

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ Mark Sedio

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

Silent Meditation

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for he has founded it on the seas and established it on the rivers. Psalm 24: 1,2

I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all. But whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess. Martin Luther

Call to Worship

We have been blessed by the eternal God, who has been faithful to us.

As thankful stewards, we will remain faithful to God.

God has empowered us with the Holy Spirit to be our Comforter and Guide, our unfailing source of strength.

As Spirit-filled stewards, we will remain faithful to Christ, whom we worship and adore!

Praise and Adoration

***Hymn #716** God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending BEACH STREET

(*Please stand, if you are able)

Confession and Pardon

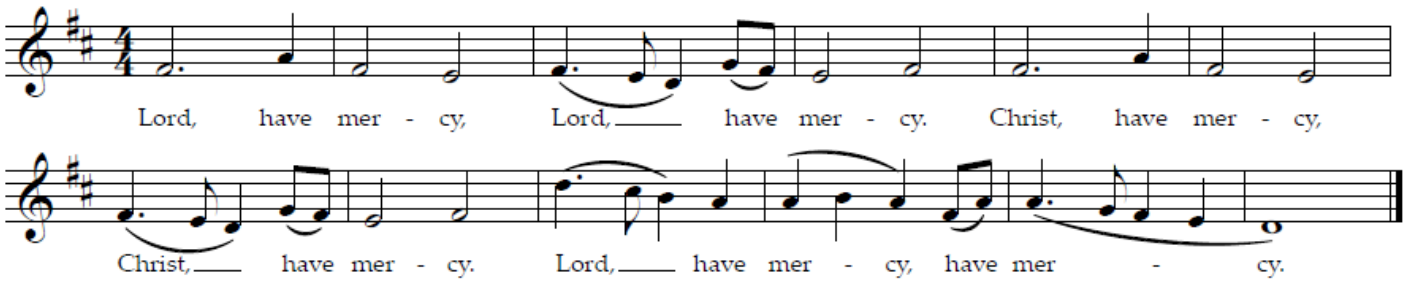
Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, in scripture you implore us to learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, and plead for the widow. Yet, we often turn away from those in need and focus on our own wants instead. We prefer to gather riches and champion the powerful rather than give to those in need. God, help us refocus on our hearts and our heads to helping those who need us most, that they would live in the fullness of your creation.

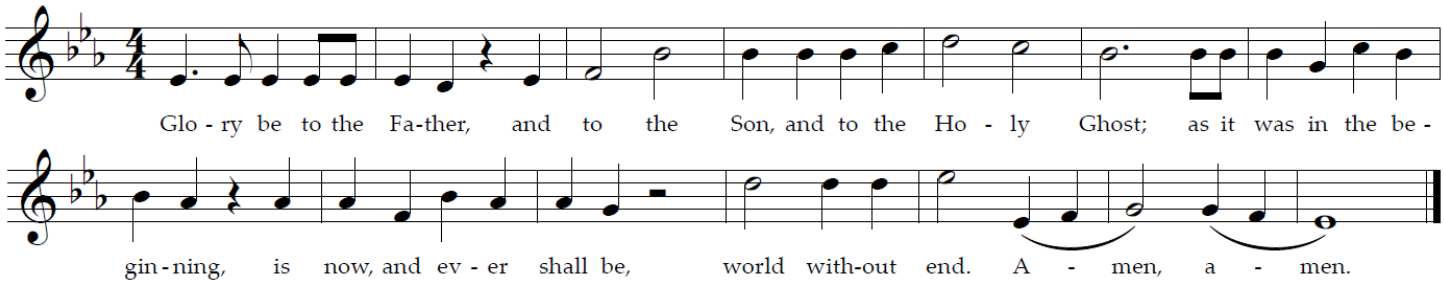
Silent Prayers of Confession and Petition

Kyrie Eleison Lord, Have Mercy SCHUBERT



Assurance of Pardon

***Congregational Response (#581)** Glory Be to the Father GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)



***Welcome**

The Sacrament of Baptism (9:00)

Alden John Florent, born on March 5, 2026

Alden is the son of Daniel and Molly Florent, and brother of Audrey and Lena.

