

# Aldersgate United Methodist Church



## 8:30 a.m.

With Pastor John Goldrich serving  
Newman U.M. Church  
Song Leaders: Kara Steward  
Videographer: Nancy Taylor  
Greeter/Usher: Gaylene Nutzman

## 11:00 a.m. Service

Greeter/Usher: Dick Easley  
Lector: Alane Wahlstrom

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

**September 24 2023**  
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

**Aldersgate  
United Methodist Church**  
8320 South Street  
Lincoln, NE 68506-6540  
[www.aldersgatelinc.org](http://www.aldersgatelinc.org)  
402-489-1510 (church office)  
[aldersgatelinc@gmail.com](mailto:aldersgatelinc@gmail.com)

**Joseph Rafique, Pastor**  
402-499-7101 (cell)  
402-483-7250 (home)  
[jrafique@GreatPlainsUMC.org](mailto:jrafique@GreatPlainsUMC.org)

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



September 24, 2023

## Greeting and Announcements (*Joseph*)

**Music for Centering Prayer** “Morning Has Broken” — Gaelic melody

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

LEADER: Call to God with praise and thanksgiving. Tell of God’s wonderful works.

ALL: **Today we open ourselves to God’s presence. Let the hearts of all who seek God rejoice.**

LEADER: When we eat, we are reminded of God’s provision. When we drink pure water, we give thanks.

ALL: **Surely God has blessed us with food and drink. Daily we are strengthened for tasks we face.**

LEADER: We are guided by God’s law and statutes. We benefit from God’s generosity.

ALL: **Let all the people worship with joy! Let all whom God has chosen sing together!**

## Opening Prayer (8:30 *Joseph, 11 Alane*)

LEADER: Glory to your name, holy God. We rejoice in your wonderful works, in miracles you have caused among us and in the wealth you have entrusted to our stewardship.

ALL: **We, who claim to be your people, turn to you, because you fulfill all our needs.**

LEADER: With thanksgiving, for all you have done and continue to do for us, we pray: grant that we may discover the manna you provide and share it.

ALL: **We are eager to be fed by your Word today. Show us the streams from which we can drink deeply of faith and abundant life. In the name of Jesus, our life-giving manna, we ask. Amen.**

## Hymn #127 (red)

### “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.

I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,

feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.

2. Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;

let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.

Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,

be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.

Songs of praises, songs of praises,

I will ever give to thee; I will ever give to thee.

WORDS: William Williams, 1745;

trans. from the Welsh by Peter Williams and the author, 1771

MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

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

PASTOR: Like the Israelites in the wilderness, we have been heard to complain. God is often blamed for calamities more than praised for the sustaining presence that works for our good. It is easier for us to be jealous of others than to rejoice in the opportunities God gives them. Surely we need to

repent. (pause) When we act as people of the flesh more than people of the Spirit,

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

PASTOR: When we complain more for what we don't have rather than being thankful for all that we have,

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

PASTOR: When some people we deem unworthy benefit from your generosity and we become jealous,

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

PASTOR: God has offered us a presence we have not recognized, bread we have ignored, and compassion we have not deserved. The food from heaven is offered to us daily, freely given to all who are open to receive it. Let us rejoice in this moment of God's amazing generosity, opening our lives to the gifts of God, that we might share them with others.

ALL: **Thanks be to God for his love and generosity.**

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

PASTOR: You are free, Lord: free from the constraints of human existence, outside the limitations of time and space; free to be here with us now, in our worship and fellowship; and free to be with us always; for in your freedom you have bound yourself to us with a promise: "Lo! I am with you always even to the very end of time."

We pray, Lord, for those who need to feel you close, who need the assurance of your love, the encouragement of your Spirit. For this we say:

ALL: **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: We pray for those who are persecuted, who are discriminated against, who are mocked because of their faith or race or color. For this we say:

ALL: **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: We pray for those who are imprisoned, who are tortured, who are exiled because they have fought, struggled and spoken out for the rights of their people. For this we say:

ALL: **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: We pray for those who are destitute, who are hungry, who are refugees because of the selfishness and apathy of the world. For this we say:

ALL: **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: We pray for those who are filled with guilt, who are broken-hearted, who are perplexed because a relationship has gone wrong. For this we say:

ALL: **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: We pray for those who are feeling fed up, who are in discomfort, who are afraid because they are ill in body, mind or spirit. For this we say:

ALL: **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: We pray for those who are numbed, who are angry, who are desolate because they have been bereaved. For this we say:

ALL: **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: We pray for those caught up in war and violence and hatred; especially the innocent victims of these evils. For this we say:

