

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

March 24, 2024
Palm Sunday

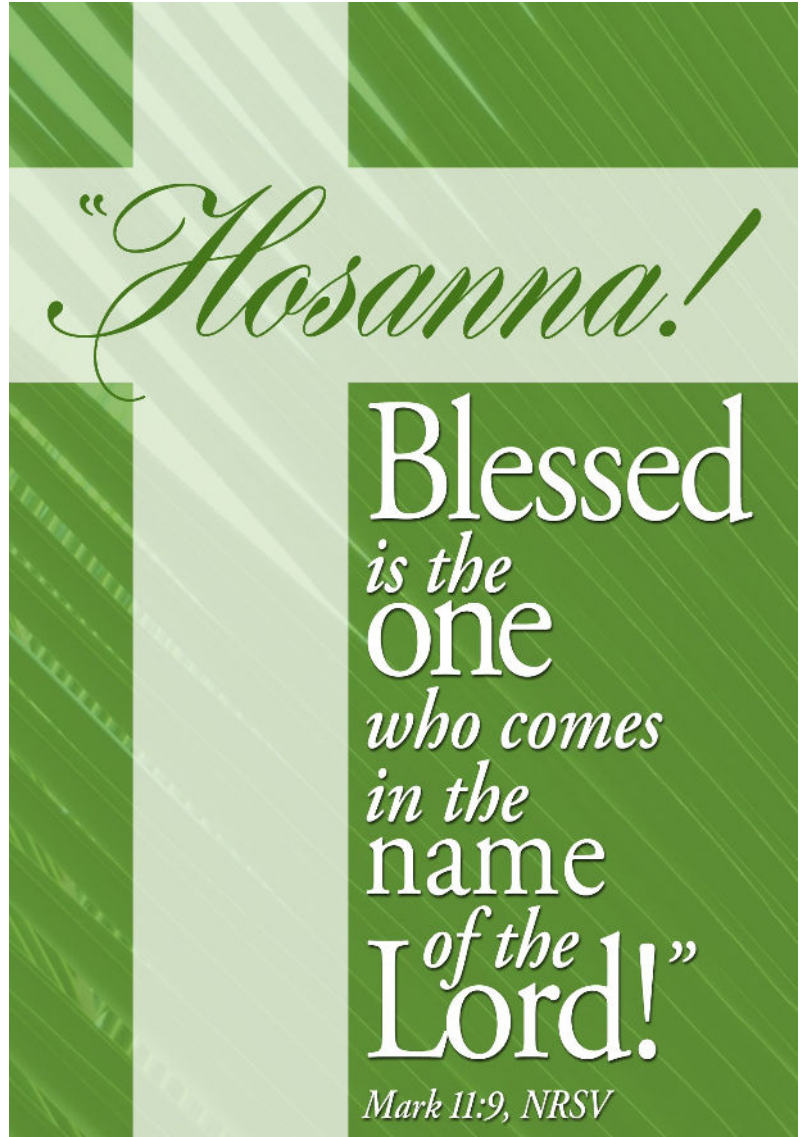
8:30 a.m.

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

11:00 a.m. Service

Greeter/Usher: Sheila Kellenbarger
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



**Aldersgate
United Methodist Church**
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Lincoln, NE 68506-6540
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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.*



March 24, 2024

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

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

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” — arr. Brian Buda
“Palm Sunday Processional” — R.C. Wilson

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

LEADER: Blessed are those who delight in worship. Blessed are the ones who come in God’s name.

ALL: **Give thanks to God, all who assemble here. God’s steadfast love endures forever.**

LEADER: Let all who follow Christ sing God’s praise. Because of God’s help, we are not disgraced.

ALL: **Open the gates of righteousness that we might enter. The works of God are marvelous in our eyes.**

LEADER: This is the day that our God has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

ALL: **Hosanna! Let every knee bend before Jesus! Let every tongue welcome Christ’s reign! Hosanna!**

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

LEADER: This is your day, holy God. Every day belongs to you. We would empty ourselves before you so there will be room for your entrance into our minds and hearts. Our times are in your hands. This precious gift of life is ours, in trust, from you.

