

# Aldersgate United Methodist Church

March 29, 2026  
Palm Sunday

11:00 a.m.

Greeter/Ushers: Colleen & Dave Nielsen  
Lector: Kara Steward

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



A very large crowd spread  
their cloaks on the road,  
and others cut branches  
from the trees and  
spread them on the road.

Matthew 21:8, NRSV

**Aldersgate  
United Methodist Church**  
8320 South Street  
Lincoln, NE 68506-6540  
[www.aldersgatelinc.org](http://www.aldersgatelinc.org)  
402-489-1510 (church office)  
[aldersgatelinc@gmail.com](mailto:aldersgatelinc@gmail.com)

**Matt Borland, Pastor**  
402-499-8839  
[mborland@GreatPlainsUMC.org](mailto:mborland@GreatPlainsUMC.org)

*Worshippers are welcomed to use their own terminology for God.  
If you are considering membership, please contact our pastor, 402-489-1510.*



March 29, 2026

**Prelude****Welcome and Announcements** (*Kara*)**Proclamation of the Entrance into Jerusalem** (*Pat*) Matthew 21:1-11

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God.****Call to Worship** (*Kara*)

LEADER: Hosanna to the Son of David!

ALL: **Hosanna in the highest!**

LEADER: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

ALL: **Hosanna in the highest!**

LEADER: Let us rise in body or in spirit and wave our palm branches and sing!

**Hymn #280** (red)**“All Glory, Laud and Honor”****Prayer Blessing Our Palm Branches**

Rev. Caela Simmons Wood

PASTOR: Let us pray with one heart.

ALL: **Bless these parade palms, O God of Celebration. May they remind us of the simple joys of living. May we remember the excitement that comes with following Christ. Bless these protest palms, O God of Justice. May they remind us that Empire is not a thing of the past. May they make us bold and brave to stand up against injustice. Bless these funeral palms, O God of Comfort. May they remind us of the road that lies ahead. May they encourage us in times of grief and pain. We give you thanks for the parade, the protest, the processional. Guide our steps through this holiest of weeks as we cry out together “Hosanna, Hosanna!” Amen.**

**Special Music****“African Sanctus”** — *Aldersgate Choir***Prayer of Illumination**

PASTOR: Almighty God, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to suffer death on the cross. Grant that we may share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

ALL: **Amen.****Scripture Lesson** (*Kara*)

Isaiah 50:4-9a

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God.****Psalm Reading** (*Matt*)

Psalm 31:9-16

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God.****Proclamation of the Passion Story — Service of Lessons and Hymns****First Lesson** (*Nelda*)

Matthew 26:14-29

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**



us now!’ ” On Good Friday they shouted “Crucify!” We confess our praise is often empty. We sing “Hosanna,” but cry “Crucify.” As the crowd laid their palms in front of you, you took no glory for yourself. We confess that we want to be accepted and take the easy way. We do not stay true to your will. Forgive us, Lord, and help us to follow in the way of obedience.

ALL: **Amen.**

PASTOR: Hear the Word of the Lord from Psalm 118: Let those who fear the Lord say, “His steadfast love endures forever.” Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free. The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.

ALL: **In Christ, God answers us and sets us free! In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.**

### **Offering & Offertory Prayer**

“The Palms” — Faure

### **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 the Lord’s Prayer #895 (red)**

PASTOR: Let us pray with one heart.

ALL: **Compassionate God, thank you for the ways you offer me grace, forgive my sin, and give me new chances to serve you. I am aware of your forgiveness today: through people who love me even when I disappoint, in the second chances I received, in opportunities to help others even though I am imperfect, with clean slates to write new stories. God, thank you for forgiving my trespasses today and help me to forgive those who trespass against me. 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 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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### **Closing Hymn #707 (red)**

“Hymn of Promise”

### **Blessing and Sending Forth**

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

PASTOR: Beloved, as we move into the week ahead, may God bless you with the insight to know the way of Jesus, the courage to hold firm to the way of Jesus when the crowds try to lead you astray, and the strength to follow the way of Jesus, the way of God’s steadfast love that never fails.

