot and started weeding and digging holes! Eventually, the two east islands in the south parking lot were weed free, a dozen new shrubs were planted, several other plants were moved, and new mulch was laid down. We had enough help that weeds were also removed from the south side of the sanctuary wall and sidewalk area. The weather was perfect to spend the morning gardening together. Many stories were shared as we worked as well as coffee, juice and snacks. A special shout out to those who joined in that morning were Linda Matson, Mike Howland, Joe Weaver, Brad Miner, Skip Decker, Curt Field, Meg Whaley, Pauline Lundgren, Josh Murray and Rock Sumner.

Femi's Heart Foundation Personal Hygiene Collection

We have launched a collection of personal hygiene items to support our newest mission partner, Femi's Heart Foundation and their October Mission Trip. Through September 20, collection bins will be stationed outside the sanctuary and in the front entrance circle driveway to place items. The bins will have pictures of the items being collected for easy identification. Following the collection, PCOC youth groups will help pack the kits to be shipped to Benin, Africa and handed to 1,000 young girls at several locations. Femi's Heart Board is very thankful for your support.

Active Minds We are playing Canasta in September. We have very patient teachers if this is a new game for you. Friends are welcome. Join us any Tuesday, 1:30-4:00 pm that works with your schedule. Lower Level, Great Room.

Fall Adult Education on Sunday Mornings

Finding God in the Abyss - The Holocaust, led by Cindy Sloan – **Begins today in Room 15**

Sundays at 10:00 a.m. - September 14 – November 2

Where was God? This question is still asked today. Many Jews lost their faith in God during and after the Holocaust. Many found God amidst their incomprehensible suffering. Why were Christians silent? Irving Greenberg offers a 'working principle' as a why Jews and Christians should reflect upon the meaning of the Holocaust. We will examine Rabbi Irving Greenberg's and Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks answers and writings about God after the Holocaust. We will also discuss Holocaust survivors' theological responses to the Holocaust (Elie Wiesel Primo Levi and Victor Frankl). Besides readings we will also view interviews on Weisel, Frankl, and Sacks. The subject matter is enormous, but we will make a dent and open our minds.

"Are you saved or are you Presbyterian?" led by Keith Allen – began last week

Sundays at 10:00 a.m. - September 7, 14, 28 & October 5, 12, 19, 26

Are you saved, or are you Presbyterian? Find out which, by joining us on Sunday mornings this fall for 7 weeks of discussion and study about what Presbyterians believe about everything from salvation and baptism to heaven and hell, to predestination and rapture, to worship and grace. If you are a long time Presbyterian and think you couldn't possibly attend because you are supposed to know all this stuff, rest assured I have taught this 3 times before and am STILL learning. Be there or be square.

The Tuesday Bible Studies have Resumed in the Welcome Center.

Both the 7:00 am (men's) and 1:00 pm (everyone) Bible Studies have restarted. This fall, both groups are studying the book of Jeremiah, which recounts the role of Jeremiah as God's spokesperson in the years preceding and immediately following the fall of Jerusalem to Babylon in 587BC. Jeremiah spoke both of God's judgment and restoration, focusing on the relationship between God and God's people. Attending the study is easy - no preparation is required and no prior experience in a Bible Study is needed. Just bring your favorite Bible and join the class for an hour of study and discussion together.



PCOC Red Cross Blood Drive September 28 from 9am – 2pm

Sign up for the blood drive on September 28 is available on the Red Cross website and app. You can also ask Chris Voss or Carla Fritz for assistance. Receive a \$10 Amazon gift card for donating.



Wednesday Night Cornerstone Has Resumed

Choose from two adult education classes, Credo and Children's Choir, children's education classes, and of course, a delicious dinner! You don't have to attend dinner to participate in education or choir, but I don't see why you wouldn't!

Choirs

5:15 – 6:00 PM Children's Choir (1st - 5th grade)
5:15 – 5:50 PM Credo Choir (6th – 12th grade)

Dinner is served between 6:00 – 6:30 PM in Fellowship Hall.

5:50 – 6:45 PM Chamber Singers
6:50 – 8:20 PM Alleluia Singers

A New Opportunity for Youth Singers

New this fall: Credo Choir will include singers in grades 6-12! We'll rehearse Wednesdays during Cornerstone from 5:15 to 5:50 in the Sanctuary and sing for worship several times during the school year. I hope many of our youth singers will take advantage of this opportunity to help lead and enhance our worship!



