

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude Vater unser im Himmelreich J.S. Bach
(Our Father in Heaven)

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

Silent Meditation
You have not lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you.
John Bunyan
Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous; teach me to serve you as you deserve;
to give and not to count the cost. Ignatius of Loyola

You can't take it with you, but you can send it on ahead. Anonymous

Call to Worship Psalm 78
Give ear, O my people, and listen to the words of my mouth.
We will tell the coming generations of the Lord's glorious deeds and the wonders God has done.
Let us set our hope in God and not forget the works of the Lord.
As we wait, we will tell the story and keep the commandments.
We come together to worship the living God!

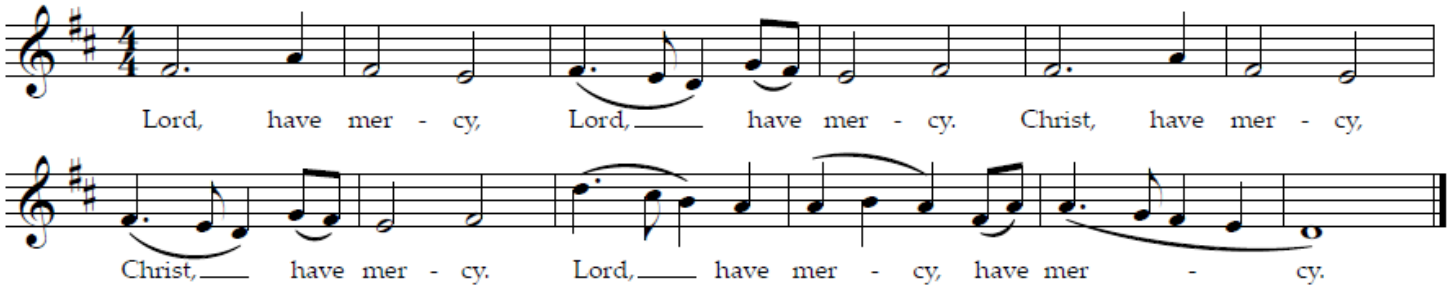
Praise and Adoration

***Opening Hymn #299** You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim HANOVER
(*Please stand, if you are able.)

Call to Confession
Prayer of Confession
God of grace, we have sinned against you by not honoring you or loving one another. We sleep when you ask us to be awake. We fall short in our preparations for the delays that inevitably come. We fail to share what you have provided. We have lost our hope. Forgive our sinful ways, tame our wayward wills and make us more like Christ. Inspire us by your Spirit so that we will be prepared to welcome the Lord when he appears. May our lives here and now be a glimpse of what we hope all may one day enjoy. Amen.

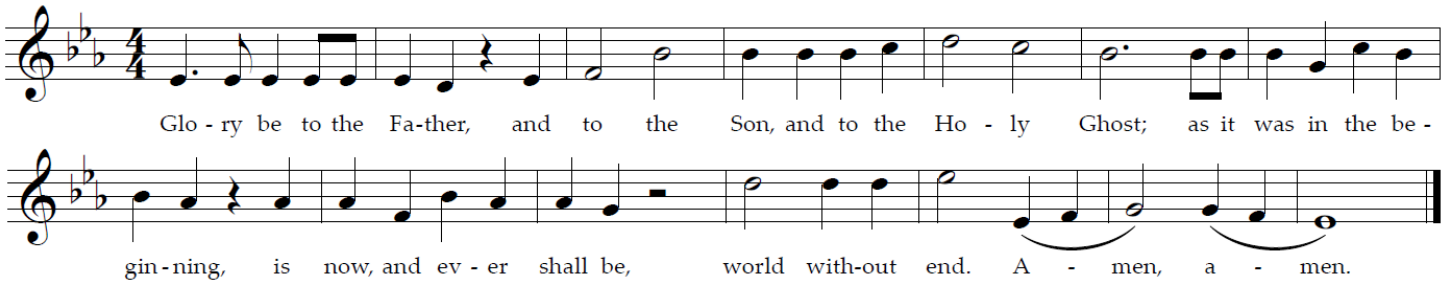
Silent Prayers of Confession and Petition

Kyrie Eleison Lord, Have Mercy Schubert



Assurance of Pardon

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



***Welcome**

Announcements

Moment for Mission Gayle Kerr-McFadden for Completely KIDS

Fellowship of Prayer

Joys and Concerns

Choral Call to Prayer (11:10) Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus Rebecca Raber

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 (9:00) Be Thou My Vision Bob Chilcott

