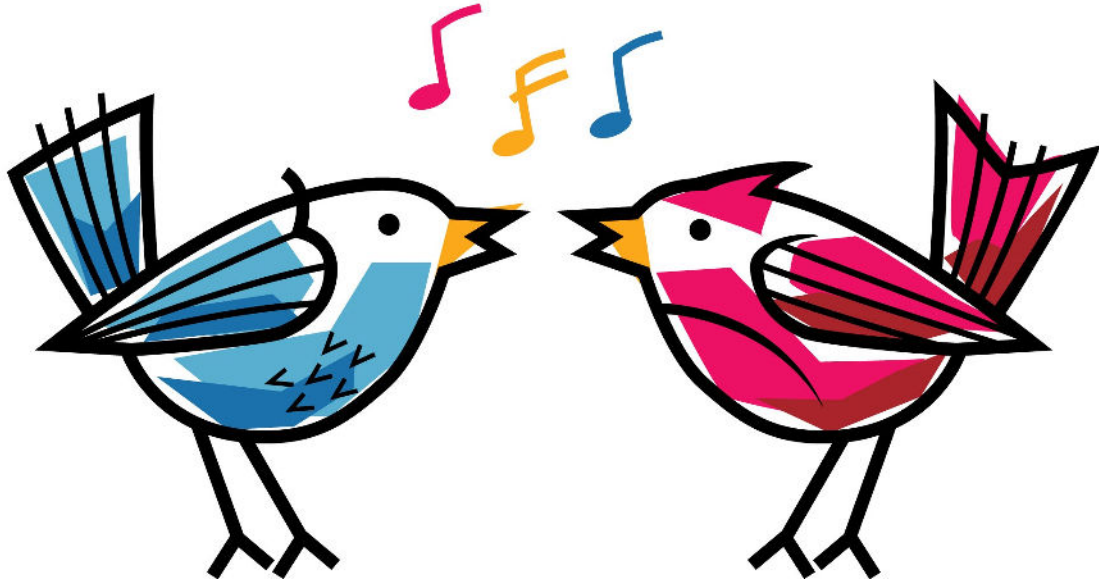


# Aldersgate United Methodist Church



## 8:30 a.m.

With Pastor John Goldrich serving  
Newman U.M. Church  
Videographer: Nancy Taylor  
Song Leaders: Dan & Kara Steward  
Greeter/Usher: Kari & Tom Beckenhauer  
Lector: Kathy Dombrowski

**June 30, 2024**

Hymn Sing

## 11:00 a.m. Service

Greeter/Usher: Harry Kellenbarger  
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

**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.*



June 30, 2024

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

LEADER: This is the day that the Lord has made;

ALL: **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

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

“Heaven” — arr. Jim Brinkman

“Like a River Glorious” — J. Mountain

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

LEADER: Arise, people of faith, that Christ may give us life. This is the day of meeting in Christ’s name.

ALL: **We march out for health and wholeness. We embrace one another with concern and care.**

LEADER: God is attentive to us and hears our cries. God challenges us to eager engagement in life.

ALL: **Like those who watch for the morning, we wait in joyous anticipation of God’s word.**

LEADER: The word of life is ours to receive. The good news is available to be shared.

ALL: **We will sing praises of God’s holy name. We will tell of God’s faithfulness day by day.**

**Opening Prayer** (8:30 *Kathy.*, 11 *Julie*)

LEADER: We gather to thank you, gracious God, for those times when we have been lifted up by you and known your healing touch. You have clothed us with joy and filled us with hope. We are grateful that even in our days of deepest gloom and despair, you have surrounded us with a love stronger than all our pain and doubts and grievous losses.

ALL: **Come to us now that, together and individually, we may sense larger realities than the narrow focus of our daily concerns. We await your word in Jesus’ name who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.**

**Hymns #657** (red)  
**#3164** (green, vs. 1-2)

“**This Is the Day**” (vs. 2 that he rose again, vs. 3 that the Spirit came)

“**Down to the River to Pray**”

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

PASTOR: Surrounded by the steadfast love of God, we gain courage to examine our lives and our relationships. Together we confess the sin that cuts us off from our Creator and separates us from one another.

