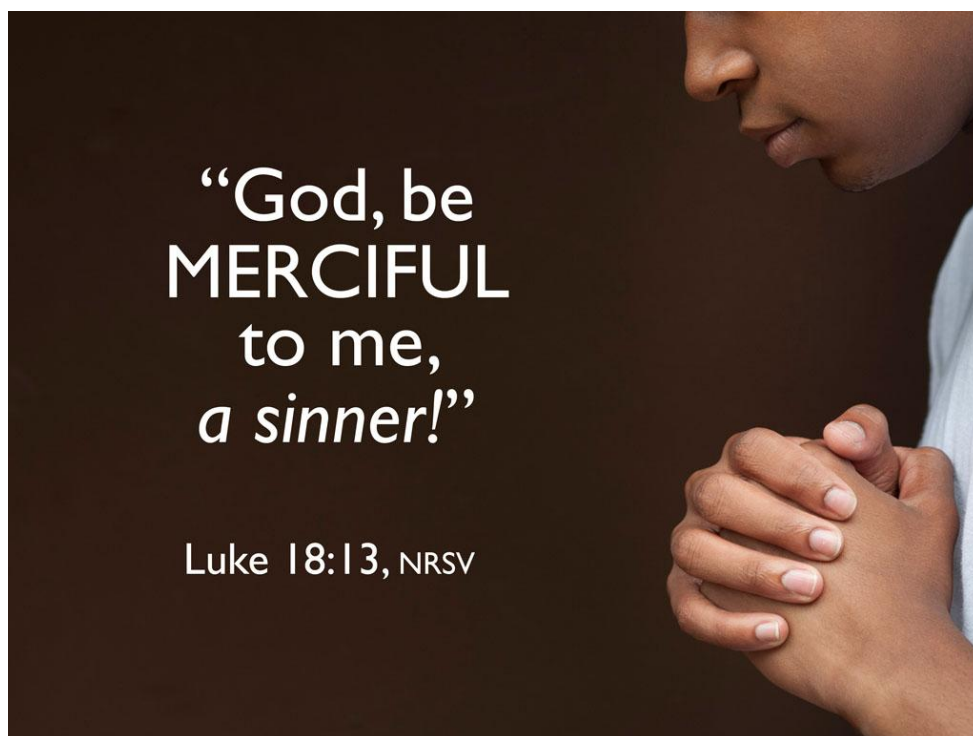


Aldersgate United Methodist Church



11:00 AM

Usher/Greeter: Kari & Tom Beckenhauer

Lector: Carol Clymer

Ministers: All of Aldersgate's Members

Pastor: Matt Borland

Director of Music: Julie Clopper-Smith

Organist: Mandy West

Live Stream Technician : Dylan Lapointe

Administrative Assistant: Stacey Lienemann

Child Care Attendant: Katie Softley

Custodian: Scott Hoyt

Digital Media Specialist: Nancy Taylor

Accounting Consultant: Jennifer Hunter

October 4, 2026

World Communion Sunday

Aldersgate

United Methodist Church

8320 South Street

Lincoln, NE 68506-6540

www.aldersgatelinc.org

402-489-1510 (church office)

aldersgatelinc@gmail.com

Matt Borland, Pastor

402-499-8839

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.*



October 4, 2026

Welcome and Church Life Opportunities (*Carol*)

Music for Centering Prayer “A Quiet Place” – Mark Phillips

Call to Worship (*Carol*)

LEADER: We gather for worship, to share bread and cup.
ALL: **God is eager to find us; God never gives up!**
LEADER: We'll share this Good News so that everyone can hear it!
ALL: **We'll make lots of noise, 'cause we're filled with the Spirit!**
LEADER: There's grace and redemption to be shared with us all,
ALL: **Because God loves each person, no matter how small!**

Hymn #127 (red) “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

World Communion Prayer

PASTOR: Let us pray with one heart.
ALL: **O God, we join with our sisters and brothers around the world in remembering Christ's sacrifice for us. For the opportunity to eat and drink together and for the life we have received, we give you thanks and praise. In the abundance of your many gifts, grant us grace to fill one another's lives with love. Redeem, restore and remold us until we are made new. Transform our daily bread into the bread of life, and the cup that we drink into the cup of salvation. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Barbara Dunlap-Berg

Special Music “One World, One Communion” – *Aldersgate Choir and flute*

Justice in Action Ministry “Why We Do Justice”

Epistle Lesson (*Carol*) I John 1:5–2:2

LEADER: The word of God for the people of God.
ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn #159 (red, refrain) “Lift High the Cross”

Gospel Reading (*Carol*) Luke 18:9-14

LEADER: The word of God for the people of God.
ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn #159 (red, refrain) “Lift High the Cross”

Good News for Kids “Horton Hears a Who”

Sermon “Are You Listening?”

