

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

February 18, 2024
First Sunday in Lent

8:30 a.m.

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

11:00 a.m. Service

Greeter/Usher: Connie Kier
Lector: Sheila Kellenbarger

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

For **Christ**

also suffered

for sins **once for all**, the

righteous for the **unrighteous**,

in order to

bring you

to **God**.

1 Peter 3:18, NRSV

**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.*



February 18, 2024

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

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

“O Love That Will Not Let Me Go” — arr. Mark Hayes
“As the Deer” — arr. M. Hayes

Call to Worship (8:30 *Joseph, 11 Sheila*) based on Psalm 25:4-5, 8, 10

LEADER: Help us to know your ways, O God. Teach us your paths.

ALL: **Lead us in your truth and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation.**

LEADER: You are good and upright, O God. You instruct sinners in the way.

ALL: **All your paths are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep your covenant.**

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

LEADER: We give you thanks, God of our mothers and fathers, for all who have gone before us in the faith. We often forget the sacrifices they made and the troubles they endured. We thank you for the freedoms they secured for us. Most especially we thank you for the life and freedom that came to us through the cross of your Son.

ALL: **We pray for those whose struggle continues: for those tempted to exchange principles for quick fixes; for those whose faith is subject to ridicule; for those who are treated unjustly; for those who live in dangerous places.**

LEADER: May the life, death and resurrection of Jesus remind us of our calling to serve the powerful Christ, and may you give us the strength and courage to bring justice and peace to your world. In Jesus' saving name we pray. Amen.

Hymn #116 (red, vs. 1-2, 4)

“The God of Abraham Praise”

Prayer of Confession and Words of Affirmation (*John*) based on Psalm 25

PASTOR: In our day, we cannot escape temptation, for it comes in so many forms, from so many sources. As Jesus was tempted, so are we. But we have yielded to temptation, and Jesus did not. Sometimes we do not even recognize the sins into which we have slipped. We seek to recall them now. Repent, and believe in the good news.

ALL: **For your name's sake, Holy God, pardon my guilt, for it is great. O God, do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord! Relieve the troubles of my heart and bring me out of my distress. Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins. Amen.**

PASTOR: God is faithful to the covenant, even when we forget. In mercy and steadfast love, God lifts us above the sins of our youth and the transgressions of today. We are God's beloved children. Rejoice in this privilege and give thanks. Amen.

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

PASTOR: To you, O God, we pray. In you, O God, we trust. For you, O God, we wait. Lead us, so that we may always follow in your way. Teach us so that we may remain steadfast and faithful. Remind us of our covenant, so that we may be a covenantal people, striving to care for all of creation as you care for us. Where there is brokenness and discord in your creation (silently name parts of creation that are in environmental or social unrest). For the restoration of God's creation, we pray:

ALL: **Loving God, hear us.**

PASTOR: Where there is death and dying (silently name people, places and species that have died, are endangered or are dying). For the restoration of God's creation, we pray:

ALL: **Loving God, hear us.**

PASTOR: Where there is isolation, exile, and forced migration (silently name people, places, and species being displaced). For the restoration of God's creation, we pray:

ALL: **Loving God, hear us.**

PASTOR: What prayer needs would you like to lift up? (pause) For these needs of ours, we pray:

ALL: **Loving God, hear us.**

PASTOR: Please send reminders of your love and, where possible, help us, O God, to be your messengers. We wrap these and all our prayers in the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples:

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 #144 (red, 8:30)

Special Music (11)

"This Is My Father's World"

"Awaken Me to Pray" — *Aldersgate Choir*

Word of God Proclaimed (8:30 *Joseph*, 11 *Sheila*)
(8:30 *John*, 11 *Sheila*)

Genesis 9:8-17

I Peter 3:18-22

Sermon (*Joseph*)

"God's Job Description: Rescuer"

Offertory

We dare to believe that the Power holding together the infinite reaches of time and space has entered into a covenant relationship with people on this tiny planet, that God gives us responsibility to be co-creators in the covenant community which is intended for all humanity. Our giving is dedicated to that end.

(8:30)

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee" — arr. Brian Buda

(11)

"Jesus, Name Above All Names" — arr. M. Hayes

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. Louis Bourgeois, 1551

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

PASTOR: Lord, it is in you that we live and move and have our being. You are the author and giver of all good things. Lead us into a more perfect gratitude, through which we may also become givers of good things.

