

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

November 12, 2023
Organ & Tissue Donor Sunday

8:30 a.m.

With Pastor John Goldrich serving
Newman U.M. Church
Song Leaders: Dan & Kara Steward
Videographer: Nancy Taylor
Greeter/Usher: Doug & Reba Wysocki

11:00 a.m. Service

Greeter/Usher: Dan Smith
Lector: Jim Miller

Ministers: All of Aldersgate's Members
Pastor: Joseph Rafique
Director of Music: Julie Clopper-Smith
Keyboardist : Deanna Steward
Organist: Jan Malone
Digital Media Specialist: Nancy Taylor
Administrative Assistant: Stacey Lienemann
Child Care Attendant: Katie Softley
Custodian: Scott Hoyt



**Aldersgate
United Methodist Church**
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*Worshippers are welcomed to use their own terminology for God.
If you are considering membership, please contact our pastor, 402-489-1510.*



November 12, 2023

Greeting and Announcements (8:30 *John*, 11 *Jim*)

Music for Centering Prayer (8:30)

(11)

“In the Presence of Jehovah /
Surely the Presence of the Lord Is in This Place” — arr. Mark Hayes
“America the Beautiful” — S. Ward

Call to Worship (8:30 *John*, 11 *Jim*)

LEADER: This is the day and the hour of God’s coming with justice and righteousness, hope and comfort.

ALL: **We come for both judgment and reassurance because we are unfaithful and we are needy.**

LEADER: There is brightness and shadow around us, both light and gloom within.

ALL: **Sometimes we are wise and sometimes foolish, sometimes watchful, at other times careless.**

LEADER: When we are called to serve and fail to prepare, doors may be closed to us.

ALL: **When we live as if there were no God, we may hear no response when we call for help.**

Opening Prayer (8:30 *John*, 11 *Jim*)

LEADER: Touch our inmost being, O God, for our solemn assemblies have no meaning without the change of heart that moves us to faithful actions. Equip us with oil for our lamps, hope in the midst of grief, and high purpose when we are weighed down by despair.

ALL: **We want to be instruments of your justice and peace, however costly the implementation. Strengthen this our resolve, O God. In Jesus’ name we ask. Amen.**

Hymn #117 (red)

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

2. Under the shadow of thy throne, still may we dwell secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.
3. Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
from everlasting, thou art God, to endless years the same.
4. A thousand ages, in thy sight, are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night, before the rising sun.
5. Time, like an ever rolling stream, bears all who breathe away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.
6. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come;
be thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home.

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1719

MUSIC: William Croft, 1708, harm. by W.H. Monk, 1861

Prayer of Confession and Words of Affirmation (*Joseph*)

PASTOR: Often we gather in solemn assemblies, hoping that God will overlook our true intentions. We expect to go through our usual routines without being challenged or changed. God sees through our

pretensions and invites us to face ourselves and the nature of our sin. Let us pray.

ALL: **If sin means cutting ourselves off from you and being unprepared to respond to your coming, surely we have sinned. Our lamps are not trimmed; our lives are not ready for your trumpet call. We have not listened well or encouraged one another in the faith. The distraction of many things has kept us from meditation and prayer. Merciful God, we seek your forgiveness. Amen.**

PASTOR: Our days on earth are a trust from God, and we serve God best by investing our time in learning and living God's intentions for us. It is God's will that we live in harmony with one another, that we learn to love all God's children. God extends full pardon to us. Praise God for forgiveness and a second change. Amen.

ALL: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Letter in Honor of Veterans Day (*Jim*)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer #895 (red, *Jim*)

PASTOR: Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you today for all of the men and women who have served or are serving in our armed forces. We are grateful for their dedication, discipline, faithfulness and courage. From them may we learn the virtues of selfless service, unswerving loyalty to country, the discipline of teamwork for the good of all, obedience to authority and perseverance in difficult and challenging situations.

ALL: **Bless the families of our veterans for the sacrifices made on the home front when duty called their loved ones away to serve.**

PASTOR: Following their military service, give each of our veterans meaningful employment where they can enrich our workplaces and communities with their strong leadership skills, their self-discipline and their hearts for service.

ALL: **We pray that you will provide your care and healing power for our veterans who carry physical and mental wounds from their days of service. And we lift up to your care those families who have lost a member of our armed forces in the line of duty. May your constant presence and help be theirs.**

PASTOR: We pray that today we will be able to express to our veterans our gratitude for their service to us. Keep our service men and women strong and determined. As we thank you for them, we look forward to the day promised in your Word when our Prince of Peace will rule on earth and when the bearing of arms to protect our citizens will no longer be necessary. Amen.

