

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

June 4, 2023
Trinity Sunday

9:00 a.m.

Song Leaders: Dan and Kara Steward
Greeter/Usher: Phyllis Nelson
Videographer: Nancy Taylor
Lector: Kara Steward

11:00 a.m. Service

Lector: Julie Clopper-Smith
Greeter/Usher: Larry & Pat Ruth

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



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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 4, 2023

Greeting and Announcements (9:00 *Kara*, 11:00 *Julie*)

Music for Centering Prayer (9) "Morning Has Broken" — arr. Mark Hayes
(11) "Come, Thou Almighty King" — F. deGiardini

Call to Worship (9 *Kara*, 11 *Julie*)

LEADER: The Lord God grants life and salvation.

ALL: **O Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.**

LECTOR: The Lord God created the moon, the stars and all things.

ALL: **O Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.**

LECTOR: We are made in the image of our Lord God.

ALL: **We praise and thank you, O God.**

LECTOR: Fill us with your Holy Spirit, Lord.

ALL: **Renew us in body and spirit this day by the power of your Word.**

Opening Prayer (9 *Kara*, 11 *Julie*)

LEADER: Triune God, known to us in more ways than we can count, we marvel at the mystery of life, and wonder at your attention to our lives. As we ponder the vast expanse of space, we are fascinated by distances too extensive to understand. The times we have measured are a tiny ripple in your eternity.

ALL: **Yet you have honored this planet by revealing yourself in the life and ministry of Jesus and the empowerment of your Holy Spirit. Let us experience your presence in this time of worship. This we ask in the name of Jesus who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn #92 (red)

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies;
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

2. For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light;
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

3. For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony, linking sense to sound and sight;
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

4. For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild;
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

5. For thy church, that evermore lifteth holy hands above,
offering up on every shore her pure sacrifice of love;
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

6. For thy self, best Gift Divine, to the world so freely given,
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth, and joy in heaven:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

WORDS: Folliot S. Pierpoint, 1864

MUSIC: Conrad Kocher, 1838; arr. by W. H. Monk, 1861

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

PASTOR: God our Creator and Redeemer, you sent your Son Jesus to live with us and die on the cross to save the whole world. This same Jesus, you raised from the dead and brought again on high. We thank you that Jesus has gone to you and sent us the Holy Spirit. We remember with thanksgiving our baptism into Jesus' death and resurrection. We give you thanks for the power of your love that heals and frees us. We are grateful for your church, filled with the fullness of Jesus Christ. Let all the people say,

ALL: **thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

PASTOR: Creator God, in the beginning, you delighted in all that you made and called everything good. We summon your grace in this moment of our discipleship. As we try to imagine all that we might do together to make disciples, remind us again that you are with every one of us. (pause) Assure us, God of disciples and seekers, that we are part of your ongoing motion that is not yet finished. We are the work of your fingers and the movements of your feet. Move us, O God, to offer this goodness to ourselves and this community, to reach outside ourselves and invite others to your discipleship. (pause)

There is so much need for goodness. These are the things we lift to you in prayer this day, O God: for the bounty of the earth, for showers of blessing and the sunshine of your joy, for the shade of trees and the smell of growing things, for the comfort of dogs and cats who love us, for the cattle and sheep, secure on the hillside, for noble beasts at risk in forests and deserts. Teach us to protect all your creatures and their homes. Help us to keep the earth safe and pleasing for ourselves and generations yet unborn. Let all the people say,

ALL: **God in your goodness, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: We are mindful, O God, of the needs of your people; comfort the sick, the lonely and those who are sad. Guide those who are preparing for exams and new jobs. Protect those who risk their lives to protect others. Help all travelers and strangers; lead us to welcome them. Care for the needy and the homeless; give us generous hearts. Send your grace to all children and those who care for them. Give health to all people; bless us with long and joyful lives. Let all the people say,

ALL: **God, in your goodness, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: What prayer needs would you like to lift up? (pause) Let all the people say,

ALL: **God, in your goodness, hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: Let there be light and goodness in all these things. We pray in the name of Jesus 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 #145 (red)

"Morning Has Broken"

Morning has broken like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

2. Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dew-fall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

3. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

WORDS: Eleanor Farjeon, 1931 by permission of David Higham Associates, Ltd.

