

Aldersgate United Methodist Church



8:30 a.m.

With Pastor John Goldrich serving
Newman U.M. Church
Videographer: Stacey Lienemann
Song Leaders: Dan & Kara Steward
Greeter/Usher: Carol Clymer

11:00 a.m. Service

Greeter/Usher: Dan Smith
Lector: Harry Kellenbarger

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

August 4, 2024

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

**Aldersgate
United Methodist Church**
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Lincoln, NE 68506-6540
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aldersgatelinc@gmail.com

Joseph Rafique, Pastor
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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.*



August 4, 2024

Greeting and Announcements (8:30 *Joe, 11 Harry*)

LEADER: I was glad when they said to me,

ALL: **let us go to the house of the Lord.**

Music for Centering Prayer (8:30)

“Jesus, Name Above All Names” with “O, How I Love Jesus”

— arr. Mark Hayes

(11)

“Lamb of God” — arr. M. Hayes

Call to Worship (8:30 *Joe, 11 Harry*)

LEADER: Draw near to God, who has heard your complaining.

Come in the name of Jesus, who understands your need.

ALL: **We have received manna in the wilderness. We have been offered the bread of life.**

LEADER: Open yourselves to God’s steadfast love. Be honest before the Holy One who knows all you do.

ALL: **We are judged according to our deeds. Our thoughts and motives are known to our God.**

LEADER: The Holy Spirit has come to restore your joy.

God’s presence is real to those who accept God’s gift.

ALL: **Whoever comes to Jesus will not be hungry. Whoever trusts in Christ will never be thirsty.**

Opening Prayer (8:30 *Joe, 11 Harry*)

LEADER: Gracious and loving God, from whom comes all the abundance of this earth, and who has given us the true bread from heaven, Jesus Christ, feed us again by your word of truth, that we may believe more deeply and trust more daringly, speaking the truth in love to our hurting world.

ALL: **Make your church be a transforming presence among all your children. Draw us to a common faith, in spite of our differences. Lead us into new depths of trust beyond our knowing and along new pathways of service outdistancing our fears. In the name of Jesus, the Christ, we ask. Amen.**

Hymn #127 (red)

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

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

PASTOR: God of all goodness, by glimpsing something of your vision of a just and merciful world, we become acutely aware of how much inhumanity and suffering still exist in the world. It would overwhelm us if it were not for the tender beauty and hope that arises each new morning and shimmers from the heavens at night. And so, from graced places of gratitude and wonder we pray: for the Earth staggering under the weight of global warming and deforestation,

ALL: **together, may we see and find another way.**

PASTOR: For people staggering under the weight of poverty, homelessness, loneliness, illness, violence and loss,

ALL: **together, may we see and find another way.**

PASTOR: For nations staggering under the weight of pride, war and a need to impose their will,

ALL: **together, may we see and find another way.**

PASTOR: And for the Christian Church staggering under the weight of seeming irrelevance within secular cultures,

ALL: **together, may we see and find another way.**

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

God of all, honor the desires in our hearts and may they flourish within the people of grace and compassion we seek to be as we 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.**

Special Music

“Victory in Jesus” — *Dan Steward*

Word of God Proclaimed (8:30 *John*, 11 *Harry*)
(*Joe*)

II Samuel 11:26-12:13a
John 6:24-35

Sermon (*Joe*)

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Sacrament of Holy Communion (*John*)

PASTOR: The Lord be 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 God our thanks and praise.**

PASTOR: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day when justice shall roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream, when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. 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, God, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry and ate with sinners. 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 up for us, he 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 the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his 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 is 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.

ALL: **Amen.**

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

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

(The offering plates are located at the front of the center aisle.)

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

PASTOR: Thank you, Provider God, for feeding me with the real manna, the body and blood of your Son. Grant that through my words and deeds, I may tell others where the bread of life is to be found. To that end we dedicate our offering, not alone for the good they can accomplish and the mission they will support, but also because giving helps us to gain perspective on what really matters.

ALL: **We would stop working for food that perishes, seeking for all the food that endures for eternal life. May our lives and all we give, perform the works of God. Build us up in love for one another and for all your children anywhere. In the name of Jesus, the true bread, we ask. Amen.**

Hymn #634 (red)

"Now Let Us from This Table Rise"

Commissioning and Blessing (*John*)

PASTOR: Christ, the bread of life, sends us out to feed others.
Whoever comes to Christ will not be hungry or thirsty.

ALL: **We will share our lives with brothers and sisters.
We seek to offer them the bread from heaven.**

PASTOR: The Spirit will go with us and dwell with us.
Receive with joy the salvation Christ offers each day.

ALL: **We are being healed even as we serve. We are empowered daily as we share love.**

PASTOR: Let us go, my brothers and sisters, healed and empowered in the name of God, who is the Creator, the Redeemer and the Sustainer. 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)

"You Are My All and All" — arr. Mark Hayes

"Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken" — arr. G. Young

Announcements

Today, August 4

- 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. Fellowship Hour — Fellowship Hall
- 9:45 a.m. *The Chosen* — Room 4
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center
- 1:00 p.m. Lincoln Ostomy Group — Sunshine Room

Tuesday, August 6

- 9:00 a.m. Artisans
- 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

Thursday, August 8

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

Friday, August 9

- Committee budgets due to the Finance Committee
- 8:45 a.m. Take Off Pounds Sensibly — Room 4
- 6:30 p.m. Friday Fling sloppy joes — Fellowship Hall

Saturday, August 10

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

Next Sunday, August 11 **U.M. Student Day**

- 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
- 10:00 a.m. One Shot Choir — Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center

Next Monday, August 12

- 1:30 p.m. United Women in Faith — Room 4
- 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees — Room 4

Thursday, August 15

- 2:30 p.m. Care Ministry — zoom

Saturday, August 17

- 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast — Room 4

Tuesday, August 20

- 7:00 p.m. Book Club *The Berry Pickers* by Amanda Peters — Room 4

Wednesday, August 21

- 1:30 p.m. Stitcheroos — Room 4

Tuesday, August 27

1:30 p.m. Caregiver Education Group “Medical Education and Planning” — Fellowship Hall
 7:00 p.m. Earth Steward Ministry — Room 4

Wednesday, August 28

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

Tuesday, September 3

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

Wednesday, September 4

1:30 p.m. Book Club *The Sign for Home* by Blair Fell — Room 4

Sunday, September 8

9:45 a.m. Plus One Sunday School — Sunshine Room. Sunday School for Pre-Kindergarten through 8th grade with each student encouraged to invite a special youth or adult.

Monday, September 9

1:30 p.m. United Women in Faith with Kendra Hartwig — Room 4

Friday, September 13 – Saturday, September 14

Great Plains United Women in Faith Annual Meeting — York

Friday, September 13

6:30 p.m. Friday Fling

Tuesday, September 17

7:00 p.m. Book Club *The Sign for Home* by Blair Fell — Room 4

Wednesday, September 18

1:30 p.m. Stitcheroos — Room 4

Prayer List

Anniversaries This Week

8 Donna & Maury Woudenberg

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

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

