

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

October 20, 2024
Laity Awareness Sunday

8:30 a.m.

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

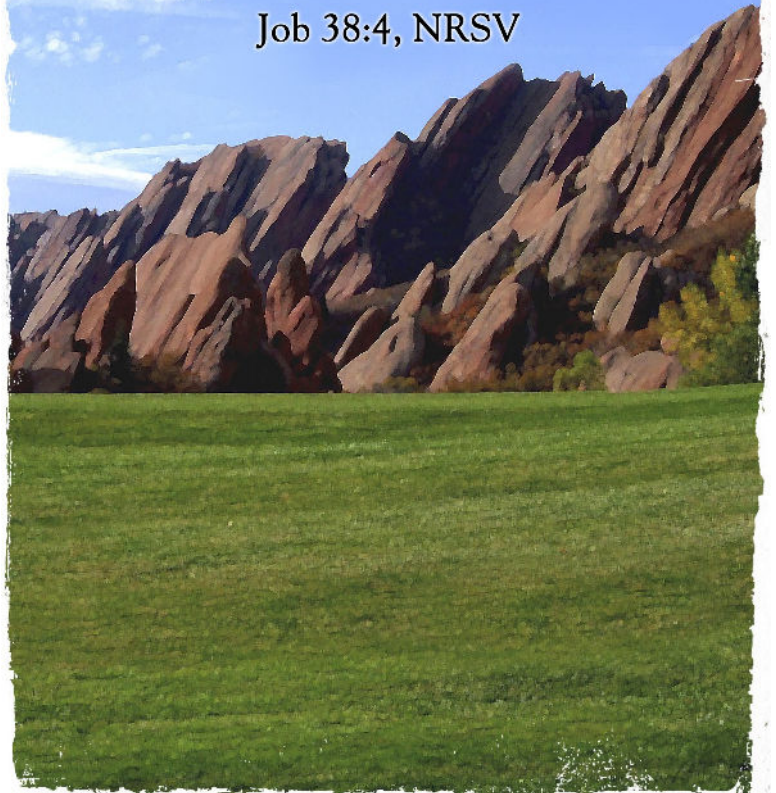
11:00 a.m. Service

Greeter/Usher: Karl Schwabauer
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
Custodian: Scott Hoyt

Where were you when I
laid the foundation of
the earth? Tell me, if
you have understanding.

Job 38:4, NRSV



**Aldersgate
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.*



October 13, 2024

Greeting and Announcements (*Joseph*)

Opening Truth (*Joseph*)

LEADER: Bless the Lord, O my soul.

ALL: **O Lord my God, you are worthy of every praise.**

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

“How Great Thou Art” — arr. Lorie Line

“Jesu/Tapestry” — Bach/arr. P. Rodriguez

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

LEADER: Let your minds ponder the manifold works of God.
Let your spirits soar amid the wonders of creation.

ALL: **There is pulsating life all around us. The earth is full of God’s creatures.**

LEADER: Sun and rain proclaim God’s infinite imagination.
Moon and stars sing the glory of the Eternal One.

ALL: **It is God who shares with us wisdom and understanding.
We depend on God for the gift of life.**

LEADER: We gather to worship and praise the God of all people.
We come to learn from the God we only dimly perceive.

ALL: **We reach out for answers to our questions.
We long to find meaning and purpose for our days.**

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

LEADER: Source of all things, how can we approach glory so vast that all space and time is surrounded by you? We cannot comprehend the marvels of the earth. How shall we honor your majesty? You are so unknowable, yet evidence of your work is on every hand.

ALL: **The mystery of life in all its many forms, the discoveries we are allowed to make, the sweep of knowledge entrusted to our use, the amazing resources of this planet — all speak of a God who cares, who honors us, who provides for our needs both physical and spiritual. Let this time of meeting honor you and equip us to do your will. In Jesus’ mighty name, we ask. Amen.**

Hymn #89 (red)

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

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

PASTOR: In the book of Job, God addresses the complainers of every age: “Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Where were you when I laid the foundations of the world? When the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?” In awe before God, we confess our ill-fated attempts to play God.

ALL: **Reigning God, we confess that we, like the disciples James and John, seek places of honor, privilege and reward. We succumb to the temptation to compare ourselves with others to our advantage. We want privilege without pain, greatness without the grind of hard work. We expect rewards for our efforts. We talk about serving you, but we do not want the rank of servant. We have lots of ideas about what you might do to intervene in the world and little commitment to what we might do in your name. Forgive us and help us, gracious God. Amen.**

PASTOR: Because of Christ’s tears and prayers, God deals gently with the ignorant and wayward. God is patient with our pretensions, seeking always to welcome us home to true community. Praise God

for his love and forgiveness. Amen?