***Congregation Response: With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome Alden John Florent into Christ's church to share with us in the one ministry of Christ, for we are all one in Him.**

Presentation of Bibles to Second Graders (11:10)

Cece Ballou	Jamie Bougger	Charles Darling	Lila Dittman
Mason Downes	Colton Hansen Holdren	Louis Knight	Beau Schiessler

***Congregational Response (to the Second Graders):**
We rejoice with you as your church recognizes this step in your religious growth. We pray God's continued guidance for you and your family as you use this Bible in the years to come. We are already proud of you, and we look forward to helping you grow in faith.

Announcements

Moment for Stewardship Elder Jeff Friesen, PCOC Finance Committee Moderator

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 Sim Shalom (9:00) Jennaya Robison

Grant peace, goodness and blessing to us and unto all Israel, your people.

Dearest Jesus, We Are Here (11:10) Manz; arr. Benjamin Culi

Proclamation of God's Word

Scripture Lesson Matthew 22: 1-14 page 803 of the pew Bible

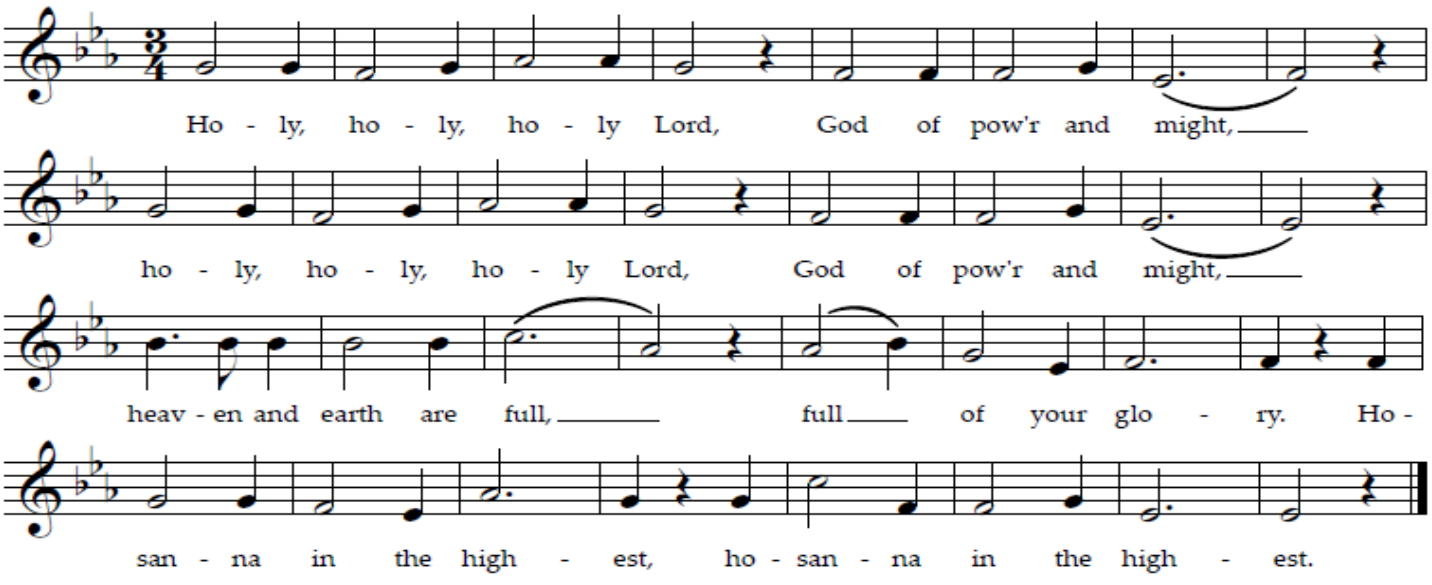
Sermon "God's A-List" Dr. Zieman

Our Response to God's Word

***Affirmation of Faith** from The Confession of Belhar, South Africa, 1986

We believe that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.

