



Aldersgate United Methodist Church

November 16, 2025
Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 a.m.
Greeter/Usher: Colleen & Dave Nielsen
Lector: Stacey Lienemann

Ministers: All of Aldersgate's Members
Pastor: Matt Borland
Director of Music: Julie Clopper-Smith
Keyboardist : Deanna Steward
Organist: Mary K. Burns
Digital Media Specialist: Nancy Taylor
Administrative Assistant: Stacey Lienemann
Child Care Attendant: Katie Softley
Custodian: Scott Hoyt
Accounting Consultant: Jennifer Hunter

**Aldersgate
United Methodist Church**
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Matt Borland, Pastor
402-499-8839
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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.*



November 16, 2025

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements (*Stacey*)

Music for Centering Prayer

“This Is the Day of New Beginnings” — arr. Mark Hayes

Call to Worship (*Stacey*)

LEADER: Lord God, we have failed you. We have not loved as you have loved.

ALL: **Forgive us, we pray.**

LEADER: We have looked at the face of Your beloved and scoffed, ridiculed, blamed and hurt.

ALL: **Forgive us, we pray.**

LEADER: We have refused to see the sacred when they sit beside us, simply because they look, speak, act, believe or love differently than we do.

ALL: **Forgive us, we pray.**

LEADER: Open our hearts to the fullness of you.

ALL: **Open our hearts, O God, that we may see through your eyes.**

LEADER: Open our hearts to the diverseness of you.

ALL: **Break us open, Lord, to see as you see and love as you love.**

LEADER: Let the love of God become the tool with which we heal

ALL: **and stitch a vast and beautiful tapestry of all God’s creatures.**

LEADER: Let us rise in body or in spirit and sing.

Hymn #2223 (black)

“They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love”

Opening Prayer

PASTOR: Let us pray with one heart.

ALL: **Uniting God, your Son gives us a gift we cannot achieve by ourselves: oneness based in love, not in sameness. But our world pits us against one another. Remind us in worship today that the safety and strength we feel in “us” versus “them” living is not real. Bring us back to the true safety and strength found only in you and in solidarity with all of humanity. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

Special Music

“Children of the Heavenly Father” — *Aldersgate Choir*

Epistle Scripture Lessons (*Stacey*)

Galatians 3:23-29 & Hebrews 13:1-2 (NIV)

LEADER: The word of God for the people of God.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Response #159 (red, refrain only)

“Lift High the Cross”

Gospel Scripture (*Stacey*)

Mark 10:13-16

LEADER: The word of God for the people of God.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Response #159 (red, refrain only)

“Lift High the Cross”

Sermon

“Us & Them”

Prayers of the Faithful

PASTOR: Loving God, you provide for our every need. You feed our bodies and our souls, yet we hunger to know and love you more and more. Nourish us with your Word today. Through Jesus Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: Gracious God, you are a God of hospitality; there is none like you that invites all to come to you. You have invited all to your home, to your table, and to your arms. Lord, would that all would hear and receive this good news. Lord, help us to remember that no one is better than anyone else in your Kingdom. Help us to then treat each other the way you treat people.
Lord, in Your mercy,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: Generous God, because you treat us with your tender love, we take time to pray for our friends, family members and others who need you more than ever. Pour out your healing on all who need it. Be generous with your transforming love for those who need it in their lives. Bring forth your reconciliation in families, and in places where it is needed. Lord, in Your mercy,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: God, we are aliens and sojourners in this world, but you invite us to be your guests. You lavishly offer us your hospitality and lovingly welcome us into your family. You invite us to share in the abundance of your kingdom. God, you have shown us that providing hospitality to strangers opens a doorway into the Kingdom of God. Remind us that when we offer hospitality to others, we are receiving Christ into our midst and so fulfilling the law of love. Lord, in Your mercy,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: Holy God, hospitality does not always come easily. There are so many other things to do, important things. I have responsibilities that get in the way of my best intentions. Give me eyes to see that possibilities and a heart big enough to make room for someone else.
Lord, in your mercy,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: There is none like you God in your love, your generosity, your gifting and your hospitality. And we thank you that you are in our lives, working in us and through us to let people know your kingdom is open to all. In the name of your Son, who opened the doors for all and broke down barriers that kept people from you.

