

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

November 19, 2023

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 a.m. Service

With Pastor John Goldrich serving Newman U.M. Church

Song Leaders: Dan and Kara Steward

Videographer: Nancy Taylor

Greeter/Usher: Tom & Kari Beckenhauer

11:00 a.m. Service

Greeter/Usher: Connie Kier

Lector: Julie Clopper-Smith

Ministers: All of Aldersgate's Members

Pastor: Joseph Rafique

Keyboardist : Deanna Steward

Organist: Jan Malone

Director of Music: Julie Clopper-Smith

Digital Media Specialist: Nancy Taylor

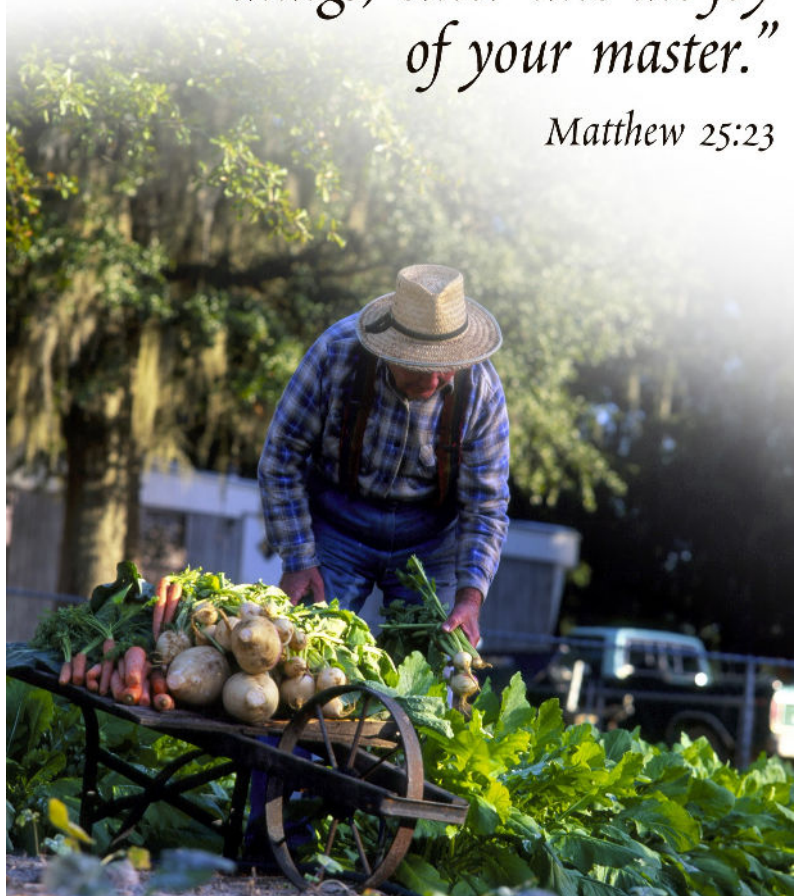
Administrative Assistant: Stacey Lienemann

Child Care Attendant: Katie Softley

Custodian: Scott Hoyt

*"You have been trustworthy...
I will put you in charge of many
things; enter into the joy
of your master."*

Matthew 25:23



Aldersgate United Methodist Church

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Joseph Rafique, Pastor

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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 19, 2023

Greeting and Announcements (8:30 *Joseph, 11 Julie*)

Music for Centering Prayer (8:30)
(11:00)

“Gather Us In” — arr. Mark Hayes
“More Precious than Silver” — arr. L. DeShazo

Call to Worship (8:30 *Joseph, 11 Julie*)

LEADER: Lift up your eyes, seeking to know who you are. Attune your spirit to the One in whom we dwell.

ALL: **God’s love surrounds us here today. God calls us to be children of light.**

LEADER: The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world and those who dwell in it.

ALL: **Appreciative of all that God has given us, we want to invest the talents God has given us in the service of others.**

LEADER: Faithfulness gives us a sense of greater abundance. Doing justice adds to our sense of worth and dignity.

ALL: **We are here to build up one another. May our worship encourage each of us today.**

Opening Prayer (8:30 *Joseph, 11 Julie*)

LEADER: Sovereign God, to whom belongs all we have and all we are, we pray for insight and the will to use well all that you have entrusted to us. May we be worthy of other’s trust, generous to those who are in need and full of encouragement for our sisters and brothers in the faith.