What prayer needs would you like to lift up? (pause)

We pray all these prayers in the name of our strong and powerful Savior, Jesus Christ, who taught his disciples to pray, saying:

ALL: **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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Hymns #551 (8:30, red)

"Awake, O Sleeper"

Awake, O sleeper, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
so learn his love, its length and breadth, its fullness, depth, and height.

2. To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear release,
to give the Spirit's unity, the very bond of peace.

3. There is one body and one hope, one Spirit and one call,
one Lord, one faith, and one baptism, one Father of us all.

4. Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
with kind and gentle hearts forgive as God in Christ forgave.

5. For us Christ lived, for us he died, and conquered in the strife.
Awake, arise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

WORDS: F. Bland Tucker, 1980, © 1980 Augsburg Publishing House

MUSIC: Max Miller, 1984, © 1984, Max Miller

Special Music (11)

“O Come and Worship the Lord” — *Aldersgate Choir*

God’s Word Proclaimed (8:30 *Joseph*, 11 *Jim*)

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

(8:30 *John*, 11 *Jim*)

Matthew 25:1-13

Sermon (8:30 *John*)

“Stay Awake”

(11 *Joseph*)

“The Tragedy of the Unprepared Life?”

Offertory (*John*)

PASTOR: How will our neighbors be prepared for times of crisis? Who will teach them where to find oil for their lamps? Who will help them discover that spiritual riches are more valuable than all material possessions? Our church is a resource, and our ministry is for the whole world. Let us give our support.

(8:30)

“Thanks for the Blessings You Give” — John Turner

(11)

“Eternal Father, Strong to Save” Navy Hymn

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication of Gifts and Self (*John*)

PASTOR: We set our hope in you, O God of all ages, and seek to serve you through our offerings and our efforts to encourage and equip one another for ministry.

ALL: **With these gifts, O God, we commit ourselves again to tending the light of Christ and opening every door to welcome love. Fill us, and these gifts, with your grace and wisdom. Amen.**

A Tribute to our Veterans (*Joseph*)

Hymns #2130 (black)

“The Summons”

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

2. Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

3. Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

4. Will you love the “you” you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

WORDS: John Bell © 1987

MUSIC: Traditional Scottish tune; arr. by John Bell

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Commissioning and Blessing (*Joseph*)

PASTOR: As we go, be prepared for Christ's coming and patient in your waiting and serving.

ALL: **Our lamps are lit against life's shadows, to illumine the way of our Sovereign.**

PASTOR: Find ways to lift the heavy loads people carry, and do not add to your neighbor's burden.

ALL: **Our sister's grief is our own, and our brother's sorrow calls forth our tears.**

PASTOR: Go blessed by God, my brothers and sisters and prepare yourself to share the love of Christ. Ensure that there is oil in your lamp and fire in your belly. Live your lives as an expression of the New Testament. Amen.

ALL: **Amen.**

Postlude (8:30)

"10,000 Reasons" — arr. Mark Hayes

(11)

"Armed Forces Medley" — arr. J. Hammerly

(Parts of today's liturgy have been taken from *Taught by Love* and *Fresh Winds of the Spirit* by Lavon Bayler.)

Announcements

Today, November 12

Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. Worship — Worship Center and online
<https://www.youtube.com@aldersgateunitedmethodistc8463> or at your convenience at www.aldersgatelinc.org. You may also search YouTube for Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Lincoln, Nebraska
- 9:45 a.m. Aldersgate Kids Take on Service (A.K.T.S.) -- Room 2. For grades pre-K-12. Food Sunday
- 9:45 a.m. Psalm Study (Psalms 51 & 60) — Worship Center.
- 10:40 a.m. Choir Warm-up -- Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center
- 11 a.m.-5 p.m. 25% Off Bag Sale — Ten Thousand Villages, 8th & P St.
- 1:30 p.m. Virtual Fellowship — zoom
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/812243946?pwd=clRSQUlOZjYrQjlyZHk0aTZvQzFMQT09>
Meeting ID: 812 243 946
Password: 021075
One tap mobile +12532158782,,812243946#,1#,021075# US (Tacoma)
Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/812243946?pwd=clRSQUlOZjYrQjlyZHk0aTZvQzFMQT09>
- 2:00 p.m. Church Conference — South Gate U.M. Church, 3500 Pioneers