Proclamation of God's Word

Scripture Lesson Matthew 25: 1-13 page 806 of the pew Bible

Sermon "Still Burning Bright?" Dr. Zieman

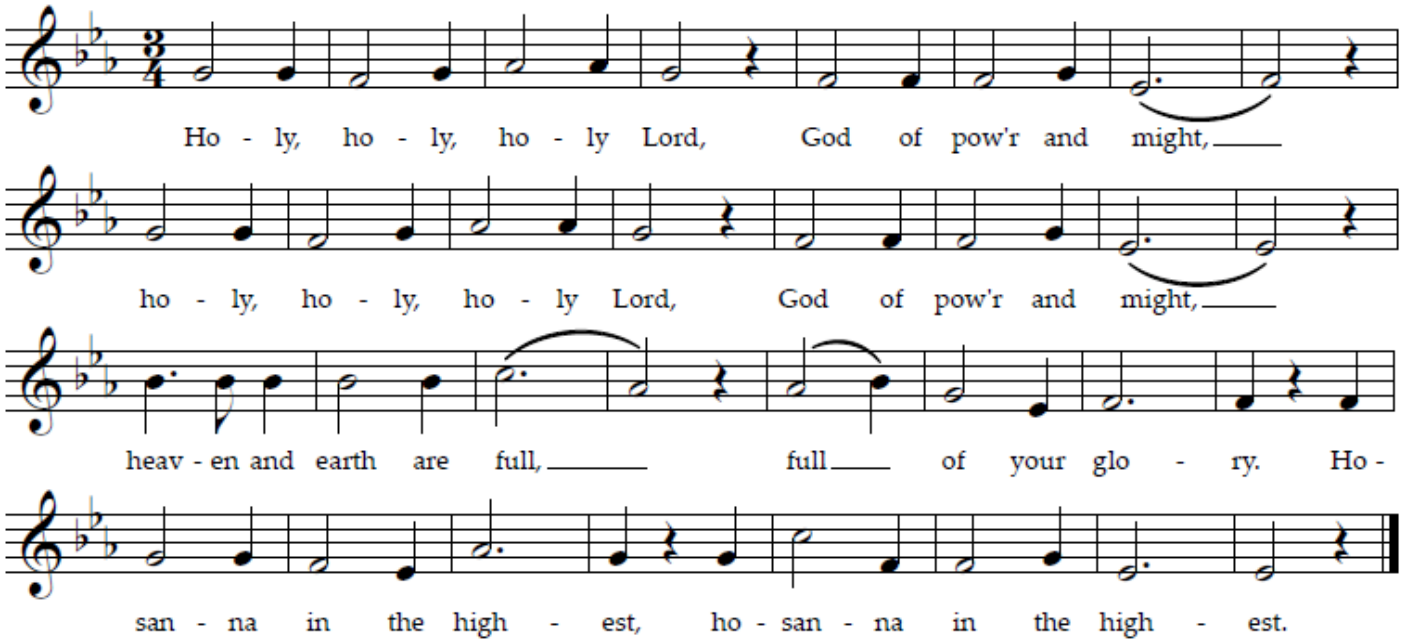
Our Response to God's Word

***Affirmation of Faith** from the Confession of 1967, 9.54-9.55

Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ, such as a heavenly city, the household of God, a new heaven and earth, a marriage feast and an unending day culminate in the image of the kingdom. The kingdom represents God's triumph over all that resists the divine will and disrupts God's creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption.

With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.

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



Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending (9:00) arr. Lloyd Larson
Keep Your Lamps! (11:10) André Thomas

***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**

We give you thanks, O God, for the many blessings that you have bestowed upon us. Receive these gifts as symbols of the dedication of our very lives and signs of trust in your coming reign of justice and peace. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

***Hymn of Dedication #352** My Lord! What a Morning MY LORD, WHAT A MORNING

***Charge and Benediction**

***Postlude** Postlude on "Ellacombe" arr. Jason D. Payne

Serving in Ministry Today

Music	9:00	Kara Penniston, soprano; Thomas Stoysich, baritone & guest organist
	11:10	Alleluia Singers; John Stalnaker, congas; Thomas Stoysich, guest organist
Childcare Ministry		Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, Tami Lancaster
Ushers	9:00	Jim Miller, Captain; Linda Miller, Gary and Marsha Marron, Frank McMullen
	11:10	Tim Goodman, Captain; Kris Goodman, Judy Sundberg, Dan Scanlan, Dimitri Garry
Greeters	9:00	North Door: Kathy & Paul Nickel — Welcome Center Door: Mary Ann Pederson
	11:10	North Door: Stephanie and Joe Weaver — Welcome Center Door: Carol Crawford
Information Center	9:00	Barb Haar-Rightmyer — 11:10 Nancy Koehler
Coffee Host		Russ Beernink