ALL: **God of peace, we confess that we have relied too much on the weapons of war. We are more ready to honor warriors than to give support to those who work diligently for justice and equality. We extol our accumulations of gadgets over a balanced sharing of resources. We are more interested in securing your support for our desires than in confronting ourselves to your will. You have given us much, and we have misspent this abundance, creating idols and pursuing illusions of pleasure. O God, forgive us and recenter us in ways that really matter. Amen.**

PASTOR: If God marked iniquities, who could stand? Yet there is forgiveness from the Source of Life. There is power to redeem us from the most grievous sin. God offers steadfast love to recenter our lives. When we revere God, all else in life is seen in a new light. What is dead in us is brought to new life. Our brokenness is healed. Our priorities are changed. Praise God!

ALL: **Amen.**

**Hymns #608** (red)  
**#2248** (black)

“**This Is the Spirit’s Entry Now**”

“**Baptized in the Water**”

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

PASTOR: Loving God, you gave to Nicodemus a wonderful lesson of a life born of water and the Spirit. We pray today for that image to come to reality throughout our world. We know that there are many who are thirsty for a spiritual rebirth. We pray to you to quench their spiritual thirst.

For this we say,

ALL: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: God of living waters, there are many who live in places of drought, who travel far to get one container of clean water, who do not have the luxury that we take for granted of turning on a tap and having fresh water gush out. May the world find ways to provide fresh, clean water to those who are thirsty. For this we say,

ALL: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: We know that many are thirsty for hope, who long for the day when a life-giving river might flow to their door and not simply pass them by. Bring rivers of hope, or truth, of light gushing into places of dryness in our world. For this we say,

ALL: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: We know that there are those for whom rivers are frightening and harmful. Bring relief to those who are plagued by floods, or who are overwhelmed by a crazy life that washes over them and carries them away. For this we say,

ALL: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: As we ready ourselves to celebrate the Independence Day of our country, we pray for those who have and who are making all kinds of sacrifices that we live in freedom today — our men and women in uniform and their families. At the same time, we pray for those who do not enjoy this God-given gift of freedom. May God bring them freedom as well. For this we say:

ALL: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: What prayer needs would you like to add? (pause) For this we say,

ALL: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: Help us, loving God, to see every river, every stream, every lake, every precious drop of water as a symbol of your commitment to life and hope. May we savor the goodness of the waters of life and find new and exciting ways to share them with a thirsty world. Until that becomes a reality, 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 #129 (red, vs. 1-2)

“Give to the Winds Thy Fears”

Special Music

“Thanks God” — *VBS Kids*

Word of God Proclaimed (8:30 *Kathy.*, 11 *Julie*)

II Corinthians 8:7-15

Hymns #2025 (black, twice)

“As the Deer”

#605 (red)

“Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters”

Gospel Lesson (*Joseph*)

John 7:37-44

Hymns #731 (red, vs. 1-2)

“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

#2251 (black, vs. 1-2)

“We Were Baptized in Christ Jesus”

## Offertory Invitation

PASTOR: God's generous act in Jesus Christ invites our generosity. Identifying with our poverty, Jesus leads us to true riches. We are called to give according to our means, toward the goal of a fair balance among all God's children. May our offerings begin to answer that call.

(8:30)

"Angel's Blessing" — Jim Brinkman

(11)

"Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore" — C. Gabarain

## 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.

MUSIC: attr. to Louis Bourgeois, 1551

## Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self

PASTOR: We pray you will find our gifts acceptable, God. If we have not given according to what we have, we seek the courage to do so. May these gifts relieve suffering and reveal hope. May they give meaning to all who give and all who receive.

ALL: **We dedicate them, that those who have much may not have too much, and those who have little may not have too little. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

## Hymns #723 (red, vs. 1 & 4)

#3045 (green)

### "Shall We Gather at the River"

### "Down by the Jordan"

## Commissioning and Blessing

PASTOR: Continue to excel in everything. Serve with eagerness, faith, and love.

ALL: **We seek to share the best that we know. We want to pass on the love we have received.**

PASTOR: Dare to be generous with your time and resources. The needs of others are not always apparent.

ALL: **We are eager to reach out helping hands. We need strength and assurance to do so.**

PASTOR: Your faith is making you well. God is healing and equipping you. Go in peace!

