

Aldersgate United Methodist Church



September 22, 2024
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**Show by
your good life
that your works
are done with
gentleness
born of wisdom.**

8:30 a.m.
With Pastor John Goldrich serving
Newman U.M. Church
Videographer: Nancy Taylor
Song Leader: Kara Steward

James 3:13, NRSV

Ministers: All of Aldersgate's Members
Pastor: Joseph Rafique
Director of Music: Julie Clopper-Smith
Organist: Jan Malone
Digital Media Specialist: Nancy Taylor
Administrative Assistant: Stacey Lienemann
Child Care Attendant: Katie Softley
Custodian: Scott Hoyt

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United Methodist Church**
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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.*



September 22, 2024

Greeting and Announcements (*Joseph*)

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

“Blessed Assurance” — arr. P. Keveren

Call to Worship (*Joseph*)

LEADER: Draw near to God and God will draw near to you.

ALL: **God is always nearer than our next breath.**

We gather to become more aware of that presence.

LEADER: Knowledge of God is a delight to the righteous. They seek to grow in wisdom and understanding.

ALL: **There is always more to discover than we know. God is our teacher, helper and judge.**

LEADER: Put your trust in God. Learn to be peaceable, gentle and merciful.

ALL: **We seek to do good and not harm all our days.**

We would open our hands to the poor and the needy.

Opening Prayer (*Joseph*)

LEADER: O Lord God, O Wisdom Supreme, give me wisdom to meet the challenges ahead. I bless you for bringing me to this day. Thank you for protecting my life and giving me what I need.

ALL: **Lord God, rule over my heart and body this day. Sanctify me, and guide my every thought, word and deed according to your wisdom from above. Stay with me and with everyone I meet this day. Let me give your joy and your peace to the world. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn #103 (red)

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

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

ALL: **Merciful God, we confess that we think we know what is best. We go our own way instead of yours. We fill our needs before the needs of others. We speak to suit our mind instead of your will. Forgive us for relying on our own wisdom instead of yours. Forgive us for the times we have ignored the injustices our greed and desire for dominance have created. Forgive us for when our words cut and hurt and harm instead of lift up, heal and renew. Forgive us for the ways in which we place ourselves at the center of your creation instead of part of it. Amend what we are, direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your wisdom and walk in your ways. Amen.**

PASTOR: Beloved, I proclaim to you as Good News what God proclaimed to Moses: “the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for the thousandth generation, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin.” In the name of that God, we are forgiven. Amen.

ALL: **Amen.**

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

PASTOR: Too often, in too many places, people have no choice and are made vulnerable to pain, disease, violence and death. Today we pray for the vulnerable of the earth. For the victims of tyranny, famine and war, we pray. (pause)

For refugees and asylum seekers. (pause)

For children who live in families and homes that are not safe places. (pause)

For children without access to books and to learning. (pause)
For children everywhere. For all creation, vulnerable through climate change and human abuse of creation's resources. (pause)
For the elderly, lonely, those sick and suffering, the homeless and those close to dying. (pause)
For the health of our church and all God's churches, we pray. (pause)
What prayer needs would you like to add? (pause)
We offer to you all the prayers of our hearts, O God, knowing and believing that you know each of us by name, are with each of us in every moment of our lives and hear the prayers that your children make. Therefore, we offer you thanks and praise with 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 #369 (red)

"Blessed Assurance Jesus Is Mine"

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

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

Sermon (*Joseph*)

" "

Offertory Invitation (*Joseph*)

With free-will offerings, we will sacrifice to God, giving thanks for mercies too abundant to count. We want to share all that has been entrusted to our keeping, that God may be praised and peace may come to all God's people.

"Jesus Loves Me" — arr. D. Wood

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. Louis Bourgeois, 1551

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

PASTOR: Generous God, thank you for sharing and guiding me with your wisdom divine. I who have spent much on my own needs, am pleased to share my time, treasure and talent to support the ministry and mission of your church and that others may obtain the necessities of body and spirit.

ALL: **May there be a harvest of righteousness among us, shown in the peaceful handling of disputes, in mutual love and support, and in courageous outreach to people near and far who need the help we can give. Bless each gift and giver. In the name of Jesus I ask. Amen.**

Celebrating Aldersgate

MaryAnne Loos

Hymn #2158 (black, vs. 1-2)

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

Commissioning and Blessing (*John*)

PASTOR: Go forth, trusting God and seeking God's wisdom which is manifested in gentle spirit and good fruits.