Monday, November 13

World Kindness Day

- 1:30 p.m. United Women in Faith (formerly UMW) “World Thank Offering” — Room 4
- 6:30 p.m. Delta Kappa Gamma (Zeta Chapter) — Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Trustees — Zoom
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3267768816?pwd=bE91cFhndExNVDkzNkZFUEdnSFFyQT09>
Meeting ID: 326 776 8816
Passcode: 4024891510
312 626 6799 US (Chicago)



Tuesday, November 14

National Pickle Day

- Office is closed.
9:00 a.m. Artisans

Wednesday, November 15

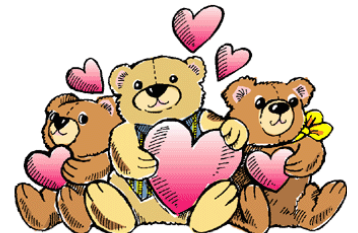
National Clean Out Your Refrigerator Day

- Office is closed.
1:30 p.m. Stitcheroos — Room 4. Tie quilts for mission.
5:30 p.m. Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) potluck — Room 4
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice — Worship Center

Thursday, November 16

National Fast Food Day

- 12:30 p.m. Worship & Prayer Service — Theater, Legacy Estates, 7200 Van Dorn
- 2:30 p.m. Care Ministry — zoom. Share prayer concerns.
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81939800475?pwd=K1EwbjFqTTZ3OS9rNnBHSC9ubWZyQT09>
Meeting ID: 819 3980 0475
Passcode: 832006
One tap mobile
+12532158782,,81939800475#,,,*,832006# US (Tacoma)
Dial by your location
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81939800475?pwd=K1EwbjFqTTZ3OS9rNnBHSC9ubWZyQT09>



Friday, November 17 **National Take a Hike Day**

8:45 a.m. Take Off Pounds Sensibly — Room 4

Saturday, November 18 **National Princess Day**

8:00 a.m. Men’s Breakfast — Room 4. Catered by Hy-Vee

10:00 a.m. Nebraska Herbal Society — Sunshine Room

Next Sunday, November 19 **World Toilet Day**

8:30 a.m. Worship — Worship Center and online

9:45 a.m. Aldersgate Kids Take on Service (A.K.T.S.) — Room 2. Service Sunday for the Food Bank

9:45 a.m. Psalm Study — Worship Center. Facilitated by Pastor Joe.

10:40 a.m. Choir Warm-up — Choir Room

11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center

1:30 p.m. Virtual Fellowship — zoom

Next Monday, November 20 **Name Your PC Day**

7:00 p.m. Church Council — Room 4

Tuesday, November 21 **Pumpkin Pie Day**

7:00 p.m. Book Club *Mad Honey* by Jodi Picoult — Room 4

Wednesday, November 22 **Go for a Ride Day**

7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Service — Worship Center and online

Prayer List

Birthdays This Week

- 13** Ryan Schafer
- 14** Nikki Schafer
- 18** Alex Emerson

Nadyne Bauer has scheduled cataract surgery

Judy Faubel with 2 fractured ribs

Dick Easley

Shirley Hanley

Laura Marshall

Keller Hustad

Dallas Huston

Jacob

Zach Steward

John

Kevin Johnson, Keith’s brother, from San Angelo, TX has bone cancer and is undergoing radiation.

Iva Maxey, Reba Wysocki’s sister, who is undergoing dialysis treatments

Jennifer Miles, Phyllis Nelson’s niece

Allen Ostlund, Frankey & Gordon’s son who has metastatic prostate cancer

AJ & Chandra Pfenning, Pat Marshall's granddaughter

Isaiah Pierce, Karen Pierce’s grandson who was born 12/13/22 with heart issues has finally come home from the hospital

Sandy Quathammer who is in the memory unit of Pemberly Place

Alex Ronne, Pat Ruth’s cousin, a 5-year-old girl living in Colorado diagnosed with MLD, a rare, incurable, genetic disease.

Freeman Sandquist and his family as he is deployed to Africa.

Andrew Smith left on his deployment 2/5/23

Corrie Stohlman who’s chemo for Cutaneous T-cell Lymphoma is no longer helping as much so they are increasing treatments

Roxanne & Richard Swyers

“May the Lord go before Ross Teske and prepare the way for his missionary work in Talavera de la Reina, Spain.”

People in Ukraine, Israel and Palestine

