

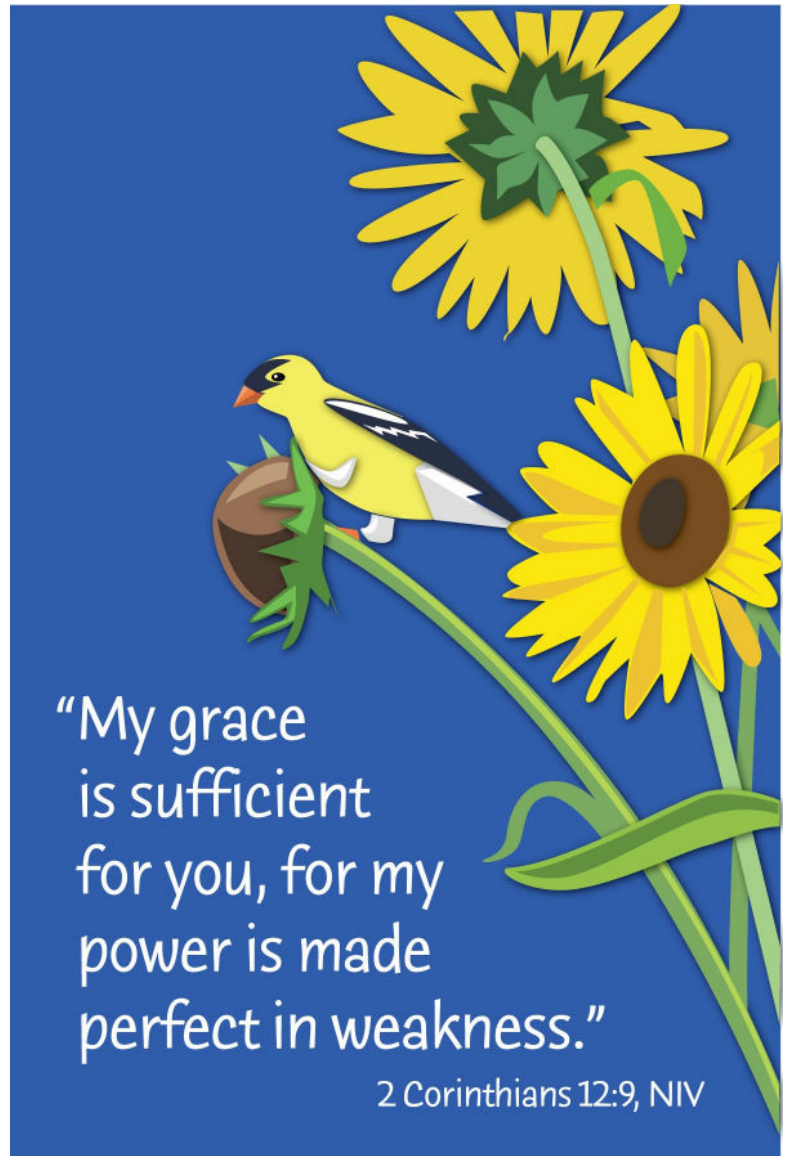
# Aldersgate United Methodist Church

**July 7, 2024**  
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

**8:30 a.m.**  
With Pastor John Goldrich serving  
Newman U.M. Church  
Videographer: Nancy Taylor  
Song Leaders: Dan & Kara Steward  
Greeter/Usher: Gaylene Nutzman

**11:00 a.m. Service**  
Greeter/Usher: Karl Schwabauer  
Lector: Rod Moore

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



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United Methodist Church**  
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402-489-1510 (church office)  
[aldersgatelinc@gmail.com](mailto:aldersgatelinc@gmail.com)

**Joseph Rafique, Pastor**  
402-499-7101 (cell)  
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[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.*



July 7, 2024

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

LEADER: I was glad when they said to me,

ALL: **let us go to the house of the Lord.** (Psalm 122:1)

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

“America the Beautiful” — arr. Mark Hayes

“Lord of All Hopefulness” — Irish

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

LEADER: Who are we who gather this summer Sunday?

ALL: **We are those besieged by the messages and values of the world,  
but who choose to live instead by God’s truth.**

LEADER: Why do we come here?

ALL: **We come to worship God, the source of life, to hear again what he has to say,  
to discern his way and find grace to walk it.**

LEADER: How are we enabled?