ALL: **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: We pray at this time of financial turmoil, for those who have lost jobs, those who struggle to pay bills and those who have the power to affect positive change. For this we say:

ALL: **Lord in your mercy, 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. For this we say:

ALL: **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: What would you like to lift up in prayer? (pause)

For all of these and our other prayers, we say:

ALL: **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: Be with us all, Lord: in all our daily struggles as we seek to follow you. Be with us all, Lord: in

our periods of doubt and despair; and in our times of happiness, health and loving. Be with us all, Lord: until that time when in your Kingdom of Love our joy will know no end. And until then, we will continue to pray the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples, 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 #553 (8:30, red, read vs. 3-4)

**“And Are We Yet Alive”**

And are we yet alive, and see each other's face?  
Glory and thanks to Jesus give for his almighty grace!

2. Preserved by power divine to full salvation here,  
again in Jesus' praise we join, and in his sight appear.

3. What troubles have we seen, what mighty conflicts past,  
fightings without, and fears within, since we assembled last!

4. Yet out of all the Lord hath brought us by his love;  
and still he doth his help afford, and hides our life above.

5. Then let us make our boast of his redeeming power,  
which saves us to the uttermost, till we can sin no more.

6. Let us take up the cross till we the crown obtain,  
and gladly reckon all things loss so we may Jesus gain.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1749

MUSIC: Johann G. Nägeli; arr. by Lowell Mason, 1845.

Special Music (11)

**“All Who Hunger”** — *Aldersgate Choir*

God's Word Proclaimed (8:30 *John*, 11 *Alane*)

Exodus 16:2-15  
Matthew 20:1-16

Sermon (*Joseph*)

**“A Cure for Complainers”**

Offertory (*Joseph*)

PASTOR: God provides generously for all of us. We are blessed with pure water and nourishing food. We have found joy in the faith that sustains our spirits. Let us now expand the circle of opportunity as we share what God has promised and given to us.

**“Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee”** — J.B. Dykes

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

PASTOR: Receive our tithes and offerings to your honor and glory, loving God. We give ourselves and our gifts as the least we can do. You have unconditionally poured out your love on us, and called us into new relationship with you.

ALL: **May we — through our self-giving and our living — model your unconditional love for others. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Hymn #130 (red)

**“God Will Take Care of You”**

Be not dismayed what-e'er betide, God will take care of you;  
beneath his wings of love abide, God will take care of you.

God will take care of you, through every day, o'er all the way;  
he will take care of you, God will take care of you.

2. Through days of toil when heart doth fail, God will take care of you;  
when dangers fierce your path assail, God will take care of you.  
God will take care of you, through every day, o'er all the way;  
he will take care of you, God will take care of you.

3. All you may need he will provide, God will take care of you;  
nothing you ask will be denied, God will take care of you.  
God will take care of you, through every day, o'er all the way;  
he will take care of you, God will take care of you.

4. No matter what may be the test, God will take care of you;  
lean, weary one, upon his breast, God will take care of you.  
God will take care of you, through every day, o'er all the way;  
he will take care of you, God will take care of you.

WORDS: Civilla D. Martin, 1904  
MUSIC: W. Stillman Martin, 1905

### Commissioning and Blessing (*John*)

PASTOR: In all your struggles, know that Christ is with you. In all your labors, the love of God surrounds you.

ALL: **Glory be to God's holy name. Let all who seek God be assured and rejoice.**

PASTOR: God surprises us and provides for us as he did for the Israelites in the wilderness. Trust and give thanks for God's wonderful works.

ALL: **There is a song on our lips and joy in our hearts.**

PASTOR: Go out singing this song for others to hear. Share God-given joy with those who need it. In the name of God: the Creator, the Redeemer and the Sustainer. Amen.

ALL: **Amen. Alleluia! Amen.**

### Postlude (8:30)

"Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" — arr. L. Shackley

(Parts of this liturgy have been taken from  
*The Minister's Annual Manual*, Logo Productions, Inc.,  
*Fresh Winds of the Spirit* and from *Taught by Love*  
by Lavon Bayler.)