ALL: **Amen.**

Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries

(Thank you to those who have participated in today’s worship.  
You are invited to stay and listen to the Postlude or quietly leave as you wish.)

### **Postlude**

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” — John Carter

### **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.



## Lest We Forget

By Dr. Gene Wilder

Produced by special arrangement with Christian Publishers

A Reader's Theatre Drama

Maundy Thursday

7:30 PM April 2, 2026

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

In the hush of this Holy Week Service, five readers express heartbreak and betrayal from Jesus' last Thursday and Friday. Each moment is one step closer to his crucifixion. It lifts the accounts off the pages of Scripture and into our souls, prompting self-examination — "We all have the seed of betrayal in us."

Holy Communion will follow the production.

## Good Friday Service

Stations of the Cross

7:00 PM April 3

Pleasant Dale U.M. Church, 201 Main St.



## Announcements

### Today, March 29

### Palm Sunday

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/>

@aldersgateunitedmethodist8463 or at your convenience at [www.aldersgatelinc.org](http://www.aldersgatelinc.org). You may also search YouTube for Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Lincoln, Nebraska

2-5:00 p.m. Celebrate Easter — 3B Homestead, 7603 298th St., Murdock

### Monday, March 30

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

### Tuesday, March 31

9:00 a.m. Artisans

10:00 a.m. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute "My Backyard" — Fellowship Hall

6:30 p.m. Lenten Study "An Unlikely Lent" by Rachel Billups — Denton, 9335 W. 3rd St.

### Wednesday, April 1

### April Fool's Day

1:30 p.m. Book Club *Shark Heart: A Love Story* by Emily Habeck — Room 4. One of the top 10 finalists for the 2025 One Book / One Lincoln. Discussion led by a librarian.

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

### Thursday, April 2

### Maundy Thursday

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

2-5:00 p.m. Celebrate Easter — 3B Homestead, 7603 298th St., Murdock

7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service "Lest We Forget" — Worship Center and online

**Friday, April 3****Good Friday**

- 8:45 a.m. Take Off Pounds Sensibly — Room 4
- 2-5:00 p.m. Celebrate Easter — 3B Homestead, 7603 298th St., Murdock
- 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service Stations of the Cross — Pleasant Dale, 201 Main St.

**Next Sunday, April 5****Easter**

- 9:30 a.m. Easter Fellowship Hour — 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
- 12:00 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt — Aldersgate Gardens

**Next Monday, April 6**

- 7:00 p.m. Staff/Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) — Room 4

**Tuesday, April 7**

- 11:30 a.m. Grand Generation Fresh Expression — Stauffer's Café, 5600 S. 48th St.
- 6:30 p.m. Taco 'bout Jesus — Super Taco, 5501 Holdrege
- 7:00 p.m. Money Matters Series "Buying & Maintaining a Car" with Becky Witt — Worship Center and online

**Friday, April 10**

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

**Saturday, April 11**

- 9-11:15 a.m. One Board Training — Omaha

**Wednesday, April 15**

- 1:30 p.m. Stitcheroos — Room 4

## Prayer List

**Anniversaries and Birthdays This Week**

- 29** Raegan Emerson
- 31** Kathy Dombrowski
- 1** Dave & Kristin Owen (35)
- 4** Bill & Kathy Dombrowski

Judy Faubel

Ruth Maier

Gaylene Nutzman

Maggie Struble

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

Iva Maxey, Reba Wysocki's sister, who is undergoing dialysis treatments

Diane Mayer, Chuck Schuerman's daughter

Ava Miles, Phyllis Nelson's niece, diagnosed with gastroparesis

Jennifer Miles, Phyllis Nelson's niece

Tim Murphy, a veteran with memory issues

Richard Rockenbach in Las Vegas

Ross Teske and his missionary work in Talavera de la Reina, Spain

The family of Mary Jane Watson who died March 21, 2026

People in Ukraine, Israel, Palestine, Iran and Venezuela

Keller Hustad

Laura Marshall

Loyal Park

Dallas Huston

Lynda Nordyke

Zach Steward

