

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

February 18, 2024
Second Sunday in Lent

8:30 a.m.

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

11:00 a.m. Service

Greeter/Usher: Karl Schwabauer
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

**The promise that he would
inherit the world did not
come to Abraham...**



**through the law but through
the righteousness of faith.**

Romans 4:13, NRSV

**Aldersgate
United Methodist Church**
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Lincoln, NE 68506-6540
www.aldersgatelinc.org
402-489-1510 (church office)
aldersgatelinc@gmail.com

Joseph Rafique, Pastor
402-499-7101 (cell)
402-483-7250 (home)
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.*



February 25, 2024

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

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

“Will You Come and Follow Me?” — arr. C.E. Walz
“To You, O Lord, I Lift Up My Soul” — arr. S. DeCesare

Call to Worship

- VOICE: To you O Lord, I lift up my soul. I remind myself who you are, I revisit the source of life.
VOICE: *To you O Lord, I lift up my soul.
I stop for a moment in the business of the day, I refocus as I wait in traffic.*
VOICE: To you O Lord, I lift up my soul.
As I am forced to stand in line for something, as I wait to cross the street.
VOICE: *To you O Lord, I lift up my soul.
As I look for a job, when I am at work, or at home, or on the playground.*
VOICE: To you O Lord, I lift up my soul. Shopping, resting, working traveling.
VOICE: *To you O Lord, I lift up my soul. Busy or still, angry or happy, peaceful, frustrated or sad.*
VOICE: To you O Lord, I lift up my soul. Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; and for you I wait, all day long.

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

- LEADER: In trust and confidence, we call on your name, almighty God, eager to know you more fully and serve you more faithfully. We have heard you call us by name and heard of your amazing promises given to our ancestors in the faith. We seek your word for us in our day, for we want to grow strong in our faith as our ancestors did in theirs. As they gave you glory and praise, we gather to do the same.
- ALL: **As they passed on their faith to new generations, we seek to teach and live in such a way that our children and their children will be drawn to minister in your name. Hear us, O God, as we lift our hearts, minds and soul to you. In the glorious name of Jesus we ask. Amen.**

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

“The God of Abraham Praise”

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

- PASTOR: In this season, when we reexamine our lives and find our faith tested, we often discover a barrenness within. Our relationship with God is weak, not because God has turned away, but because we have failed to trust the Almighty or spend time in prayer. We have not sought God’s answers to our daily problems. Let us be honest with our Creator in our confession.
- ALL: **God of our ancestors, we come to you, confessing that we have set our minds on human things. We have sought to gain the world — so many things to buy, so many things to do. Yet we are not satisfied. Life’s meaning eludes us. Your ways seem out of date; your promises appear as the hopes and dreams of a past generation. But in our hearts we sense an eternal design which is for all generations, a way of life more satisfying than we have allowed ourselves to explore. O God, we confess our need for you.**
- PASTOR: God’s face is not hidden from those who truly seek. God does not withhold love from us when we go our own way. When we open our eyes to see God’s works, when we open our ears to hear God’s word, when all our senses are alert to God’s leading, we will realize how we have been blessed by an unseen hand, forgiven and restored to wholeness. God offers us the opportunity to live as ones in tune with the universe, filled with hope, upheld in love, dwelling in covenant. Amen.

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

PASTOR: Who among us has need of support and encouragement? We name those people in our heart.
(pause) For them all, we say:

ALL: **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: Who are the strangers, orphans, widows, unemployed and underprivileged who have yet to be folded into our embrace? (pause) For them all, we say:

ALL: **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: We name in our heart the cities or situations we cannot engage personally, knowing God will bring us toward them when or if we can be of service. (pause) For them all, we say:

ALL: **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: Who are those who are on our church's or our personal prayer list? We name them in our heart asking God's peace, joy and healing. (pause) For them all, we say:

ALL: **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

LEADER: Who are those who celebrate their birthday or wedding anniversary today or in the week to come. We name them in our heart asking God's blessings. (pause) For them all, we say:

ALL: **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: What else would you like to lift up in prayer? (pause) For these, our needs, we say:

ALL: **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: Holy God, we commend ourselves and all of creation to your care and your use. Please restore us to our full selves and purpose and hear all our prayers as we wrap them 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 #467 (red, 8:30, read vs. 2-3)

Special Music (11)

"Trust and Obey"

"Walk by Faith!" — *Aldersgate Choir*

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

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Romans 4:13-25

Sermon (8:30 *John*)
(11 *Joseph*)

"God Is Able to Do What He Promises"
"Abraham Believed God"

Offertory (*John*)

Those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose themselves for Christ's sake and for the gospel will be saved. We are invited to give all we have and all we are to the realization of God's will among us, a portion of which we bring today as our offering.