Staff

Mimi Bauer	Financial Administrator	mimi@pcoc.us
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Rev. Marshall Zieman, D. Min.	Pastor, Head of Staff	marshall@pcoc.us
Rev. Kirk Ryckman, D. Min.	Pastor Emeritus	

Announcements

For the week of November 8, 2026

PRESBYTERIAN
Church of the Cross

The Week at a Glance

Sunday, November 8
9:00 Worship
10:00 Coffee Fellowship and Sunday School Classes
10:00 Falling Upward Class
11:10 Worship
11-2 Caring and Sharing at Don and Millie's
4:00 Pageant Rehearsal
4;15 Serve Dinner at Siena Francis House
5:30 Presbyterian Men Shrimp Boil

Monday, November 9
10:00 Tai Chi
6:30 Christian Education Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 10
7:00 am Men's Bible Study
9:30 Staff Meeting
12:00 Vesper Concert Rehearsal
1:00 Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study
1:30 Active Minds
5:15 Membership Committee Meeting
6:30 Mission Committee Meeting

Wednesday, November 11
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, November 12
10:00 Tai Chi
11:30 PMRV Educators' Lunch @ PCOC
12:00 Serve lunch at Omaha Street School
6:00 Bell Rehearsal
6:00 NMEA Choir Performance
7:00 Digital Media Committee Meeting

Friday, November 13
1:00 Vesper Concert Rehearsal
5:00 Set up & Food Prep for 'Tis the Season
6:30 Friday Night Gourmets

Sunday, November 15 - Pantry Sunday
9:00 Worship
10:00 Coffee and Sunday School
10:00 Falling Upward Class
11:00 Worship
12:00 'Tis the Season Fundraiser Lunch & Workshop
7:00 Vesper Concert

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. Flowers in the chancel this morning are given by Kristin Jacobi in memory of Mary Macrander.



2027 Stewardship Campaign.
Get your cards to Mimi asap so the Session can plan the budget for 2027. We have now received over 200 cards in our goal to surpass last year's 260.

Nominate an Officer Today!



In the Presbyterian Church, we have the privilege and responsibility of nominating and electing our own congregational leaders. Now is the time to nominate a new class of Elders and Deacons. Your input is both appreciated and necessary! Forms are available online, in the Church Office, and at the Information Desk. The deadline is December 14. Questions? Contact a member of the church nominating committee: Larry Frederickson, Neal Hubbard, Tina Morgan, and Anne Wattles.

Presbyterian Men's Classic Shrimp Boil Dinner & Fundraiser is today at 5:30 p.m.
Sorry, but this popular event is sold out!





'Tis the Season SHF Fundraiser Lunch is next Sunday, November 15
Registration for crafts has ended, but everyone is welcome to join us for lunch! We hope to see you next Sunday at noon for a delicious meal and fellowship. Come support SHF!

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.

Lunch at Don & Millie's Today!

Grab your family and friends and join us between 11-2 today at the West Center & 108th Street location. 20% of every dollar spent on food and drink will go toward our Junior High Mission Trip next summer. Be sure to mention Presbyterian Church of the Cross when your order is placed.

Friday Night Gourmet on November 13 Friday Night Gourmets meets on November 13, at *Charleston's Restaurant* located at 76th and Dodge (7540 Dodge St, 402-991-0055). Social Time will begin at 6:30 pm with Dinner at 7:00 pm. We will be ordering off the full menu (GF menu available). Sign-up sheet is located at the Information Desk. Please sign up by today, Sunday, November 8. Our Hosts are Curt Field and Dan Scanlan. Please join us for an evening of lively conversation and good food! Everyone is Welcome! (Call Curt or Launie Lambert with any questions.)



Adam Hu and Friends is next Sunday evening, November 15.

Three Omaha musicians take the stage the evening of November 15 at 7:00 p.m. (originally scheduled for November 13). 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.

Active Minds in November

November is Mahjongg month at Active Minds! We will also have Kings on the Corner for a card game. Please, let Earlene know if you plan to join us so we have enough game sets available! Be sure to bring your 2026 card if you have one. Every Tuesday, lower level Great Room, 1:30-4:00pm.



Thanksgiving Offering.

It's time to fill our Thanksgiving baskets for our mission partner Completely Kids, and each year we look for ways to involve the congregation in preparing our delivery. On Nov. 22, during coffee fellowship, we'll be set up at the far end of Fellowship Hall with all the supplies ready. Neatly packaged in a reusable grocery bag, our "baskets" will include a 5-lb. bag of potatoes, a 16-count package of dinner rolls, a box of stuffing, canned corn and green beans, and gravy mix. Stop by and fill a basket or two for our neighbors in need! This mission effort is funded by the annual Thanksgiving offering, and donations for next year's efforts are now being collected. Your generosity is appreciated!