ALL: **We seek to do well the tasks set before us and aim to serve without partiality or hypocrisy with the wisdom God imparts us.**

PASTOR: Beloved, go knowing the limits of your humanness and to learn to lean on the limitlessness of God; wise enough to trust not your own wisdom, but the wisdom of God and may "the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you, may the

ALL: Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace” and wisdom all your days. Amen.
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

“Autumn” from ‘The Four Seasons’ — A. Vivaldi

Announcements

Today, September 22

- 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* season 3, episode 5 “Clean, part 2” — Room 4
- 9:45 a.m. Middle School/High School Youth Sunday School — Room 1. Taught by Tom Haggar
- 9:45 a.m. Children’s Sunday School — Room 2. Taught by Char Haggar
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center
- 2:00 p.m. Parkinson’s Support Group — Sheridan Lutheran

Monday, September 23

- 7:00 p.m. Learning Key Result Team — Room 4

Tuesday, September 24

- 9:00 a.m. Artisans
- 1:30 p.m. Lincoln Caregiver Education Group “Aging and Disability Resource Center and Local Help with Medicare” — Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Earth Steward Ministry — Room 4

Wednesday, September 25

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

Thursday, September 26

- 11:30 a.m. Retired School Personnel Conference — Fellowship Hall
- 12:30 p.m. Worship — Theater, Legacy Estates, 7200 Van Dorn
- 6:30 p.m. United Women in Faith Guest Night & Salad Supper — First U.M. Church, 2723 N. 50th. Speaker: Bill Michener from The Lincoln Lighthouse

Friday, September 27

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

Saturday, September 28 National Day of Remembrance

- 10:00 a.m. Nebraska Herbal Society — Fellowship Hall
- 12:30 p.m. Harris Academy Recital — Worship Center

Next Sunday, September 29 Children’s Sabbath

- 8:30 a.m. Hymn Sing — Worship Center and online
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour — Fellowship Hall
- 9:45 a.m. *The Chosen* — Room 4
- 9:45 a.m. Middle School/High School Youth Sunday School — Room 1. Team taught by Tom Haggar and Harry Kellenbarger
- 9:45 a.m. Children’s Sunday School — Room 2. Taught by Sheila Kellenbarger
- 10:40 a.m. Choir Warm-up — Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Hymn Sing — Worship Center

Next Monday, September 30

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

Tuesday, October 1

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

Wednesday, October 2

1:30 p.m. Book Club *Yellowface* by R.F. Kuang — Room 4

Sunday, October 6 World Communion Sunday

Estimate of Giving cards due

Friday, October 11

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

Sunday, October 13 Safe Quarters to benefit the Friendship Home

1:00 p.m. CROP Walk — Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church, 1200 S. 40th

4:13 p.m. Family Ministry Carving Pumpkins, Hay Rack Ride, and Fire Pit — Nielsen, 18900 Pioneers Blvd. Please RSVP by Thursday, October 3.

Tuesday, October 15

7:00 p.m. Book Club *Yellowface* by R.F. Kuang — Room 4

Wednesday, October 16

1:30 p.m. Stitcheroos — Room 4

Thursday, October 17

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Trees, People & Towns — Aldersgate Gardens and Worship Center

2:30 p.m. Care Ministry — Zoom

Saturday, October 19

8:00 a.m. Men’s Breakfast — Room 4

Prayer List

Anniversaries and Birthdays This Week

| | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------------|
| 22 | Pat Carlson | |
| 26 | Jill Collicott | Pat Marshall |
| 21 | Roxie Swyers | |

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|------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Nadyne Bauer | Arlene | |
| Dick Easley | Judy Faubel | Dennis Frederick |
| Shirley Hanley | Keller Hustad | Dallas Huston |
| David Huston | Laura Marshall | Lynda Nordyke |
| Robyn Rocklein | Zach Steward | Jacob |
| Roxie & Richard Swyers | John | Jason Byrd, Angela Huff & Joshua |



Skip, Katrena Anton’s friend with colon cancer
 Mary Coffey has fallen and hurt her shoulder. She’s in the hospital in Holdrege.
 Hayley Jambor’s mother who has a brain tumor
 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 7-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
 David and his family, Joe Gore’s prior co-worker who are experiencing some extremely hard times and need prayers for strength and guidance.
 Larry Walsh, Sandy Gores’ dad
 People in Ukraine, Israel and Palestine