ALL: **We are enabled by God in whom we live, move and have our being.**

LEADER: What do we seek from the Lord?

ALL: **May the words of our mouth and the meditation of our heart be acceptable to the Lord,  
our rock and our redeemer.**

LEADER: Amen.

ALL: **Amen.**

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

LEADER: Lord God, You speak to us, but not always in words that we want to hear. Like the prophets of Israel, You speak the truth to us, whether we want to hear it or not. Keep speaking to us, gracious Lord. Keep working with us. Keep telling us the truth about ourselves and our world because our best hope is in Your truth. Keep enabling us to be prophets, speakers and doers of the truth because apart from You we can do nothing.

ALL: **Use us to do Your will and Your work in this world and strengthen us when we, like Jesus and his early disciples, suffer rejection. Although we are unworthy disciples of Your gospel, by Your grace we have hope in being much more than we could be on our own. In the name of Jesus, we ask. Amen.**

**Hymn #89** (red)

**“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”**

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

PASTOR: Do you see the moon and the stars and say: What a marvel they are? And how their light sweeps across the sky and the earth? This should remind us that God’s always here — even when we experience darkness in and around us. With this in mind, we pray for the brokenness of the world. For the hungry and the homeless, the disappointed and the angry. Bring them Your healing and restoration. Help us be involved in creating communities that actively care for the broken. For this we say,

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

PASTOR: We pray for those who mourn and live with grief. We lift to You those discouragements Your children have experienced this week. Discouragements in families, friendships, jobs, even discouragement in ourselves. May Your word of hope be a calming presence and solace to Your children. For this we say,

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

PASTOR: We pray for those who struggle with temptation or addiction; for those who feel invisible or voiceless; for those who walk near or in death's shadow. For this we say,

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

PASTOR: We pray for Christians who face persecution, imprisonment and even death, as a direct consequence of their faith. For this we say,

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

PASTOR: We pray for ourselves and for those with different hurts, worries or fears. We name them in our hearts now. (pause) Help us to trust You with them. May the Lord bring us comfort. For this we say:

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

PASTOR: We lift to You, O God, for relief, those who are on our prayer list and for joy, whose who celebrate their birthday or wedding anniversary in the week to come. For this we say,

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

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

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

PASTOR: Knowing and believing that the One who calls us is faithful, now and always, we wrap these and all our prayers in 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 #365** (red, 8:30)

**Special Music** (11)

**“Grace, Greater than Our Sin”**

— *Lia Havlena*

**Word of God Proclaimed** (*Joseph*)

(8:30 *John*, 11 *Rod*)

II Corinthians 12:2-10

Mark 6:1-13

**Sermon** (*Joseph*)

“What If It Happens to Me? The Fear of Suffering”

**Sacrament of Holy Communion** (*John*)

PASTOR: The Lord is with you.

ALL: **And also with you.**

PASTOR: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

PASTOR: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PASTOR: It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, God Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. And so, with Your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

ALL: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

PASTOR: Holy are You and blessed is Your Son, Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death and resurrection, You gave birth to Your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. On the night in which he gave himself for us, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to You, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples and said, “ take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to You, gave it to the disciples and said, “Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” And so, in remembrance of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

ALL: **Christ has died; Christ has risen; Christ will come again.**

PASTOR: Pour out Your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and juice. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By Your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through Your Son, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in Your holy church, all honor and glory is Yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

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

PASTOR: The bread of heaven transforms a sinner into a saint. Receive the bread, eat and be transformed.

ALL: **We receive this gift knowing that we are only sanctified by God's grace.**

PASTOR: The bread of heaven changes our church community. Share the bread; share the cup.

ALL: **We gather as a family of faith. We share our lives with each other.**

PASTOR: The bread of heaven strengthens us before sending us into the world. Pass on the gift with joy to all near and far.

ALL: **We are thankful to God for the privilege of being chosen and sent. With gratefulness we will serve and witness.**

PASTOR: The bread of heaven is holy and pure. Our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Let us draw near with faith, make our humble confession and prepare to receive this Holy Sacrament.

ALL: **I do not presume to come to this Your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in my own goodness, but in Your unfailing mercies. I am not worthy that You should receive me, but give Your word and I shall be healed, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.**

PASTOR: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that is proof of God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

ALL: **Amen. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

PASTOR: Amen.