ALL: **May we be an instrument of you to bring all your children to the foot of the cross by what we do, say and give. Make our Lenten disciplines ones of joy and sacrifice, through Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

Hymn #2237 (black)

"As a Fire Is Meant for Burning"

Commissioning and Blessing (*Joseph*)

adapted from Meister Eckhart, 13th century mystic

PASTOR: Love God in all things equally. For God is equally near to all creatures. And among these creatures God does not love any one person more than any other.

ALL: **God is all and is one. All things become nothing but God.**

PASTOR: Apprehend God in all things, for God is in all things. If we spent enough time with the tiniest creature — even a caterpillar — we would never need sermons.

ALL: **So full of God is every creature.**

PASTOR: Go and spend time in God's Creation and in the amazing presence of God in all things. Go blessed by God the Creator, Jesus the Redeemer and Holy Spirit the Sustainer. 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)

“Spirit Song” — arr. Mark Hayes

“This Is My Father’s World” — arr. D. Bish

Announcements

Today, February 18

First Sunday in Lent

- 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
- 9:30 a.m. Key Result Team Leaders — Room 1
- 9:45 a.m. *The Chosen* — Room 4
- 9:45 a.m. A.K.T.S. (Aldersgate Kids Take on Service) Craft Sunday with Katie Softley — Room 2
- 12:15 p.m. Soup Lunch — Sunshine Room
- 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 19

President's Day

- 7:00 p.m. Church Council — Room 4

Tuesday, February 20

- 9:00 a.m. Artisans
- 6:00 p.m. Dance Class — Sunshine Room #7c
- 7:00 p.m. Book Club *The Seed Keeper* by Diane Wilson — Room 4

Wednesday, February 21

- 1:30 p.m. Stitcheroos — Room 4. Tie quilts for mission.
- 3:00 p.m. Dementia Support Group — Stauffer's Café, 5600 S. 48th St.
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice — Worship Center

Thursday, February 22

- 12:30 p.m. Worship & Prayer Service — Theater, Legacy Estates, 7200 Van Dorn
- 7:00 p.m. Learning Key Result Team — Room 4

Friday, February 23

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

Saturday, February 24

- 10:00 a.m. Nebraska Herbal Society — Fellowship Hall

Next Sunday, February 25

- 8:30 a.m. Worship — Worship Center and online
- 9:45 a.m. *The Chosen* — Room 4
- 9:45 a.m. A.K.T.S. (Aldersgate Kids Take on Service) Game Sunday with Katie Softley — Room 2
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center
- 1:30 p.m. Virtual Fellowship — zoom
- 2:00 p.m. Parkinson's Support Group — Sheridan Lutheran Church

Next Monday, February 26

- 7:00 p.m. Spiritual Living and Worship Planning Team — Room 4
- 7:30 p.m. Youth Masterworks Festival — Lied Center. More than 300 students from Lincoln High School choirs and Lincoln's Youth Symphony Orchestra. Freewill offering benefits Cedars.

Tuesday, February 27

- 1:30 p.m. Caregiver Education Group “Dear Judy” an Alzheimer’s Love Story — Fellowship Hall
- 3:00 p.m. OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) “My Backyard” — Sunshine Room
- 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class — South Gate U.M. Church
- 7:00 p.m. Earth Steward Ministry “Electric Vehicles and Charging Stations” with Marc Shkolnick from LES — Room 4

Tuesday, March 5

- 11:30 a.m. Grand Generation — Stauffer’s Café, 5600 S. 48th St. Seniors fellowship over lunch ordered off the menu.

Wednesday, March 6

- 1:30 p.m. Book Club *The Violin Conspiracy* by Brendan Slocumb — Room 4

Friday, March 8

- 6:30 p.m. Friday Fling — Fellowship Hall. Bring a snack to share and enjoy the fellowship of playing cards, usually 10-Point Pitch.

Monday, March 11

- 1:30 p.m. United Women of Faith “Call to Prayer and Self Denial” — Room 4

Saturday, March 16

- 8:00 a.m. Men’s Breakfast “Aldersgate Gardens as Arboretum” with Steve Schafer — Room 4

Prayer List

Birthdays This Week

- 21 Zak Hayes
 - 22 Trey Schuster
 - 23 Lawson Schuster
 - 24 Gaylene Nutzman
- Zach Steward



Nadyne Bauer has had cataract surgery

Dick Easley	Judy Faubel	Dennis Frederick
Shirley Hanley	Keller Hustad	Dallas Huston
Laura Marshall	Lynda Nordyke	Frankey Ostlund
Zach Steward	Roxanne & Richard Swyers	Jacob
John	Larry, Sandy Gores’ dad	

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

The family of Jim Miller’s step-mother. She died 2/14/24.

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 Africa.

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