Children's Bible Study

6:30 – 7:15 PM Preschool – 7th grade
6:30 – 7:30 PM Confirmation Class for 8th grade led by Dr. Zieman

Cornerstone Adult Education:

What Do You Believe? - An Introductory Theological Survey, led by Pastor Josh Garry

Wednesdays during Cornerstone from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. - September 10, October 1 – November 12

Every Sunday we recite together a theological response in the form of an Affirmation of Faith from our *Book of Confessions*. Often times the Silent Meditation at the beginning of our service bulletin has a quote from a theologian. Sometimes a theologian will be mentioned in a sermon. Every once in a blue moon you may hear the words, *Book of Order*, uttered in a theological context within the church halls (and on the rarest of occasions, perhaps even from the pulpit). All of these things are clearly grounded in some form of theological perspective – perspectives that are intended to draw us near to God – but what the heck is theology anyway, and what are we *really saying* when we answer the question, *what do you believe*, on Sunday. Come find out.

You do not need to attend dinner to attend class, but please register for class.

The Gospel of Luke: Good News for All (The Kerygma Program), led by Dr. Kirk Ryckman

Wednesdays during Cornerstone from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. September 10 – November 12

Luke's Gospel is uniquely inclusive, involving all people. Good News is for the outcast and the establishment, for the religious and those searching. Luke speaks to women, to men, to the strong and healthy, to the weak and dispossessed. Its relevance today inspires faith, spirituality and action. Join us on Wednesdays to learn more. You do not need to attend dinner to attend class, but please register for class.

Coming Later this Fall

49ERS on Tuesday, October 7, 2025

Our speaker for October will be Walt Duda. Walt writes, "I was introduced to the book, *Black Elk Speaks*, by Nebraska Poet Laureate, John Neihardt while I was a student at Dana College in the 1960's. My fascination with the book led me to become a longtime member of the John G. Neihardt Foundation. I plan to talk about how John Neihardt and Nicholas Black Elk met and how their unlikely meeting produced a masterpiece of spiritual literature that remains in print nearly 100 years after their meeting." 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

Presbyterian Men Breakfast

On Saturday, October 11 at 9:00 am, PCOC men are invited to attend a continental breakfast and program in the Welcome Center featuring Dr. Jeff Delaney. He will speak about his passion, "Operation Hippocrates." Every year a group of doctors, nurses and volunteers from Children's Hospital go to Belize to examine and treat children with heart conditions. If the case is repairable, the child is brought to Omaha and surgery is performed. Many are assisted in country and others are saved by surgery in Omaha. Leroy Swedlund, one of our own, and Dr. Jeff Delaney, have gone annually for three decades to perform this mission. Please sign-up to attend this fabulous presentation at the Information Desk by Sunday, October 5. Invite someone to attend with you. Contact Jon Boomgaarden with questions.

Names for the Messiah - An Advent Study by Walter Brueggemann, led by Laura Duncan

Sundays at 10:00 a.m. - November 23, 30 & Dec 7, 14

In Isaiah 9:6, a divine utterance is given to us using four royal titles – Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Names for the Messiah ponders each title and how the people understood it then, how Jesus did or did not fulfil the title, and how Christians interpret Jesus as representative of that title. Christians have claimed from the beginning that Jesus was the Messiah foretold in the Old Testament. In this study, best-selling author Walter Brueggemann tackles the questions: What were these expectations? And Did Jesus fulfill them? Perfect for individual or group study, a study book includes prayers and questions for reflection that can be used each week.

A Simple Christmas: How the Amish Celebrate the Beauty of the Lord, led by Charlotte Hubbard

December 28 at 9:30 a.m.

For more than ten years, novelist Charlotte Hubbard researched and wrote about the Old Order Amish in Missouri. The 30 novels that resulted gave her a deep respect for their simpler lifestyle and the way the Amish live their faith in God every day – which invited a rethinking of her own personal faith. Over the course of her adult life she has lived in 5 midwestern states and has sold nearly 60 novels, several related novellas, and 70 stories to confession magazines. Before that, she was a school librarian.

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