ALL: **Amen.**

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

PASTOR: Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. (pause) God of all grace, you are the source of life and joy. Strengthen the resolve of your church throughout the world that together we press on toward the goal of your heavenly call in Jesus Christ. God of grace,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: God of all creation, you plant and nourish the earth as your own precious vineyard. Bless fields and orchards and the hands of those who labor in them, that your people are fed with an abundant harvest of good fruit. God of grace,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: God of all the earth, you desire peace and justice between nations and peoples. Guide leaders of nations, states, provinces and cities, that they faithfully govern your people with wisdom, integrity and compassion. God of grace,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: God of all compassion, in Christ, you lovingly poured yourself out like wine for your people. Have mercy on all who mourn, who struggle with their mental health, who cry out for justice, who hunger and all in any need of joy. God of grace,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: God of all steadfastness, you set Christ as the cornerstone and foundation of the church. Build up this congregation as living stones, that it stands in the community as a witness to your enduring faithfulness and love. God of grace,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: God of all hope, the saints who came before us lived and died with their hearts fixed on you. We give you thanks for their faithful witness, and we wait with hope for the great day when we join their voices in praise. God of grace,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: What prayer needs would you like to lift up? (pause)
For these prayer needs we say: God of grace,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior, 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 #77 (red, 8:30)

Special Music (11)

"How Great Thou Art"

"Thou Hidden Source of Calm Repose" — *Aldersgate Choir*

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

(8:30 *Joseph*, 11 *Julie*)

Job 38:1-7, 18, 34-41

Mark 10:35-45

Sermon (8:30 *John*)

(11 *Joseph*)

"God Speaks"

"Piercing a Hole in the Darkness"

Offertory Invitation (*John*)

For Jesus, a life lived for others was the only life consistent with God's reign. The church exists to increase among us the love of God and neighbor, and to build within us the deep conviction that we are be-

loved, valued people of worth. It is to this high mission that we devote our life and offerings for ministry in this community and throughout God's world.

(8:30)

“Softly and Tenderly” — arr. Mark Hayes

(11)

“God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens” — arr. D. Wood

Doxology (to the tune of #75)

“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: We give with joy, loving God, in thanks for all you have allowed us to experience. By your love, we have survived and learned and grown. We dedicate these gifts that more people may be brought to the feet of Jesus, who is the eternal source of salvation.

ALL: **Equip us to be an inviting, caring community in which all your ignorant and wayward people find a genuine welcome and are lifted up to new understanding and joy. In the name of Jesus we ask. Amen.**

Celebrate Aldersgate

Kari Beckenhauer

Hymn #152 (red)

“I Sing the Almighty Power of God”

Sending Forth (*Joseph*)

PASTOR: You are clothed with honor and wrapped in light.
Bless God and proclaim God's greatness in the world.

ALL: **In Christ, we are growing in wisdom and understanding.
How manifold are the works of God.**

PASTOR: There is glory in humble tasks done in God's name. Abounding joy awaits you in God's service.

ALL: **We face another week of living with hope. God is strengthening all of us as loyal servants.**

PASTOR: Loyal servants of God, may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you both this day and forever. 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)

“Make Me a Servant” — arr. Carl Seal

“Hymn to Joy” — Beethoven/arr. J. Cotter

Announcements

Today, October 20

Laity Awareness 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
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour — Fellowship Hall
- 9:45 a.m. *The Chosen* season 3, episode 6 “Intensity in Tent City” — Room 4
- 9:45 a.m. Middle School/High School Youth Sunday School — Room 1. Taught by Harry Kellenbarger
- 9:45 a.m. Children’s Sunday School — Room 2. Taught by Char Haggar and Sheila Kellenbarger
- 10:40 a.m. Choir Warm-up — Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center
- 3-7 p.m. Heart of the Matter Celebrating Epworth Family Resource’s 135th Birthday — York Senior Center, 725 N. Nebraska Ave.

Monday, October 21

- 7:00 p.m. Church Council — Room 4

Tuesday, October 22

- 9:00 a.m. Artisans
- 1:30 p.m. Lincoln Caregiver Education “Planning for the Journey Ahead” — Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Earth Steward Ministry — Room 4

Wednesday, October 23

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

Thursday, October 24

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

Friday, October 25

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

Saturday, October 26

- 10:00 a.m. Nebraska Herbal Society — Fellowship Hall

Next Sunday, October 27 Reformation Sunday

- 8:30-1:30 p.m. Good Life Halfsy — Seacrest-Haymarket
- 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
- 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 Char Haggar and Sheila Kellenbarger
- 10:40 a.m. Choir Warm-up — Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center
- 12:15 p.m. Roast Turkey Potluck — Sunshine Room
- 1:00 p.m. All Church Meeting and Celebration of Aldersgate Gardens as arboretum — Worship Center
- 2:00 p.m. Parkinson’s Support Group — Sheridan Lutheran

Next Monday, October 28

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

Tuesday, November 5

8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Election — Fellowship Hall

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

Wednesday, November 61:30 p.m. Book Club *The Maid* by Nita Prose — Room 4**Friday, November 8**

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

Sunday, November 10 **Organ & Tissue Donor Sunday**

2:00 p.m. Lincoln Subdistrict Church Conference — St. Paul, 1144 ‘M’ St.

Monday, November 11 **Veteran’s Day**

1:30 p.m. United Women in Faith “World Thank Offering” — Room 4

Saturday, November 16

8:00 a.m. Men’s Breakfast with Andrew Smith telling his military experience — Room 4

Sunday, November 17

2:00 p.m. Southeast Nebraska District Annual Meeting — Zoom. Clergy and the Lay Member to Annual Conference may vote.

3:30 p.m. Green Teams Gathering — First Plymouth Church

Tuesday, November 197:00 p.m. Book Club *The Maid* by Nita Prose — Room 4**Prayer List**

Birthdays This Week

23 Larry White
24 Fulton Hanley (10)
25 Rod Moore

Kali Pearson

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	Arlene

Nadyne Bauer is rehabbing at Tabitha

Skip, Katrena Anton’s friend with colon cancer

Mary Coffey is back home

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