Prayers of the Faithful

PASTOR: May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be pleasing in your sight, Lord,
our Rock and our Redeemer. Psalm 19:14

We praise and thank you, O Lord, that you have fed us with your Word and at your table. Grateful for your gifts and mindful of the communion of your saints, we offer to you our prayers for all people. God of grace,

All: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: That the love passes ceaselessly between the Father and the Son in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit may renew and deepen the life of each Christian and draw us all gathered here into your unending life. God of grace,

All: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For others, Lord, the pain is not of their body, but of their mind and emotions. Some are haunted by past failures; some feel the searing pain of rejection; some are shackled with fear and depression; still others are lonely and alone. Bring your healing and your peace. God of grace,

All: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: God of Peace, in you we can find a calmness that the world does not offer. In the chaos of our world, we pray for peace and a sense of deep calm for: friends who are lost and searching a way forward; people who are suffering and hurting because of injustice; those battling physical and mental illness and disease; people stuck in places marked by violence, war and death; and family and friends who are far away from us. Give us and all those who need you a day light on anxiety and rooted by and in your peace. God of grace,

All: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Our loving God, your generous Light is here by day, constantly filling all things. Yet most of the people around us do not seem to notice you. They live as if their days are spent in a darkness from which they must snatch fleeting moments of happiness. In their desperation for brief pleasures, they trample over one another, without caring for the weak or the maimed.

Savior God, cut and polish the worship and service of your church until it acts like a prism for your Light. Through our words and deeds, make the invisible become visible. Display the rainbow wonder of your Presence that the lost and the desperate may perceive your beauty and trust the Light in which they live and move and have their being.

God of God, Light of Light, make us a prism for your glory. Through Jesus Christ, our Brother and Savior.

All: **Amen.**

Stewardship Moment

Hayley Jambor

Invitation, Confession and Pardon

PASTOR: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

ALL: **O holy and merciful God, we confess that we have not always taken upon ourselves the yoke of obedience, nor been willing to seek and to do your perfect will. We have not loved you with all our heart and mind and soul and strength, neither have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. You have called to us in the need of our sisters and brothers, and we have passed unheeding on our way. In the pride of our hearts, and our unwillingness to repent, we have turned away from the cross of Christ, and have grieved your Holy Spirit.**

(Offer prayers of confession in silence.)

PASTOR: This is the message we have heard from God and proclaim to you, that God is light and in God there is no darkness at all. If we walk in the light, as God is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus the Son cleanses us from all sin. May almighty God, who caused light to shine out of darkness, shine in our hearts, cleansing us from all our sins, and restoring us to the light of the knowledge of God's glory, in the face of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

ALL: **Glory to God. Amen.**

Sacrament of Holy Communion

PASTOR: This is Christ's table, all are invited, especially children. Most people receive a piece of bread and dip it lightly in the chalice – which is an ancient way of receiving communion.
May the Lord be with you.

ALL: **And also with you.**

PASTOR: May your hearts be lightened and filled with God's love!

ALL: **We lift up our hearts and praise God above.**

PASTOR: Let us give thanks to the Lord, God our Father.

ALL: **We thank God and praise Him – it isn't a bother!**

PASTOR: It is right and good-ful; holy and wonderful; blessed and joyful; to give thanks to you God, Almighty and faithful. For it's you that has given us this worship time, filled with laughter, some holy humor and rhyme. It's you that has shown us your holy love, that you have sent from heaven high up above. And so, with your angels who first sang your song, we proclaim your goodness by singing along:

ALL: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven is filled with your marvelous glory; earth is filled with your light. Blessed is he who comes in your name – "Hosanna on high!" we loudly proclaim.**

PASTOR: Holy God, it's your Son we remember today, Jesus Christ, the anointed, whom we try to obey. He encouraged the poor and freed the oppressed, and taught us that you care about the distressed. Through his suffering, death, and resurrection, he taught that your grace beats out our imperfection. He ascended to heaven and sits there beside you, but still remains with us in all that we do. On the night he was taken, he lifted some bread, he blessed it, and broke it, and here's what he said:

ALL: **"Dear friends, this is my body to you that I give. Take it; share it; in you I will live. From now on, whenever, wherever you meet, remember our time when this bread here you eat."**

PASTOR: When the supper was over, he then took the cup, with praise and thanksgiving he lifted it up:

ALL: **"For the New Covenant, this is my blood; a sign of the Lord's continuing love. For God has forgiven your every mistake, so trust in God's love when this drink you partake."**

PASTOR: May we offer ourselves for God's greater glory, and proclaim what we know of this fabulous story:

ALL: **Christ Jesus: he died, but then rose again! He'll return here on earth: Hallelujah! Amen.**

PASTOR: Holy Spirit, come down on us gathered here, with this bread and this fruit of the vine please appear. Make holy this food, fill us with your grace, so we proclaim gospel to the whole human race. We love you, Lord Jesus, we'll shout out again your glory and honor:

ALL: **Amen and 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.**

Receiving Communion

Prayer after Communion

PASTOR: Let us join our lives in the Wesley Covenant Prayer together.