(8:30)

"Here Is Love" — arr. Tracey Craig McKibben

(11)

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee" — arr. L. Mason

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: Glorious God, we dedicate these gifts as an expression of our faith. You alone know how much we share and how much we withhold. You know the extent of our trust and the depth of our commitment.

ALL: **May this act of giving draw us closer to you and extend a blessing to all who are helped**

through our sharing. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Hymn #374 (red) “Standing on the Promises”

Commissioning and Blessing (*Joseph*)

PASTOR: Dare this week to follow where Jesus leads. Dare to love the unlovable and care about others.

ALL: **We want to follow in the footsteps of Christ. We want the poor to eat and be satisfied.**

PASTOR: Do not be ashamed to challenge values of our culture. Dare to question all that denies God’s reign.

ALL: **We want to live with faith, hope and love. We want to extend God’s rule to all people.**

PASTOR: The promises of God are for you and for all. God will make you exceedingly fruitful.

ALL: **We will trust the promises of God. We go out to live as covenant people.**

PASTOR: May God bless us and may his holy name be praised and glorified. 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) “The Power of the Cross with When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” — arr. Mark Hayes
(11) “Song for the Nations” — arr. M. Hayes
(Parts of this liturgy have been taken and adapted from *Led by Love* by Lavon Bayler)

Prayer List

Birthdays This Week

25 Kelsey Todd-Anton
26 Lois Witt
27 Jerry Hanley
28 Wilder Hustad
1 Leticia Atkinson Maury Woudenberg
2 Doug Wysocki



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

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 anticipating coming home from his deployment 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

Announcements

Today, February 25

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. Celebrate Zach Steward's Birthday — Fellowship Hall

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/812243946?pwd=c1RSQUlOZjYrQjIyZk0aTZvQzFMQT09>

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=c1RSQUlOZjYrQjIyZk0aTZvQzFMQT09>

2:00 p.m. Parkinson's Support Group — Sheridan Lutheran Church

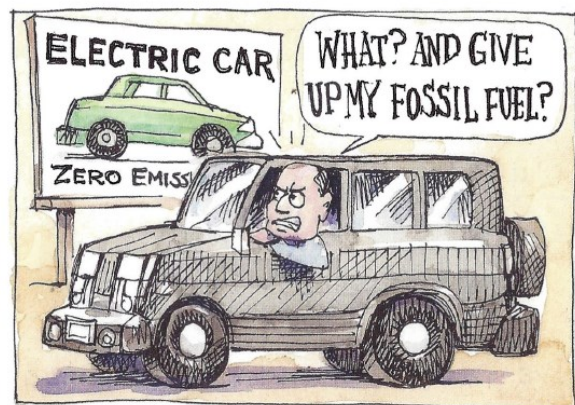
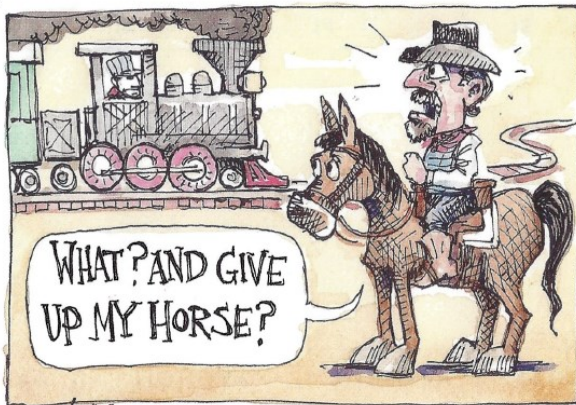
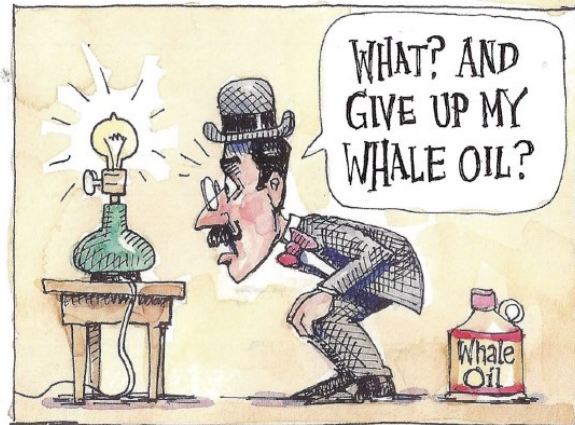


Monday, February 26

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.

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M. WUERKER

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Tuesday, February 27

- 9:00 a.m. Artisans
- 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
- 6:00 p.m. Dance Class — Sunshine Room #7c
- 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

Wednesday, February 28

- 10:00 a.m. Marketing Team — Room 4
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice — Worship Center

Thursday, February 29

Leap Day

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

Friday, March 1

World Day of Prayer

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

Next Sunday, March 3

- 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) "Easter" — Room 2
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center
- 1:00 p.m. Lincoln Ostomy Group — Sunshine Room
- 1:30 p.m. Virtual Fellowship — zoom