***Sanctus (#562)** Holy, Holy, Holy SANCTUS (Schubert)



Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory The Lord Is My Shepherd (9:00) Allen Pote
Simple Gifts (11:10) Edwin T. Childs

***Doxology (#609)** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia!
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

***Prayer of Dedication**

Loving God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts. Use them, even as you use us, to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ, the Head of the church and the Lord of our lives. Amen.

***Hymn of Dedication #711** Lord of All Good TOULON

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude I Love to Tell the Story Charles Ore

Serving in Ministry Today

Music	9:00	Alleluia Singers; Mark Kanitz, organ
	11:10	Trinity Brass: Greta Roberts & Gary Lynn, trumpets; Valerie Fuller & Ann Pearson, horns; Keith Allen, trombone; Anna Harveson, euphonium Mark Kanitz, organ
Childcare Ministry		Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, Tami Lancaster
Ushers	9:00	Jim Miller, Captain; Linda Miller, Gary and Marsha Marron, Frank McMullen
	11:10	Kathy Gross, Captain; Julie Buehler, Judy Sundberg, Dan Scanlan
Greeters	9:00	North Door: Kathy and Paul Nickel Welcome Center Door: Doug Larson
	11:10	North Door: Welcome Center Door: Nancy Anderson
Information Center	9:00	Carol Sorensen 11:10 Sue Jenkins
Coffee Host		Shanna Mathia

Staff

Rev. Marshall Zieman, D. Min.	Pastor, Head of Staff	marshall@pcoc.us
Rev. Joshua Garry, M.Div.	Associate Pastor	josh@pcoc.us
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Heather Berry	Christian Education Director	heather@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 October 11, 2026

The Week at a Glance

Sunday, October 11
9:00 Worship
10:00 Coffee Fellowship and Sunday School
10:00 Falling Upward Class
11:10 Worship
11:00 Caring and Sharing at Don and Millie's
12:15 New Member Discussion
2:00 Pageant Rehearsal
4:15 Serve Dinner at Siena Francis House
5:00 Anxious Generation Class
4:45 JHF/SHF Bible Study

Monday, October 12
9 & 11 Music and Movement
10:00 Tai Chi
6:30 Christian Education Committee

Tuesday, October 13
7:00 Men's Bible Study
9:30 Staff Meeting
1:00 Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study
1:30 Active Minds
5:15 Membership Committee
6:30 Mission Committee

Wednesday, October 14
4:30 Investment Committee
5:15 Children's Choir
5:15 Credo Choir
5:50 Chamber Singers
6:00 Cornerstone Dinner
6:30 Confirmation Class
6:50 Alleluia Singers

Thursday, October 15
9 & 11 Music and Movement
10:00 Tai Chi
6:00 Bell Rehearsal

Friday, October 16 – Cross Currents Deadline

Saturday, October 17
9:00 Presbyterian Men Breakfast

Sunday, October 18 - Pantry Sunday
9:00 Worship
10:00 Coffee Fellowship and Sunday School
11:10 Worship
4:45 JHF Fun and Games
3:00 SHF Bellevue Berry Farm
5:00 GALS Crocktoberfest Event

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

Joys and Concerns.

Flowers in the chancel this morning are given by Kathy and Paul Nickel in honor of their 60th wedding anniversary.

New Member Discussion is today at noon.

If you are interested in joining the church, or just want to find out more, please attend our New Member Discussion, at noon today in the Welcome Center. The discussion will last about an hour, and a light lunch will be served. Drop-ins are welcome!

Siena Francis House Servers Needed – today from 4:15 to 6:15.

PCOC has the dinner shift on the 2nd Sunday of every month at Siena Francis House. We need at least 6 volunteers. Please consider giving your time to this mission. Questions? Contact Keith Allen.