ALL: **Together, we have been empowered. Apart, we will continue to feel God's touch.**

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)

"Change My Heart, O God" — arr. Mark Hayes

"Down to the River to Pray" — arr. M. McDonald

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

# Announcements

## Today, June 30

### National Pollinator Week

- 8:30 a.m. Hymn Sing with special music recorded by the Aldersgate VBS kids — Worship Center and online <https://www.youtube.com@aldersgateunitedmethodiste8463> or at your convenience at [www.aldersgatelinc.org](http://www.aldersgatelinc.org). You may also search YouTube for Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Lincoln, Nebraska
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour — Fellowship Hall
- 9:45 a.m. *The Chosen* — Room 4
- 11:00 a.m. Hymn Sing with special music recorded by the Aldersgate VBS kids — Worship Center

## Tuesday, July 2

- 9:00 a.m. Artisans
- 11:30 a.m. Grand Generation — Stauffer's Café, 5600 S. 48th St.
- 7:00 p.m. Dance Class — Sunshine Room 7c & d

## Wednesday, July 3

- 1:30 p.m. Book Club *Everything I Never Told You* by Celeste Ng — Room 4

## Friday, July 5

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

## Saturday, July 6

- 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Family Gathering — Sunshine Room

## Next Sunday, July 7

- 8:30 a.m. Worship — Worship Center and online
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour — Fellowship Hall
- 9:45 a.m. *The Chosen* — Room 4
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center

## Monday, July 8

- 1:30 p.m. United Women in Faith with Brianna Morris — Room 4

## Friday, July 12

- 6:30 p.m. Friday Fling — Fellowship Hall

## Sunday, July 14

- 10:00 a.m. One Shot Choir — Choir Room
- 1:00 p.m. Saltdogs Faith and Family Game — Haymarket Park

## Tuesday, July 16

- 7:00 p.m. Book Club *The White Lady* by Jacqueline Winspear — Room 4

## Wednesday, July 17

- 1:30 p.m. Stitcheroos — Room 4

## Thursday, July 18

- 2:30 p.m. Care Ministry — zoom

## Saturday, July 20

- 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast — Room 4

## Tuesday, July 23

- 1:30 p.m. Caregiver Education Group “What Caregivers Need to Know about Dementia Behaviors” — Fellowship Hall  
7:00 p.m. Earth Steward Ministry — Room 4

## Friday, July 26 – Saturday, July 27

United Women in Faith Mission u — Trinity U.M. Church, Grand Island

## Tuesday, July 30

- 11:30 a.m. Lincoln Caregivers Learning Lunch — 9401 Andermatt Dr. Lunch is complimentary but RSVP to Jen, 402-327-6310 is required.

## Tuesday, August 6

- 11:30 a.m. Grand Generation — Stauffer’s Café, 5600 S. 48th

## Wednesday, August 7

- 1:30 p.m. Book Club *Berry Pickers* by Amanda Peters — Room 4

## Friday, August 9

- Committee budgets due to the Finance Committee  
6:30 p.m. Friday Fling — Fellowship Hall

## Sunday, August 11 U.M. Student Day

- 10:10 a.m. One Shot Choir — Choir Room

## Prayer List

### Birthdays This Week

- 3 Andrew Smith  
6 Larry Ruth

Dick Easley	Judy Faubel	Dennis Frederick
Shirley Hanley	Keller Hustad	Dallas Huston
David Huston	Laura Marshall	Lynda Nordyke
Chandra & AJ Pfenning	Zach Steward	Jacob
Roxie & Richard Swyers	John	Jason Byrd, Angela Huff & Joshua

Skip, Katrena Anton’s friend with colon cancer

Nadyne Bauer is rehabbing at Tabitha

The family of Harlan Blythe who died 6/16/24.

The family of Chris Foster who died suddenly while on holiday in Indonesia.

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

The family of Dondi Kilgore who died 6/11/24.

Ava Miles, Phyllis Nelson’s niece, was diagnosed with gastroparesis.

Jennifer Miles, Phyllis Nelson’s niece

Isaiah Pierce, Karen Pierce’s grandson who was born 12/13/22 with heart issues

Alex Ronne, Pat Ruth’s cousin, a 5-year-old girl living in Colorado diagnosed with MLD, a rare, incurable, genetic disease.

Ross Teske and his missionary work in Talavera de la Reina, Spain

Larry Walsh, Sandy Gores’ dad

People in Ukraine, Israel and Palestine