MUSIC: Trad. Gaelic melody; harm. by Carlton R. Young, 1988. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

God's Word Proclaimed (9 Kara, 11 Julie)
(9 Kara, 11 Julie)

Genesis 1:1–2:4a
Matthew 28:16-20

Sermon

“Morning Has Broken”

Holy Sacrament of Communion

PASTOR: The Lord be with you.

ALL: **And also with you.**

PASTOR: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

ALL: **It is right to give God our thanks and praise.**

PASTOR: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day when justice shall roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream, when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

ALL: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

PASTOR: Holy are you, God, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry and ate with sinners.

By the baptism of his suffering, death and resurrection, you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples and said: “Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

ALL: **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

PASTOR: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed

by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

ALL: **Amen.**

Prayer of Confession and Words of Affirmation

PASTOR: All that God has created is labeled “very good.” Life in all its forms is complex and interconnected. Human life is precious and marvelously linked. Let us confess our neglect and irresponsibility in relation to all creation and to one another.

ALL: **Amazing God, the more we learn of your creation, the more we are filled with awe and wonder. Yet, our vision narrowed to our limited concerns makes us forget the stewardship to which you appoint us. We have not taken good care of the earth which is our home. We have not cared well for one another as sisters and brothers. Our doubts outweigh our obedience. O God, help us fulfill our baptism and claim our discipleship, as forgiven and forgiving sinners. Amen.**

PASTOR: We are created in the image of God and are blessed with the capacity to reflect God’s will in our daily lives. God cares for us and invests us with responsibility and forgives us in our humanity. We are loved. We are forgiven.

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

Sharing the Body and Blood of Christ

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication of Gifts and Self

PASTOR: Thank you, Caring God, for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son. All that we are gathered into the heart of Christ — nothing and no one is excluded. Through this unconditional love the brilliance of Christ’s community shines out.

ALL: **O God, remind us that like your creation, all of our days are designed by you. Take us where we are and abide with us day by day through the remainder of this year . . . and beyond. Grant us the privilege to be a blessing to others with the gifts loaned us as your holy people. As we enjoy your bounty, we give that all our sisters and brothers might also come to appreciate the amazing gifts you entrust to us. Thank you for life and all its wonders. Amen.**

Hymn #634 (red)

“Now Let Us from This Table Rise”

Now let us from this table rise renewed in body, mind, and soul;
with Christ we die and live again, his selfless love has made us whole.

2. With minds alert, upheld by grace to spread the word in speech and deed,
we follow in the steps of Christ, at one with all in hope and need.

3. To fill each human house with love, it is the sacrament of care;
the work that Christ began to do we humbly pledge ourselves to share.

4. Then grant us courage, Father God, to choose again the pilgrim way,
and help us to accept with joy the challenge of tomorrow’s day.

WORDS: Fred Kaan, 1964; © 1968 Hope Publishing Co.

MUSIC: Grenoble Antiphoner, 1753, harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906; adapt. by Basil Harwood, 1908

Commissioning and Blessing

PASTOR: Go out to tell the world that God cares. Celebrate the gift of life and all its possibilities.

ALL: **We are awed by God's vast creation and amazed at how God honors us.**

PASTOR: God has given us stewardship over creation. We are given the care of every living thing.

ALL: **Land, sea and air are ours to enjoy. All are entrusted to our careful watch.**

PASTOR: Brothers and sisters, go with the blessing that everything is in order. There is still work to be done, and you are full of the blessing and promise of love and peace that creates, redeems and sustains us, now and always. Amen.

ALL: **Amen. Amen.**

Postlude (9)

“The Zeal of the Lord” — Anthony Giamanco

(11)

“Holy, Holy, Holy” — J.B. Dykes

(Parts of this liturgy have been taken from “Taught by Love” by Lavon Bayler)

Announcements

Today, June 4

Peace with Justice Sunday

- 9:00 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
- 10:00 a.m. Dreams for the Next 125 Years of Mission and Ministry — Room 4
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center
- 1:00 p.m. Lincoln Ostomy Association — Sunshine Room
- 1:30 p.m. Virtual Fellowship — zoom
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/812243946?pwd=clRSQUlOZjYrQjlyZHk0aTZvQzFMQT09>
Meeting ID: 812 243 946
Password: 021075
One tap mobile +12532158782,,812243946#,,1#,021075# US (Tacoma)
Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcFkfw3laD>



Monday, June 5

National “Thank God It’s Monday” Day

- 7:00 p.m. Great Plains Annual Conference — online

Tuesday, June 6

National Eyewear Day

- 11:30 a.m. Grand Generation — Stauffer’s Café, 5600 S. 48th. Fellowship over lunch ordered off the menu.