ALL: **I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.**

Hymn #348 (red, vs. 1-2, 4)

“Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling”

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: 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 quietly leave as you wish.)

Postlude

“ ‘Tis the Church Triumphant Singing” – arr. Michael Cox

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.

Church Life Opportunities

Today, October 4

World Communion Sunday

- 9:30 AM Fellowship and coffee — Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 AM 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
- 12:15 PM 80th Birthday Group Photo -- Anton
- 5:30 PM Justice in Action House Meeting – Room 4

Tuesday, October 6

- 9:00 AM Artisans
- 11:30 AM Grand Generation – Stauffer's Café, 5600 S. 48th St.
- 5:30 PM Young Adult Bowling – Hollywood Bowl, 920 N. 48th St.

Wednesday, October 7

- 1:00 PM District Clergy Meeting – Fellowship Hall
- 1:30 PM Book Club *Culpability* by Bruce Holsinger — Room 4. This is the 2026 One Book / One Lincoln.
- 6:30-8 PM Youth Group – Denton U.M. Church, 9335 W. 3rd St.
- 7:00 PM Choir Practice — Worship Center

Thursday, October 8

- 12:30 PM Worship — Theater, Legacy Estates, 7200 Van Dorn

Friday, October 9

- 8:45 AM Take Off Pounds Sensibly — Room 4
- 6:30 PM Friday Fling with Pat Ruth – Fellowship Hall

Saturday, October 10

- 11:00 AM Citizen's Climate Lobby – Sunshine Room

Next Sunday, October 11

Children's Sabbath

- Pledge cards due to the Church Office
- 9:30 AM Fellowship and coffee — Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 AM Worship — Worship Center and online
- 12:15 PM Harvest of Hope Celebration Brunch – Sunshine Room
- 1:00 PM CROP Walk for Hunger – Our Saviour's Lutheran, 1200 S. 40th St.
- 4:11 PM Family Ministry Fall Fun on the Farm – Nielsen, 18900 Pioneers Blvd.

Next Monday, October 12

Indigenous Peoples' Day

- 1:30 PM United Women in Faith Executive Meeting – Room 4
- 7:00 PM Board of Trustees – Zoom

Tuesday, October 13

- 6:30 PM Taco 'bout Jesus – Super Taco, 5501 Holdrege St.

Wednesday, October 14

5-7:30 PM Community Table Spaghetti Feed – Pleasant Dale U.M. Church, 201 Main St. Free-will donation

Thursday, October 15

Reports for the Church Conference booklet due to the Church Office.

2:30 PM Care Ministry – Zoom

6:30 PM “The Difficult Words of Jesus: A Beginner’s Guide to His Most Perplexing Teachings” Study – Room 4.

Saturday, October 17

9:00 AM Men’s Breakfast “Aldersgate Gardens” with Steve Schafer – Room 4. \$8 per person

Tuesday, October 20

7:00 PM Book Club: An Evening with *Culpability* Author Bruce Holsinger – Lincoln High Auditorium, 2229 J St.

Wednesday, October 21

1:30 PM Stitcheroos – Room 4

Saturday, October 24

2-4 PM 80th Birthday Open House – Sunshine Room

Sunday, October 25

Order form for All Saints roses due to the Church Office

Prayer List

Birthdays This Week

4 Amanda (Vlasnik) Carollo (35) Timothy Liem

6 Colleen Nielsen (60)

7 Luke Stone Roni Vlasnik

Keller Hustad

Lynda Nordyke

Zach Steward

Dallas Huston

Loyal Park

Maggie Struble

Laura Marshall

Linda Pearson

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

Bob Boyce is in Bryan East

Phyllis Ericson, recently diagnosed with lung cancer

Ruth Maier, suffering from pneumonia

Mike Matthews, Kendra Hartwig’s cousin with cancer in his lymph nodes

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

Diane Mayer, Chuck Schuerman’s daughter with liver failure

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

Cammie Schuerman, Chuck Schuerman’s daughter

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

People in Ukraine, Israel, Iran and Palestine