# Announcements

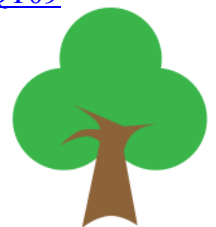
## Today, September 24 **World Deaf Day**

- 8:30 a.m. Worship — Worship Center and online  
<https://www.youtube.com@aldersgateunitedmethodistc8463> or at your convenience at [www.aldersgatelinc.org](http://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. Making unleavened bread
- 9:45 a.m. Psalms -- 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  
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>
- 2:00 p.m. Lincoln Parkinson's Disease Support Group "Preparing for Physician Visits" — Great Room (door 4), Sheridan Lutheran Church, 6955 Old Cheney Rd. or Zoom  
join us by Zoom here:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89561903003?pwd=gfcFVUGDRKGzmnNvVB1nK4iPIG8T.1>  
Meeting ID: 895 6190 3003  
Passcode: 940718
- 4:00 p.m. Abendmusik "Truer Words" — First Plymouth or [Abendmusik.org/livestream](http://Abendmusik.org/livestream). Kansas City's Te Deum chamber choir brings words of comfort, grace, understanding and joy from inspired poets, thinkers & faith leaders, including King David, Ghandi & Mother Teresa. Freewill offering benefits Voices of Hope.



## Tuesday, September 26 **Lumberjack Day**

- 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Project Lincoln Connect — Pinnacle Bank Arena
- 11:00 a.m. OLLI "Never Hitler: European Thinking between World Wars" — Fellowship Hall
- 1:30 p.m. Lincoln Caregiver Education Group — Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Earth Steward Ministry — Zoom  
Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81778191841?pwd=aVNobS9qU2FabmdrZlJScU8wSkVHQT09>  
Meeting ID: 817 7819 1841  
Passcode: 832006  
One tap mobile  
+16699009128,,81778191841#,,,,\*832006# US (San Jose)  
Dial by your location  
+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)  
Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81778191841>



## Wednesday, September 27 **National Chocolate Milk Day**

- 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice — Worship Center

## Thursday, September 28 **World Rabies Day**

- 10:30 a.m. Nebraska Retired Teachers — Fellowship Hall
- 12:30 p.m. Worship & Prayer Service — Activities Room, Legacy Estates, 7200 Van Dorn
- 7:00 p.m. Spiritual Living and Worship Planning Team — Room 4

**Friday, September 29**      **National Coffee Day**  
 8:45 a.m. Take Off Pounds Sensibly — Room 4  
 6:30 p.m. Dance Rehearsal — Room 7c & d

**Saturday, September 30**      **International Translation Day**  
 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Fall Fest — Camp Fontanelle. Craft/Vendor Fair, corn maze, petting barn — admission \$10 kids under 12, \$15 adults, kids under 3 are free. Also food, pumpkins, zip line.  
 Birthday Party — Sunshine Room

**Next Sunday, October 1**      **World Communion Sunday**  
 8:30 a.m. Worship — Worship Center and online  
 9:45 a.m. Aldersgate Kids Take on Service (A.K.T.S.) — Room 2. Jesus Teaches His Disciples to Pray  
 9:45 a.m. Psalms — Worship Center. Facilitated by Pastor Joe.  
 10:40 a.m. Choir Warm-up — Choir Room  
 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center  
 1:00 p.m. Lincoln Ostomy Group — Sunshine Room  
 1:30 p.m. Virtual Fellowship — zoom  
 3:30-6 p.m. Fall Fest — Camp Fontanelle with Bishop Wilson. 5:00 p.m. Annual fundraising dinner \$30

**Tuesday, October 3**      **National Butterfly & Hummingbird Day**  
 11:30 a.m. Grand Generation — Stauffer's Café, 5600 S. 48th St.  
 6 p.m. & 7:15 p.m. Dance Class — Room 7c & d

### Prayer List

#### Birthdays This Week

- |           |                     |                   |
|-----------|---------------------|-------------------|
| <b>26</b> | Jill Collicott (50) | Pat Marshall (80) |
| <b>28</b> | Roxanne Swyers      |                   |
| <b>30</b> | Barb Bettin         |                   |

Nadyne Bauer	Shirley Hanley
Dick Easley	Dallas Huston
Keller Hustad	Jennifer Miles, Phyllis Nelson's niece

Kevin Johnson, Keith's brother, from San Angelo, TX has bone cancer and is undergoing radiation.  
 Laura Marshall rehabbing at Brookside, 58th & LaSalle  
 Iva Maxey, Reba Wysocki's sister, who is undergoing dialysis treatments  
 Family of Ellen Mitchell who died 9/19/23  
 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. September is Leukodystrophy Awareness Month.  
 Freeman Sandquist and his family as he is deployed to Africa.  
 Andrew Smith left on his deployment 2/5/23  
 Zach Steward                      Bob Snow  
 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."  
 Larry Ruth's niece, Kate and her triplets that they are not born too early  
 Jacob                                  John  
 People in Ukraine and those experiencing extreme weather events

