

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

June 22, 2025
Second Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 a.m.

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

11:00 a.m. Service

Greeters/Ushers: Colleen & Dave Nielsen
Lector: Jim Miller

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



**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.*



June 22, 2025

Welcome and Announcements (8:30 *John, 11 Jim*)

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

“As the Deer” with “Fairest Lord Jesus” — arr. Mark Hayes
“Larghetto” — Louis Spohr

Opening Truth (8:30 *John, 11 Jim*)

Psalm 122:1

PASTOR: I was glad when they said to me

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

Call to Worship (8:30 *John, 11 Jim*)

LEADER: God is ready for us to seek what is eternal. God wants us to find the truth beyond ourselves.

ALL: **Our spirits long for God as a deer longs for water.
We cry out for some evidence of God’s presence.**

LEADER: God seldom comes as an earthquake, wind or fire.
Rather, in moments of sheer silence, God is revealed.

ALL: **We come in quiet expectation to this holy place.
We approach the altar of God, hungering to be fed.**

LEADER: All are welcome here as brothers and sisters. Here is a place to find healing and liberation.

ALL: **Our hope is in God, who gives us life and identity.
Our help is from God, who is good all the time.**

Opening Prayer (8:30 *John, 11 Jim*)

LEADER: God, our refuge and our hope, come among us today to give us a purpose and a call. Move us beyond the discipline of the law to the discipleship of faith. Free us from the shackles of fear and a sense of failure that keep us from stepping bravely into your future.

ALL: **Grant us the sense that we are not alone but are part of a great company of your faithful people of every nation and tongue. In the matchless name of Jesus we ask. Amen.**

Hymn #97 (red)

“For the Fruits of This Creation”

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

(based on I Kings 19:1-15a)

PASTOR: When we ask to be delivered from deceitful and unjust people, we need to examine ourselves to see if we are completely honest and just. When we sense demonic forces in our world, we must ask if there is any evil in us. When we are tempted to exclude, we are met by an inclusive God who calls us to repentance.

MEN: *“What are you doing here?” asks God. “What are you doing here in the silence, among those who have no voice, among those who have been silenced? What sound will fill the silence?”*

WOMEN: *What are you doing here in the injustice, amid the imbalance of the world, amid the unfairness of people’s lives? What act will transform the suffering?*

MEN: *What are you doing here in the pain, amid the hurt of people, amid the brokenness of the world? What response will make whole the healing?*

PASTOR: “What are you doing here?” asks God. (pause) “I am forgiving,” says God. “I am holding you and believing in you. I am waiting to change your living, to whisper love in every heart, echo truth into every lie, speak healing into every brokenness. I am forgiving. Come and let us start anew.”

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

PASTOR: Mindful of our duty as Christians to pray for our brothers and sisters and in the spirit of service to

each other, let us pray for all God's children anywhere.

God our parent, Jesus promised to always be with those who follow him, we pray for those who live alone and those who are lonely.

ALL: **We hold all to the light of your love, O God.**

PASTOR: God of justice, Jesus spoke truth to power. We pray for those who suffer for speaking the truth, for your prophets of every generation. We pray for prisoners and for people and organizations that work for the release of those unjustly imprisoned.

ALL: **We hold all to the light of your love, O God.**

PASTOR: God of compassion, Jesus spoke out for children. We pray for children everywhere, for those who silently cry out for nurture, for those who live in fear and for those who live in poverty. We pray for the children of this community of faith. May they grow in the security of knowing they are your children and part of the Body of Christ.

ALL: **We hold all to the light of your love, O God.**

PASTOR: We pray for this community of faith, for those who hold positions of authority and responsibility. We pray that we might be so held in your love for each one of us that our relationships are free from envy, competitiveness, and divisiveness. As the Body of Christ, may we embody your love, truth and grace.

ALL: **We hold all to the light of your love, O God.**

PASTOR: What other prayer needs would you like to lift up? (pause) Bring all your children into the spacious place of your love, O God, and hear our prayers that we offer in our love for you and for our brothers and sisters through Jesus Christ our Lord 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 #367 (red)

"He Touched Me"

God's Word Proclaimed (*Joseph*)

I Kings 19:1-15a

Elijah in the Cave (8:30 *Kathy*, 11 *Jim*)

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Gospel (8:30 *John*, 11 *Jim*)

Luke 8:26-39

Sermon (*Joseph*)

"Liberating the Possessed and Its Cost"

Offertory Invitation (*John*)

You are not alone. God has richly provided all we need for life's journey. What are we doing with God's bounty?

8:30

"Gracious" — arr. Ruth Elaine Schramm

11

"O, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus" — Thomas J. Williams

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: God of all times and places, may our offering of all that we have and are reflect confidence, not cowardice; altruism not egotism.