2027 Stewardship Campaign.



As Presbyterian Church of the Cross begins its 2027 Stewardship Campaign, we celebrate the faithful generations who built the congregation we know today. Through their worship, service, teaching, music, generosity, and care, they created a legacy that continues to strengthen our church. Our theme, Legacy Forward, calls us to honor that heritage while supporting today's ministry and preparing for tomorrow. Annual gifts make worship, Christian education, music, mission, outreach, and congregational care possible. Every contribution helps PCOC share God's love and serve our neighbors. As Psalm 145:4 reminds us, "One generation shall laud your works to another." This fall, consider what you have received through PCOC, how your generosity makes a difference today, and what you hope to make possible for future generations. Together, we can carry PCOC's legacy forward with gratitude, generosity, and faith. – The 2027 Stewardship Committee



Active Minds in October. We are looking forward to having guest teachers Brenda Graumann and Darold Bauer help us learn/review the card game North Dakota Whist. All are welcome! Every Tuesday in the lower level Great Room, 1:30-4:00 pm. Bring a sweater. Feel free to join us after Bible Study.

Office Help Needed! With Annika's departure, we are in search of a part-time office Administrative Assistant, working Mon-Fri, 9:00 – 1:00. Duties include general clerical, maintaining church records, and supporting the worship services through printing bulletins and sending email reminders to volunteers. For a detailed job description, or to find out more, contact either Marshall Zieman or Jim Miller, Personnel Committee Moderator.

Presbyterian Men. On Saturday, October 17th at 9:00 am, PCOC men are invited to attend a continental breakfast and program in the Welcome Center featuring Jay Miralles, a co-founder of the 50 Mile March Foundation, Inc. He will speak about how this nonprofit directly assists veterans facing mental health challenges and homelessness through the annual fund-raising 50-mile walk from Lincoln to Omaha since 2020. Please sign-up to attend this uplifting mission at the Information Desk by Sunday, October 11th. Invite someone to attend with you. Thanks to Lloyd Meyer for obtaining the speaker. Husker football is at Oregon & volleyball at home vs. Purdue. Contact Jon Boomgaarden with questions.

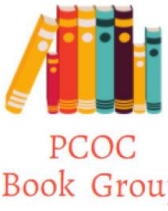




GALS Crocktoberfest October 18 at 5 p.m. in the Welcome Center - Crocks, Caring & Fall Fun! Something delicious is simmering, and you're invited! Get ready for a cozy gathering of GALS filled with crockpot creations, friendship, a little fun, and a special way to share the love this fall. Bring your appetite and your giving spirit! More details are cooking… so be sure to check your email for all the delicious details!

PCOC Book Group on October 21

We will meet October 21 in The Courtyard Room from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. to review *Rebecca* by Daphne DuMaurier. All readers are welcome! Questions? Contact Charlotte Hubbard.



Trunk or Treat, October 25, 3 p.m.



Join us in Fellowship Hall and on the east lawn for food, games, and trunk or treating. Be sure to wear your costume and bring a bucket for your treats. We encourage everyone in the congregation to participate by hosting a trunk. All you must do is decide on a theme, decorate your vehicle, dress up, and provide treats or toys to hand out to the children. It's that easy and so much fun! Help us make this the best Trunk or Treat ever for our church family. If you plan to host a trunk, please let Heather know so she can communicate directions for the event. We are accepting candy donations. Please donate individually wrapped candy. You may drop them in the bin in the Lobby.

Fabric Donations Needed

We welcome your donations of red, green, white, and cream-colored fabric, solid colors or prints. We need pieces that are at least 3"x3." These will be used for one of the crafts at the 'Tis the Season' Workshop. Please put them in the bin in the Lobby. If you have any questions, please see Heather. Thanks!

Adult Education Opportunities

Sunday mornings – Falling Upward, led by Keith Allen
Sundays at 10:00 a.m. from September 27 – December 27

In ***Falling Upward***, Richard Rohr (A Franciscan priest and founder of the Center for Action and Contemplation) takes us on a journey to give us an understanding of how the "Falling" in life – the heartbreaks, disappointments, and first loves – are actually stepping-stones to the "Upwards" in life – the spiritual growth that the second half of our life has in store for us. Join us this September for a 13-week study of **Falling Upward** with Richard Rohr as our guide. Led by Keith Allen, the class will follow Rohr's book, chapter by chapter, and will also incorporate reflections, questions and experiential exercises that have been pulled from Rohr's companion journal that accompanies the book. Suggested Book Donation $15.