**Sharing the Body and Blood of Christ** (If you wish to make an offering, the plates are at the front of the aisle.)

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

PASTOR: For each step with You, Lord,

ALL: **we give thanks.**

PASTOR: For today's participation in the body and blood of Jesus and for each day's bread,

ALL: **we give thanks.**

PASTOR: For Your calling each of us by name and each glimpse of the journey ahead,

ALL: **we give thanks.**

PASTOR: Thank you, Lord God, for Your generosity of bread, clothing and money of which You spoke so long ago. These are items we cannot imagine travelling without, and basics that many people struggle to attain.

ALL: **Receive our offering today; may it be used to ease the suffering of those You love here in our hometown and beyond. May our praise extend to the far corners of the earth. Amen.**

**Hymns #2158** (black)

**"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"**

### **Commissioning and Blessing** (*John*)

PASTOR: Go out into the world with your thorn and roses.

Emulate Christ's deeds of compassion and power.

ALL: **We face hardships and calamities with courage. Christ strengthens us when we are weak.**

PASTOR: In humility, reach out to help and to be helped.

Travel light, with your faith as your major resource.

ALL: **We will travel trusting God in our preparations and on the journey.  
We will give our best, relying also on God's grace.**

PASTOR: As disciples of Jesus Christ, you are blessed and empowered.

God's steadfast love surrounds you wherever you go.

ALL: **Great is our God, and greatly to be praised! God will be our guide today and forever.**

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)

"God Bless America" — Irving Berlin

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

(Parts of today's liturgy has been taken and adapted from *Led by Love* by Lavon Bayler  
and *The Minister's Annual Manual* of Logos Production, Inc.)

# Announcements

## Today, July 7

- 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
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour — Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center

## Monday, July 8

- 1:30 p.m. United Women in Faith with Brianna Morris — Room 4
- 5:45 p.m. Streamlined Organizational Structure Discernment — Room 4

## Tuesday, July 9

- 9:00 a.m. Artisans
- 9:00 a.m. OLLI “Native Landscape Tour” — Aldersgate Gardens and Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Dementia Support Group — The Knolls
- 7:00 p.m. Finance — Room 4
- 7:00 p.m. Dance Class — Sunshine Room 7c & d

## Wednesday, July 10

- 10:00 a.m. Lincoln Women’s Connection — Sunshine Room

## Thursday, July 11

- 12:30 p.m. Worship — Theater, Legacy Estates, 7200 Van Dorn
- 2:00 p.m. Bridge to Better Living Informational Session — 4230 Pioneer Woods Dr. Reserve your spot with [Kaye@BridgetoBetterLiving.com](mailto:Kaye@BridgetoBetterLiving.com)

## Friday, July 12

- 8:45 a.m. Take Off Pounds Sensibly — Room 4
- 6:30 p.m. Friday Fling — Fellowship Hall

## Saturday, July 13

- 11:00 a.m. Citizen’s Climate Lobby — Sunshine Room

## Next Sunday, July 14

- 8:30 a.m. Worship — Worship Center and online
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour — Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 a.m. One Shot Choir — Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center
- 11:00 a.m. Saltdogs Faith and Family Game activities — Haymarket Park, 625 Stadium Dr. Game time is 1:05 p.m. RSVP with Colleen Nielsen by Wednesday, July 10 to get Faith & Family Day berm tickets.

## Next Monday, July 15

- 7:00 p.m. Church Council — Room 4

## 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

**Sunday, August 4**

9:45 a.m. *The Chosen* — Room 4

**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**

10:00 a.m. One Shot Choir — Choir Room

**Prayer List**

Birthdays This Week

**10** Jeanne Nielsen

Dick Easley

Shirley Hanley

David Huston

Chandra & AJ Pfenning

Roxie & Richard Swyers

Skip, Katrena Anton’s friend with colon cancer

Nadyne Bauer is rehabbing at Tabitha

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.

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

Judy Faubel  
Keller Hustad  
Laura Marshall  
Zach Steward  
John

Dennis Frederick  
Dallas Huston  
Lynda Nordyke  
Jacob  
Jason Byrd, Angela Huff & Joshua

