

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

February 11, 2024

8:30 a.m.

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

11:00 a.m. Service

Greeter/Usher: Colleen & Dave Nielsen
Lector: Julie Clopper-Smith

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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Lincoln, NE 68506-6540
www.aldersgatelinc.org
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aldersgatelinc@gmail.com

Joseph Rafique, Pastor
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402-483-7250 (home)
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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.*



February 11, 2024

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

Music for Centering Prayer (8:30) “Give Me Jesus” — arr. Marianne Kim
(11) “Shine on Us” — M. & D. Smith

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

LEADER: God summons us from the sun’s rising to its setting. Listen, for the Mighty One speaks to us.
ALL: **Our God comes and does not keep silence. Through fire and tempest, God is with us.**
LEADER: God gathers those faithful to the covenant. Be quick to respond to God’s invitation.
ALL: **We seek a double share of the prophet’s spirit. We look for a vision to calm our souls.**
LEADER: Open your ears to the good news of the gospel. Open your eyes to the glory of God.
ALL: **We have come to share knowledge of Jesus Christ. We gather, seeking transformation and empowerment as we listen to Jesus.**

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

LEADER: Speak to us, Mighty One, for we are eager to listen. Bless us, as we cry out to you for strength and vision. You have acted in times past to save your people.
ALL: **Save us now.**
LEADER: You have sent prophets to change the world.
ALL: **Change us now.**
LEADER: You have granted light in Jesus Christ.
ALL: **Shine on us now.**
LEADER: Let us see your glory. Lift us to the mountaintop in this time of prayer. Stay close to us to melt away our doubts, and do not leave us, we pray, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn #203 (red) **“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”**

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

PASTOR: The whirlwind pace of our lives becomes so all-consuming that we may forget our origins. Our busyness separates us from knowledge of God’s glory in the face of Christ. Now in these quiet moments apart from our everyday distractions, we seek to renew our relationship with God and be restored to wholeness.
ALL: **When the gospel is veiled from us, mighty God, we feel alone. How easy it is to lose our direction and go the wrong way! At times, we feel as if we are perishing under the demands of our day, unable to see clearly what is most important. We become enslaved to our routines and enticed by shallow distractions. Thus we fill all our hours and there is no time for reflection and prayer. Forgive us, O God, and restore balance to our lives. Amen.**
PASTOR: God promises light for our nighttime and guidance on our way. In Christ, God lifts the veil so we can catch a glimpse of glory. There is peace to be found in the midst of turmoil. There is freedom and quiet even amid our busyness. We are released from our slavery to things and lifted up beyond the limitations of our habits. God forgives us and offers new meaning to our lives.
Amen.
ALL: **Amen.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer #895 (red, *Joseph*)

PASTOR: Divine Creator, Jesus promised the disciples — and through them, us — that your Spirit of Truth would be with us always. We come before you in prayer to lift up our concerns for all who need assurance of your presence in their lives.

We think of our world, too often a place of violence and war, of bloodshed and anger. We call upon your Spirit to bring peace into our world. God in your love,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: Knowing there is so much injustice and inequality in our world, we pray that your Spirit of justice prevail and your children learn to share their means with the less fortunate. God in your love,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: We pray for those whose lives are filled with the daily struggle to find enough food to eat, those who are sick in body, mind or spirit and all those who face demons such as pain, addiction, loneliness. God in your love,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: We pray for those who are grieving, who are experiencing loss in all manners and those whose lives are filled with anxiety. May your Spirit of comfort come upon them. God in your love,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: We pray for ourselves, and for all your people who hear the call to discipleship but may be unsure of how to live that out, or too timid to step forward. May your Spirit encourage and reassure us that you are always with us. God in your love,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: We pray for those who love the earth and give voice to its needs, its wounds, its potential, that we might be drawn into a deeper communion with God's creation of which we are but a part. God in your love,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: What prayer needs would you like to add? (pause) God in your love,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: And let us remember in prayer the One through whom we pray: whose way is love, whose wisdom is justice, whose heart is compassion, whose promise and call is peace and 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 #451 (red, 8:30)

Special Music (11)

“Be Thou My Vision”

“This Is My Beloved Son” — *Aldersgate Choir*

Word of God Proclaimed (*Joseph*)

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

II Kings 2:1-12

Mark 9:2-9

Sermon (8:30 *John*)

(11 *Joseph*)

“Transfigured”

“Listening to the Voice”

Offertory (*John*)

Through our offerings, we support prophetic leadership, provide possibilities for mountaintop experiences, and enable the teaching ministry of our church. Our generosity can make a difference in the lives of people we will never know and in our own lives as well. Let us give from our hearts in deep thanksgiving.

(8:30)

(11)

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” — arr. Michael Larkin

“O Splendor of God's Glory Bright” — arr. H. Hopson

Doxology (to the tune of #75, red)

“Praise God”

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.