New Staff Hirings – Kathryn Vint and Penny Dehner

Beginning November 1, we are pleased to have Kathryn Vint joining our staff as our Digital Communications Specialist. Kathryn will be involved with our website, social media, and branding accounts, with the goal of improving all aspects of how we communicate to our members and community. You will also see Penny Dehner joining Julie in the office handling our administrative needs, greeting guests, and taking your phone calls. We are thankful for both these PCOC members who have stepped up to serve our church.

Light the Advent Candles in Worship.

Starting November 29, we need families to light the Advent candles during worship. You will read the Call to Worship as you light the Advent candle(s). Please sign up at the Information Desk.

Poinsettia Orders for Christmas! The sanctuary is so beautiful during the Advent and Christmas season, especially with the addition of the many poinsettias purchased by church members. This year's orders are due by Friday, Nov. 20 and will arrive by December 12. Order forms can be found at the information desk or online and will be mailed with the November issue of Cross Currents. The cost of each poinsettia is $18.00. Please make checks payable to Presbyterian Church of the Cross.



Sunday Morning Adult Ed – Falling Upward, led by Keith Allen
Sundays at 10:00 a.m. through November 22

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. Led by Keith Allen, the class follows Rohr's book, chapter by chapter, and also incorporates reflections, questions and experiential exercises that have been pulled from Rohr's companion journal that accompanies the book.

Advent in Plain Sight – Register Now! This class is held from 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. At Christmas, God came into our ordinary world in the form of a child, and still today, God is at work through the ordinary stuff of life, if we train our eyes to see. Join us to learn more!

AGAPE for All "I am a Man" Tour November 22

Please join us for an Agape event at the Omaha Public Library Main branch (72nd & Dodge) on Sunday, November 22 at 2:00 to hear Joe Starita talk about his book, I Am A Man. The book follows the journey of Chief Standing Bear as he attempts to return the body of his son to their tribal land in Nebraska. Space may be limited so please sign up on the PCOC website or at the information desk and we will try to get enough seats reserved. We will leave the church parking lot at 1:15. We should return to church around 4:00.



Hanging of the Greens on November 28

All are invited to help us decorate the Sanctuary at the Hanging of the Greens on Saturday morning, November 28, at 10:00. Your help is needed to decorate trees, hang garlands, and make our Sanctuary beautiful for the Advent season. Festive music and holiday treats will make for a fun-filled morning. Please register online or by emailing Kristi at kristi@pcoc.us.

CHANGE OF DATE for Friday Night Gourmet in December.

Friday Night Gourmet will be meeting December 4 at Cascio's (1620 So. 10th St). We will be ordering off their menu – Cocktails 6:30 PM with Dinner 7:00 PM. Hosts are Irene and Bob Astleford Jr. – along with Arv and Judy Sundberg. Please sign-up by November 27 – the sheet will be at the information Desk or call Irene. Come join our fun-loving group. Everyone is welcome!

Christmas Photos on December 6 in Front of the Christmas Tree

The Membership Committee will be taking free pictures of individuals and families in front of our beautiful Christmas tree in the Welcome Center before the Children's Pageant/Advent Dinner on December 6 from 3:30 – 5:00. Pictures will be mailed to you.

Children's Christmas Pageant

You don't want to miss this - mark your calendar now! Join us on Sunday, December 6 at 5:00 p.m. for The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, presented by the children and youth of PCOC. The Advent Dinner will follow.

Advent Dinner on Sunday, December 6 at 5:30 pm.

Please join us for another wonderful Advent Dinner on Sunday, December 6 at 5:30 pm. Advent Dinner is one of our best-loved traditions at Presbyterian Church of the Cross. It is a festive and meaningful way to start the Christmas season and includes a meal cooked by our Deacons, lots of fun, fellowship, and the long-awaited Christmas pageant by our PCOC children. Menu: Roast Beef, roasted potatoes, green beans, salad/roll, and desserts. There will also be chicken tenders for the kids. After dinner, we will sing Christmas carols around the yule log with family and friends. There is no charge to attend this amazing event, but a free-will donation is always welcomed. To reserve a spot, the easiest way is to signup online or you can also stop by the Information Desk in the Welcome Center. If your family would like to reserve a complete table of eight, please note that on your reservation. Must have 8 people to reserve a table.

SHF Reunion Dinner Party

All young adults are invited to attend a dinner party on December 29 at 6 p.m. at the home of Carla & Jon Fritz. Take some time out of this busy holiday season to relax and reconnect with your fellow SHF alumni. Watch for invitations in the mail. RSVP by December 15 to Heather.