ALL: **We give thanks, for your steadfast love endures forever. That love, expressed in the life of Jesus, dared to challenge those centers of power that lived by other standards. We come to declare that love today. Reign among us, we pray, in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

Hymn #277 (red)

“Tell Me the Stories of Jesus”

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

PASTOR: Will we wave our leafy branches today and hide them tomorrow? Will our hosannas melt into another chorus of death? Will we, like the builders of old, reject the stone that is meant to hold all things together? Is Jesus Christ truly the cornerstone of our lives? Let us admit the truth about ourselves.

ALL: **Sovereign God, we confess that we are as fickle as the crowds in Jerusalem. When everything seems to be going well, we join the hosanna chorus, but in time of weariness or rebellion, praise can turn to insult. We hide our faith when it is under attack and link ourselves with the scoffers. When there is opportunity to speak a good word for Jesus Christ, we are silent. Our church lifts an uncertain word before the world, for we, its members, have not been faithful. We need your forgiving love today, O God, more than ever. Hear our prayer! Amen.**

PASTOR: God answers us and offers salvation. Though in the form of God, Jesus emptied himself. This was for our sakes, that we might bend our knees before God in humility and trust. Know and believe we are saved in God’s steadfast love. Amen.

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

PASTOR: On this day the church hears Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem and remembers the passion of our Lord, into which we are baptized. We follow Jesus on the road into Jerusalem recalling the love poured out for all. Having the mind of Christ, let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs, saying:

ALL: **Lord, make your face to shine upon your servants.**

PASTOR: For the whole church throughout the world, its bishops, clergy and all the baptized and for those

preparing for baptism. That they may faithfully continue to serve their Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: **Lord, make your face to shine upon your servants.**

PASTOR: For peace among nations and forbearance among all people. May all God's children knowing their common origin learn how to listen to one another, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: **Lord, make your face to shine upon your servants.**

PASTOR: For the community of Aldersgate and Newman United Methodist Churches and our online viewers as we walk the road toward the cross, may we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus the pioneer of our faith, and hold on to our faith in all circumstances, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: **Lord, make your face to shine upon your servants.**

PASTOR: For the weary, for the sick, for those who are consumed with sorrow, for the forgotten, for the lonely, for those in refugee camps, and for all who have commended themselves to us for any need, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: **Lord, make your face to shine upon your servants.**

PASTOR: For all who are in harm's way. For all who risk being a missionary or a Christian in lands that are hostile to Christian faith, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: **Lord, make your face to shine upon your servants.**

PASTOR: What prayer needs would you like to lift up? (pause) Let us pray for these our needs,

ALL: **Lord, make your face to shine upon your servants.**

PASTOR: Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, 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 #278 (red, 8:30)

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

Special Music (11)

“Procession and Hymn for Palm Sunday” — *Aldersgate Choir*

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

Zechariah 9:9-12
Mark 11:1-11

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

“Blessed Is the One Who Comes in the Name of the Lord”
“True Greatness Is in Humility”

Offertory Invitation (*John*)

What shall we give in the name of the One who gave everything for us? What do we offer in thanksgiving for the steadfast love proclaimed in Jesus Christ? How will good news be carried to the centers of power in our world today? What we give will make a difference.

(You may bring forward your offering at this time and place your palm branches on the altar.)

(8:30)

“In the Garden” — arr. Lisa Hoekstra

(11)

“Ride On, King Jesus” — spiritual

Doxology (to the tune of #95)

“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 (*John*)

PASTOR: What you have done for us is marvelous in our eyes, gracious God. Our gifts can never match your goodness toward us. Your saving grace, your healing light, your personal sacrifice are so far beyond our imagining!

ALL: **Dear Jesus, you put your life on a sacrificial altar withholding nothing from God and God's**

work. Give us the courage to demonstrate, in whatever way we can, the willingness to trust God with our lives and our wealth, for everything we have is also from God. Hosanna in the highest! Receive, O God, our humble service. Amen.