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

PASTOR: Use our gifts, mighty God, to bring light where there is gloom, hope where there is despair, peace where there is turmoil. May Jesus Christ be proclaimed among us and around your world. May righteousness and justice prevail in spite of differences.

ALL: **May we inherit a double portion of the prophets' spirit to discern clearly the ways you would have us go. We dedicate ourselves and our offering to these ends. In the name of Jesus. Amen.**

Hymn #2173 (black)

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

Commissioning and Blessing (*Joseph*)

PASTOR: It has been good for us to be together. Now we scatter to share good news.

ALL: **God has visited earth in human form. In Jesus Christ, the beloved of God, humanity is blessed.**

PASTOR: Light from the gospel has been revealed to us. We are becoming lights to the world.

ALL: **It is an awesome responsibility to reflect God's glory. Ours is a wonderful opportunity to show God's love.**

PASTOR: God will not leave us or forsake us. God's presence is constant and dependable.

ALL: **We depart with confidence and joy. We will carry the knowledge of Christ in our hearts.**

PASTOR: Amen.

ALL: **Amen.**

(Thank you to those who have participated in today's worship. You are invited to stay and listen or leave as you wish.)

Postlude (8:30)
(11)

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” — arr. Mark Hayes
“Shine Down” — arr. D. Tunney

(Today's liturgy has been taken and adapted from *Led by Love* by Lavon Bayler.)

Announcements

Today, February 11 Transfiguration 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 Food Pantry Service Sunday — Room 2
- 9:45 a.m. *The Chosen* — Worship Center
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center
- 1:30 p.m. Virtual Fellowship — zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/812243946?pwd=clRSQUlOZjYrQjIyZHk0aTZvQzFMQT09>
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=clRSQUlOZjYrQjIyZHk0aTZvQzFMQT09>



Monday, February 12

- 1:30 p.m. United Women in Faith “Installation of Officers, Pledge Service” — Room 4
- 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees — Zoom
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3267768816?pwd=bE91cFhndExNVdKzNkZFUEdnSFFyQT09&omn=87612316428>
Meeting ID: 326 776 8816
Passcode: 4024891510
Phone Call-in: • +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)



Tuesday, February 13

- 9:00 a.m. Artisans
- 6:00 p.m. Dance Class — Sunshine Room 7b
- 6:30 p.m. Confirmation — Church Office

Wednesday, February 14 Valentine’s Day

- 10:00 a.m. A.R.M.S. (Retired Ministers and Spouses) — Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 a.m. Lincoln Women’s Connection — Sunshine Room
- 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service — Worship Center and online

Thursday, February 15

- 12:30 p.m. Worship & Prayer Service — Theater, Legacy Estates, 7200 Van Dorn
- 2:30 p.m. Care Ministry — Zoom

Friday, February 16

- Church Office is closed.
- 8:45 a.m. Take Off Pounds Sensibly — Room 4

Saturday, February 17

- 8:00 a.m. Men’s Breakfast with Tom Beckenhauer — Room 4

Next Sunday, February 18

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service — Worship Center and online
- 9:30 a.m. Key Result Team Leaders — Room 1
- 9:45 a.m. Aldersgate Kids Take on Service Craft Sunday — Room 2
- 9:45 a.m. *The Chosen* — Worship Center
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service — Worship Center
- 12:15 p.m. Soup Lunch — Sunshine Room
- 1:30 p.m. Virtual Fellowship — zoom

Next Monday, February 19 President's Day

- 7:00 p.m. Church Council — Room 4

Tuesday, February 20

- 7:00 p.m. Book Club *The Seed Keeper: A Novel* by Diane Wilson — Room 4

Wednesday, February 21

- 1:30 p.m. Stitcheroos — Room 4

Tuesday, February 27

- 1:30 p.m. Lincoln Caregiver Education Group “Dear Judy” an Alzheimer’s Love Story — Fellowship Hall
- 3:00 p.m. OLLI “My Backyard” — Sunshine Room
- 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class — South Gate
- 7:00 p.m. Earth Steward Lecture Series “Electric Vehicles and Charging Stations” with Marc Shkolnick, L.E.S. — Worship Center and online

Prayer List

Birthdays This Week

- 11** Julie Clopper-Smith (60) Bailey Huston
- 12** Tim Lieske
- 14** Jade Schuster
- 15** Richard Swyers

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Nadyne Bauer has had cataract surgery | Jeff Buethe |
| Dick Easley | Judy Faubel |
| Shirley Hanley | Dennis Frederick |
| Laura Marshall | Keller Hustad |
| Roxanne & Richard Swyers | Dallas Huston |
| | Lynda Nordyke |
| | Zach Steward |
| | Jacob |
| | 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

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

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 in Somalia.

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

“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