Sunday afternoons – The Anxious Generation, led by Quinn McGuire
Sundays at 5:00 p.m. from September 13 – October 18

Together we will explore Jonathan Haidt's research on the rise of anxiety, depression, and loneliness among children and adolescents while discussing how Christian families can intentionally cultivate resilient, connected, faith-filled children in a digital world. This study is designed to encourage conversation—not debate—and to leave each session with practical ideas families can begin using immediately. Register Online. Suggested Book Donation $15.

Tuesday Bible Studies, led by Dr. Marshall Zieman.
Join us at 7:00 am (men) or 1:00 pm (everyone) for our current study of 2 Corinthians. We meet in the Welcome Center. Just bring your favorite Bible and an enquiring mind!

Wednesday evenings – The Acts of the Apostles, led by Dr. Kirk Ryckman at 6:30 in Room 15.

Wednesday evenings – Genesis, led by Rev. Josh Garry at 6:30 in the Courtyard Classroom.

And Coming in November…

Remembrance Service is Sunday, November 1.
Join us on All Saints' Day at 4:00 pm. in the sanctuary for a service of thanksgiving and remembrance for those who have died. The names of those we are remembering will be read out at the service and there will be the opportunity to light a candle. You are invited to stay after the service for continued fellowship at a reception in the Welcome Center.



Fall Clean-Up is Saturday, November 7, from 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!





Presbyterian Men's Classic Shrimp Boil Dinner & Fundraiser is Sunday, November 8.

Presbyterian Men are once again hosting an old-fashioned shrimp boil on Sunday, November 8 in Fellowship Hall at 5:30pm. Come and enjoy scrumptious 'JUMBO' fresh shrimp (or chicken cordon bleu) served with all the fixins! Entertainment provided by the "Michael Frederickson Trio". Suggested donation is only $20 per person or more if you wish. All proceeds go to Heartland Hope Mission. Sign up and pay (checks to Presbyterian Men) at the Information Desk by Sunday, November 1. Questions? Contact Jim Miller or Frank McMullen

'Tis the Season SHF Fundraiser Lunch is November 15.



All ages – the young *and* the young at heart – are invited to join us for this SHF fundraiser on Sunday, November 15 at Noon. This continues to be one of SHF's biggest fundraising events of the year, supporting their summer mission trip. Next year they're going to Rimrock Camp in Rapid, South Dakota. We're introducing activities that encourage full family participation. There will be one shut in craft, one family craft, and three other crafts. Each one has been thoughtfully chosen so everyone can enjoy creating together. We hope to see all generations join us for this special fundraiser. Come for lunch and stay for crafts! Please be sure to **register online by November 1** to reserve your crafts and lunch. If you have any questions, please contact Heather.

Vesper Concert on November 15



Omaha musicians take the stage the evening of November 15 at 7:00 p.m. Pianist Adam Hu will join violinist Henry Jenkins and cellist Boris Chalakov for the Brahms Piano Trio No. 1 and the U.S. premiere of Canadian composer Kevin Lau's "A Simple Secret." As always, the concert is FREE. No reservations required.

Advent in Plain Sight

November 22 – December 13
Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. - led by Carol Sorensen
Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom - led by Ardys Hansum

In this daily devotional for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, Jill Duffield draws readers' attention to ten ordinary objects that appear in the biblical narratives of messianic prophesy and incarnation – objects we encounter in our own lives. Readers will find new meaning in the biblical account of Jesus' coming. By connecting everyday objects with biblical texts, readers see the near kingdom of heaven on earth and ponder what divine proximity enables and asks them to do and be. Each daily devotional features Scripture reading, prayer, and reflection, reminding Christians that God still dwells among us, even in the most ordinary places. Join us! Register Online.