ALL: **Inspire us to such selfless service that we may be surprised by your commendation, “Well done, good and faithful servant!” Amen.**

Hymn #89 (red)

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

2. All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

3. Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

4. Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;
love divine is reigning o’er us, binding all within its span.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us sunward, in the triumph song of life.

WORDS: Henry Van Dyke, 1907; st. 4 alt. 1989

MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; arr. by Edward Hodges, 1864

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

PASTOR: We come together, lifting our eyes to the One enthroned in the heavens, to find mercy and grace. Our souls have had more than their fill. We are weary from all the sinfulness that we are carrying. We come together to share in our burdens.

(Sand of various colors is poured in layers into a clear vessel. Soft, gentle music plays.

In your heart and mind list your unforgiven sins as the sand is poured into the container.)

PASTOR: There is joy in knowing that we are not alone. God hears our prayers and offers compassion and grace. God offers us abundant life. Let us embrace it, celebrate it, multiply it, and rejoice. For God's investment in us never ends. Amen.

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

PASTOR: Loving God, we cannot predict when we will be most needed. None of us knows when our gifts and skills will match the needs and hopes of another, but we pray we will be children of the light.

Hymn #585 (red, vs. 1)

"This Little Light of Mine"

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine, This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine, Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

PASTOR: Prepare us, God, to be ready to serve when the time is right and name the injustices in our community and our world. May we be sensitive to the needs and hurts of others. May we be awake to the suffering that remains silent and hidden, which we offer into the silence now. (silence)
Encourage us, God, and allow us to build each other up, reminding each other again and again that we are called to this. We are called to be witnesses and shine a light on every injustice until your kingdom comes.

Hymn #585 (red, vs. 1)

"This Little Light of Mine"

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine, This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine, Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

PASTOR: We need each other in this work, as much as we need your love and grace, O God. Fill us with your hope for this world and bless us with joy in the struggle for love and justice. May we dance and sing into your kingdom.

Hymn #585 (red, vs. 1)

"This Little Light of Mine"

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine, This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine, Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

WORDS & MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual

adapt. by William Farley Smith, 1987 © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

PASTOR: What other 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.**

Hymn #600 (8:30 red)

"Wonderful Words of Life"

Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of life;
let me more of their beauty see, wonderful words of life;
words of life and beauty teach me faith and duty.
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.

2. Christ, the blessed one, gives to all wonderful words of life;
sinner, list to the loving call, wonderful words of life;
all so freely given, wooing us to heaven.
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.

3. Sweetly echo the gospel call, wonderful words of life;
offer pardon and peace to all, wonderful words of life;
Jesus, only Savior, sanctify forever.
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.

WORDS and MUSIC: Philip P. Bliss, 1874

Special Music (11)

“A Servant in Your Heavenly House”—*Aldersgate Choir*

God’s Word Proclaimed (8:30 *John*, 11 *Julie*) I Thessalonians 5:1-11
(8:30 *Joseph*, 11 *Julie*) Matthew 25:14-30

Sermon (*Joseph*)

“To All Those Who Have, More Will Be Given”

Offertory (*Joseph*)

PASTOR: In the end, it is not about how much we have collected in earthly treasures. In the end, it is what we did with those treasures, how we used them to support and encourage others to build the city of God. In the end, it is not about us as individuals but about us as a community. Our offering is a practical and symbolic reminder that we are in the business of kingdom building together.

(8:30)
(11)

“Gracious” — Ruth Elaine Schramm

“Wonderful Words of Life” — P. Bliss

Doxology to the tune of #95 (red)

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.

MUSIC: Attr. to Louis Bourgeois, 1551

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self (*Joseph*)

PASTOR: Thank you, God, for this community and for the responsibility of being your people.

ALL: **Forgive us for the times when we have tucked away and hidden our gifts and talents from the world. As a community, help us support and encourage each other so we can share all of our gifts for and to your glory. Bless these gifts, seen and unseen so that they might be a blessing to others. Amen.**

Hymn #399 (red)

“Take My Life, and Let It Be”

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

2. Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee.
Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.

3. Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

WORDS: Frances R. Havergal, 1873

MUSIC: Louis J. F. Hérold, 1839; arr. by George Kingsley, 1839

Commissioning and Blessing (11 *Julie*) (Franciscan Blessing)

JOSEPH: May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, superficial relationships,

JOHN: *so that you may live deep within your heart.*

JOSEPH: May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people,

JOHN: *so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.*

JOSEPH: May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war,

JOHN: *so that you may reach out to comfort them and turn their pain into joy.*

JOSEPH: May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world,

JOHN: *so that you can do what others claim cannot be done. Amen.*

ALL: **Amen. Amen.**

Postlude (8:30)
(11)

“Glorify Thy Name” — arr. Carl Seal

“To God Be the Glory” — Wm. Doane

Announcements

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

- 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. Service Sunday for the Food Bank
- 9:45 a.m. Psalm Study “Psalms 23, 100, 126” — 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
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/u/kcFkfw3laD](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/812243946?pwd=clRSQUlOZjYrQjlyZHk0aTZvQzFMQT09)



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

- 7:00 p.m. Church Council — Room 4

Tuesday, November 21 **Pumpkin Pie Day**

- 9:00 a.m. Artisans
- 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

Saturdays & Sundays, November 25, 26, December 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17

- 2-5 p.m. Living Nativity — 3B Homestead, 7603 298th St., Murdock. Plan for 1.5 hours to interact with the animals in the barn and enjoy cocoa and the gift shop.

Next Sunday, November 26 **Reign of Christ Sunday**

- 8:30 a.m. Worship — online and Worship Center
- 9:45 a.m. A.K.T.S. (Aldersgate Kids Take on Service) — Room 2. Make Christmas ornaments
- 9:45 a.m. Psalm Study — Worship Center
- 10:40 a.m. Choir Warm-up — Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center
- 1:30 p.m. Virtual Fellowship — zoom
- 3:00 p.m. Lincoln Organ Showcase with Eldred Marshall — St. Paul U.M. Church, 1144 M St.
- 4:00 p.m. Abendmusik “Handel’s Messiah” — First Plymouth Church or Abendmusik.org/livestream.
Freewill offering to benefit Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach.

Next Monday, November 27 **National Electric Guitar Day**

- Church Office is closed.
- 7:00 p.m. Spiritual Living and Worship Planning Team — Room 4

Tuesday, November 28 **#Giving TOOLS Day to benefit Habitat For Humanity of Lincoln**

- 9:00 a.m. Artisans
- 1:30 p.m. Lincoln Caregiving Education Group “The Value of Love in Caring for Others” — Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Earth Steward Ministry — Room 4

- Tuesday, December 5** **National Blue Jeans Day**
 11:30 a.m. Grand Generation — Stauffer's Café, 5600 S. 48th St. Seniors fellowship over lunch ordered off the menu.
- Wednesday, December 6** **Put on Your Own Shoes Day**
 1:30 p.m. Book Club *Someone Else's Shoes* by Jojo Moyes — Room 4
- Friday, December 8** **National Brownie Day**
 6:30 p.m. Friday Fling — Fellowship Hall
- Monday, December 11** **International Mountain Day**
 1:30 p.m. United Women in Faith Christmas Social — Room 4
- Tuesday, December 12** **Gingerbread House Day**
 1:30 p.m. Lincoln Caregiving Education Group — Worship Center
- Saturday, December 16** **National Chocolate Covered Anything Day**
 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast with Harry Kellenbarger — Room 4
- Sunday, December 17** **National Maple Syrup Day**
 9:00 a.m. Lessons and Carols — online and Worship Center
 11:00 a.m. Lessons and Carols with the Aldersgate Choir — Worship Center
 12:15 p.m. Potluck — Sunshine Room

Prayer List

Birthdays This Week

21 Rhonda Revelle

24 Dick Easley

Julie Willnerd

Nadyne Bauer has scheduled cataract surgery

The family of Donna Beck who died November 16

Judy Faubel with 2 fractured ribs

Dick Easley

Shirley Hanley

Laura Marshall

Keller Hustad

Dallas Huston

Jacob

Zach Steward

Lynda Nordyke

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