ALL: **Into your hands we place our gifts and our lives. When we give, we remember all that you have given us. Use us that your kingdom's love may be revealed on earth. In the name of Jesus, your ultimate gift to us, we pray. Amen.**

Hymn #130 (red)

"God Will Take Care of You"

Commissioning and Blessing (*Joseph*)

PASTOR: God has come quickly to aid and instruct us. Now we depart to help others and to listen to them.

ALL: **We will share our stories with the congregation.
We will witness in God's name to one another.**

PASTOR: God's family includes those outside the church. With God, there are no outsiders or insiders.

ALL: **We will carry the grace of God without distinction.
God's abundant steadfast love will sustain us.**

PASTOR: Daily God asks, "What are you doing here?" Moment by moment, God is with us to help us.

ALL: **We will hope in God and sing God's praise. We will look up with hope and confidence.**

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)

"This Is My Father's World" — arr. Mark Hayes
"The Awakening" — Edward Boughton

Announcements

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Today, June 22

- 8:30 a.m. Worship — Worship Center and online <https://www.youtube.com@aldersgateunitedmethodistc8463>. Or at your convenience at www.aldersgatelinc.org or by searching YouTube for Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Lincoln, Nebraska.
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship and coffee — Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center

Tuesday, June 24

- 9:00 a.m. Artisans
- 1:30 p.m. Caregiver Education Group “The Value of Love in Caring for Others” by Julie Masters — Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Life & Legacy Planning “Dealing from Afar with Deaths of a Parent” by Jill & Kendra Baisinger — Worship Center and online

Thursday, June 26

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

Friday, June 27

- 8:45 a.m. Take Off Pounds Sensibly — Room 4
- 7:00 p.m. Climate Up Close: Talk with a Climate Scientist face-to-face — St. Paul U.M. Church, 1144 M St.

Saturday, June 28

John Wesley’s Birthday

- 10:30 a.m. Climate Up Close: Talk with a Climate Scientist face-to-face — Unitarian Church, 6300 A St.
- 11:30 a.m. Lasting Legacy Awareness Event — Sunshine Room
- 1:30 p.m. Climate Up Close: Talk with a Climate Scientist face-to-face — Pioneers Park Nature Center, 3201 S. Coddington Ave. Free with registration preferred: springcreek.audubon.org/events/climate-close
- 8:00 p.m. Climate Up Close: Talk with a Climate Scientist face-to-face — Branched Oak Observatory, 14300 NW 98th St, Raymond. Free with registration required: tinyurl.com/ClimateUpCloseAtBOO

Next Sunday, June 29

- 8:30 a.m. Hymn Sing (Rafique Family Favorites) — Worship Center and online
- 9:30 a.m. Farewell John Goldrich & Rafique Family — Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 a.m. Hymn Sing (Rafique Family Favorites) — Worship Center

Tuesday, July 1

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

Wednesday, July 2

- 1:30 p.m. Book Club *Start with Hello* by Shannan Martin — Room 4

Sunday, July 6

- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship and coffee — Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 a.m. Worship with Pastor Matt Borland preaching — Worship Center and online
- 12:15 p.m. Welcome Matt grilled hamburgers and hot dogs — Sunshine Room. If you are able, please bring a side dish to share.

Friday, July 11

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

Sunday, July 13

10:15 a.m. One Shot Choir — Choir Room

Monday, July 14

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

Tuesday, July 15

7:00 p.m. Book Club *James* by Percival Everett — Room 4

Wednesday, July 16

1:30 p.m. Stitcheroos — Room 4

Thursday, July 17

2:30 p.m. Care Ministry — Zoom

Saturday, July 19

9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast — Room 4

Tuesday, July 22

1:30 p.m. Lincoln Caregiver Education Group "What Caregivers Need to Know about Dementia Behaviors" — Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. Earth Steward Ministry — Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, August 5

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

Wednesday, August 6

1:30 p.m. Book Club *James* by Percival Everett — Room 4

Prayer List

Anniversaries and Birthdays This Week

23 Jim Miller (80)
24 Harry Kellenbarger (80)
25 Samavi Rafique

Dick Easley
 Keller Hustad
 Lynda Nordyke
 Maggie Struble

Judy Faubel
 Dallas Huston
 Loyal Park
 Jacob

Merrilee Faubel
 Laura Marshall
 Zach Steward
 Arlene



John

Jody Anderson, Hayley Jambor's mother who has a brain tumor
 Elaine Fetsch, Kitty Anton's sister who starts chemo on 5/12/25
 Iva Maxey, Reba Wysocki's sister, who is undergoing dialysis treatments
 Jessie Menck, Ken Hartwig's niece who has bile duct cancer
 Ava Miles, Phyllis Nelson's niece, was diagnosed with gastroparesis.
 Jennifer Miles, Phyllis Nelson's niece
 Tim Murphy, a veteran with memory issues
 Isaiah Pierce, Karen Pierce's grandson who was born 12/13/22 with heart issues
 Richard Rockenbach in Las Vegas with 2 cerebral hematomas
 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
 People in Ukraine, Israel and Palestine