ALL: **Amen.**

Offertory Prayer & Offering

“There’s Something about that Name” — arr. Carol Tornquist

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

Closing Prayer and Lord’s Prayer #895 (red)

PASTOR: Let us pray with one heart.

ALL: **Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth. Help us to see your presence burning in the hearts of others; grant that we may be united in a fellowship of love and prayer; give us the courage to pick up our cross and respond to the needs of the world, give us the stamina to follow you, to be your hands and heart in the world; enable us to witness to your grace and mercy. We pray all this through the love of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

PASTOR: Now join us in the way that Jesus taught us to pray together by saying:

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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, the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

Hymn #546 (red)

“The Church’s One Foundation”

Blessing and Sending Forth

PASTOR: The blessing of our God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit be upon you
and remain with you always.

ALL: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

PASTOR: Our worship has ended. Go now, and serve God and all of God's children in all that you do.

ALL: **Alleluia! Alleluia! 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

"He Is Exalted" — arr. Mark Hayes

THE ALDERSGATE MISSION:

To transform lives and prepare disciples through the compassionate love of God.

THE ALDERSGATE VISION:

To welcome everyone to a faith journey in a vibrant world.

Announcements

Today, November 16

- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship and coffee — Fellowship Hall
- 9:45 a.m. Youth Sunday School with Harry Kellenbarger — Room 1
- 10:30 a.m. Choir Warm-up — Choir Room
- 11:00 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
- 5:30 p.m. Sunday Night Live — Denton U.M. Church, 9335 W. 3rd St., Denton

Monday, November 17

- 7:00 p.m. Church Council — Room 4

Tuesday, November 18

- 9:00 a.m. Artisans
- 6:30 p.m. Taco 'bout Jesus — Super Taco, 5501 Holdrege, suite D
- 7:00 p.m. Book Club *Our Missing Hearts* by Celeste Ng — Room 4. Social Action on the United Women in Faith Reading Program

Wednesday, November 19

- 1:30 p.m. Stitcheroos — Room 4
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice — Worship Center

Thursday, November 20

- 12:30 p.m. Worship & Prayer Service — Theater, Legacy Estates, 7200 Van Dorn
- 2:30 p.m. Care Ministry — Zoom

Friday, November 21

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

Saturday, November 22

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

Next Sunday, November 23

- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship and coffee — Fellowship Hall
- 9:45 a.m. Youth Sunday School with Harry Kellenbarger — Room 1
- 10:30 a.m. Choir Warm-up — Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center and online

Next Monday, November 24

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

Tuesday, November 25

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

Wednesday, November 26

- 6:30 p.m. Pizza & Praise — Worship Center and online. You are invited to a Thanksgiving Eve Service with pizza! Please contact Stacey in the Church Office if you think you'll come so we have enough for everyone. Free will donation.

Tuesday, December 2

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

Wednesday, December 3

1:30 p.m. Book Club *Our Missing Hearts* by Celeste Ng — Room 4. Social Action on the United Women in Faith Reading Program

Monday, December 8

1:30 p.m. United Women in Faith Celebrate Christmas — Room 4

Tuesday, December 9

1:30 p.m. Lincoln Caregiver Education Group Holiday Party

Friday, December 12

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

Tuesday, December 16

6:30 p.m. Taco 'bout Jesus — Super Taco, 5501 Holdrege

7:00 p.m. Book Club *Starfish* by Lisa Fipps — Room 4. Youth book Nurturing for Community

Wednesday, December 17

1:30 p.m. Stitcheroos — Room 4

Thursday, December 18

2:30 p.m. Care Ministry — Zoom

Silent Night — Worship Center. A time for quiet reflection.

Saturday, December 20

9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast — Room 4

Tuesday, December 23

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

Prayer List

Birthdays This Week

18 Alex Emerson

21 Rhonda Revelle



Dick Easley

Keller Hustad

Laura Marshall

Zach Steward

Judy Faubel

Dallas Huston

Lynda Nordyke

Maggie Struble

Merrilee Faubel

Ruth Maier

Loyal Park

Jody Anderson, Hayley Jambor's mother who has a brain tumor

Elaine Fetsch, Kitty Anton's sister who started chemo on 5/12/25

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

Tim Murphy, a veteran with memory issues

Richard Rockenbach in Las Vegas with 2 cerebral hematomas is slowly showing improvement

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