Wednesday, June 7

Trial Technology Day

- 1:30 p.m. Book Club “You’ll Never Believe What Happened to Lacey: Crazy Stories about Racism” by Amber Ruffin and Lacey Lamar — zoom

3:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 7 – Saturday, June 10 Noon

- Great Plains Annual Conference — LaVista, NE

Thursday, June 8

Jelly-filled Doughnut Day

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

Friday, June 9

National Strawberry-Rhubarb Pie Day

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

Saturday, June 10

National Herb and Spice Day

- 11:00 a.m. Citizen’s Climate Lobby — Sunshine Room

Next Sunday, June 11

National German Chocolate Cake Day

- 9:00 a.m. Women in Mission Sunday with Lynn Wallasky — Worship Center and online
11:00 a.m. Women in Mission Sunday with Lynn Wallasky — Worship Center
1:30 p.m. Virtual Fellowship — zoom

Next Monday, June 12

Magic Day

- 1:00 p.m. OLLI “Sips and Wishes” — Fellowship Hall
1:30 p.m. United Women in Faith with Brianna Morris — Room 4
7:00 p.m. Trustees — Room 4

Thursday, June 15

National Lobster Day

- 2:30 p.m. Care Ministry — zoom. Share prayer concerns.

- Saturday, June 17** **National Eat Your Vegetables Day**
9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast (Lighthouse Tour, 2601 N St.) Carpool from the church.
- Sunday, June 18** **Father's Day**
10:00 a.m. Sunday School with the Earth Stewards — Room 4
10:30 a.m. One-Shot Choir Practice — Room 9
- Monday, June 19** **Juneteenth**
6:00 p.m. Vic's Pizza Meal — Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP to the Church Office by Sunday, June 11.
6:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School "Shine God's Light" stories, songs, crafts, games
Pete Allman speaking on Lighthouse Youth Program — Worship Center
- Tuesday, June 20** **New Identity Day**
7:00 p.m. Book Club "The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell: A Novel" by Robert Dugoni — Room 4
- Wednesday, June 21** **First Day of Summer**
1:30 p.m. Stitcheroos — Room 4. Tying
6:00 p.m. Mini Runza Meal — Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP to the Church Office by Sunday, June 11.
6:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School "Shine God's Light" stories, songs, crafts, games
Mary Carol Bond, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department discussing sustainability —
Worship Center
- Friday, June 23** **National Pink Day**
6:00 p.m. Pulled Pork Meal — Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP to the Church Office by Sunday, June 11.
6:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School "Shine God's Light" stories, songs, crafts, games
Keith Johnson "125 Years of Mission and Ministry" — Worship Center
- Sunday, June 25** **Descendants' Day**
10:00 a.m. Sunday School with the Earth Stewards — Room 4
- Tuesday, June 27** **National Bingo Day**
1:30 p.m. Lincoln Caregivers Education Group "Exploring Legal & Financial Tips" — Fellowship Hall.
Learn about resources in Lincoln.
7:00 p.m. Earth Stewards Ministry — zoom
- Wednesday, July 5** **National Graham Cracker Day**
1:30 p.m. Book Club *Punching the Air* by Ibi Boboi & Yusef Salaam — zoom
- Monday, July 10** **Pick Blueberries Day**
1:30 p.m. United Women in Faith with Frankey Ostlund — Room 4
- Friday, July 14** **National Tape Measure Day**
6:30 p.m. Friday Fling — Fellowship Hall. Bring a snack to share and enjoy the fellowship of playing
cards (10-point Pitch)
- Saturday, July 15** **National Give Something Away Day**
8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast — Room 4. Catered by Hy-Vee
- Sunday, July 16** **National Fresh Spinach Day**
10:30 a.m. One-Shot Choir Practice — Room 9
- Tuesday, July 18** **World Listening Day**
7:00 p.m. Book Club *Punching the Air* by Ibi Boboi & Yusef Salaam — Room 4
- Wednesday, July 19** **National Hot Dog Day**
1:30 p.m. Stitcheroos — Room 4.