Hymn #280 (red)

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

Commissioning and Blessing (*Joseph*)

PASTOR: God has given us light. We are sent into the world to share that light.

ALL: **This is God’s doing, marvelous in our eyes. We will carry the light of Christ to the world.**

PASTOR: Give thanks for God’s reign among us. Praise God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

ALL: **Hosanna in the highest heaven! We trust in God and seek to serve in Christ’s name.**

PASTOR: Amen.

ALL: **Amen.**

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

Postlude (8:30)
(11)

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” — arr. Cindy Barry

“A Palm Sunday Festival” — arr. L. Schreiber

(Parts of this liturgy have been taken and adapted from *Led by Love* by Lavon Bayler)

Prayer List



Birthdays This Week

27 Eric Lanum
29 Raegan Emerson

Nadyne Bauer has had cataract surgery

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

Ava Miles, Phyllis Nelson's niece, was diagnosed with gastroparesis. Prayers for healing, that her new medication helps and wisdom for the medical team.

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.

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, March 24

Palm 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. *The Chosen* — Room 4

9:45 a.m. A.K.T.S. (Aldersgate Kids Take on Service) Service (People's City Mission) with Carol — Room 2

11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center

12:15 p.m. Family Ministry Kick-off — Sunshine Room. Preschool kids through high school with their parents/grandparents invited for pizza, cookie decorating and games.

1:30 p.m. Virtual Fellowship — zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/812243946?pwd=c1RSQUlOZjYrQjlyZHk0aTZvQzFMQT09>

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=c1RSQUlOZjYrQjlyZHk0aTZvQzFMQT09>

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



Monday, March 25

Holy Week

7:00 p.m. Spiritual Living and Worship Planning Team — Room 4

Tuesday, March 26

- 9:00 a.m. Artisans
- 10:00 a.m. OLLI “My Backyard” — Fellowship Hall
- 1:30 p.m. Lincoln Caregiving Education Group — Fellowship Hall. “Aging in Place” by AARP
- 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 “Water in Nebraska” with Ann Briggs, Nebraska Water Center, UNL

Wednesday, March 27

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

Thursday, March 28**Maundy Thursday**

- 12:30 p.m. Worship & Prayer Service — Theater, Legacy Estates, 7200 Van Dorn
- 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service — Worship Center and online

Friday, March 29**Good Friday**

- Pastor Joseph Rafique will offer a Good Friday message on our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@aldersgateunitedmethodistc8463>
- 8:45 a.m. – 4 p.m. You are welcome to come to the Worship Center to pray.
- 8:45 a.m. Take Off Pounds Sensibly — Room 4
- 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service — Newman U.M. Church, 2242 R St.
- 7:00 p.m. Abendmusik “St. John Passion” — First Plymouth Church or Abendmusik.org/livestream. Freewill offering benefits First Plymouth’s justNeighbors

Saturday, March 30**Holy Saturday**

- 4:00 p.m. Breaking the Fast — Sunshine Room

Next Sunday, March 31**Easter**

- 8:30 a.m. Worship — Worship Center and online
- 9:30 a.m. Continental Brunch — Fellowship Hall
- 9:45 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt — Room 2
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center
- 1:30 p.m. Virtual Fellowship — zoom

Tuesday, April 2

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

Wednesday, April 3

- 1:30 p.m. Book Club *Have a Little Faith* by Mitch Albom — Room 4

Friday, April 5

- 10:30 a.m. Celebration of Life for Frankey & Gordon Ostlund — Worship Center and online followed by lunch in the Sunshine Room

Friday, April 12

- 6:30 p.m. Friday Fling — Fellowship Hall. Bring a snack to share and enjoy playing 10 Point Pitch.

Saturday, April 13

- 10:30 a.m. Style Show and Brunch Buffet — St. Paul U.M. Church, 1144 M St. Fashions by Dillards, table displays by The Big Garden and Aldersgate, breakfast casseroles, fruit and pastries. \$15 by Monday, April 8.

Tuesday, April 16**National Healthcare Decisions Day**

- 7:00 p.m. Book Club *Have a Little Faith* by Mitch Albom — Room 4