March 7, 2021
9:30 a.m.
Third Sunday in Lent

With Pastor John Goldrich serving
Newman U.M. Church
Song Leaders: Dan Steward and
Julie Clopper-Smith
Videographer: Nancy Taylor

Ministers: All of Aldersgate’s Members
Pastor: Joseph Rafique
Organist: Jan Malone
Director of Music: Julie Clopper-Smith
Administrative Assistant: Stacey Lienemann
Custodian: Scott Hoyt

“Aldersgate
United Methodist Church
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Lincoln, NE 68506-6540
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402-489-1510 (church office)
aldersgatelinc@windstream.net

Joseph Rafique, Pastor
402-499-7101 (cell)
402-483-7250 (home)
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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.
Order of Worship
March 28, 2021

Prelude
“Lamb of God” — T. Paris

Welcome (Julie)

Call to Worship (John) adapted from Psalm 19
PASTOR: All creation proclaims God’s glory and handiwork.
ALL: So let us lend our voices and spirits to the praise of God.
PASTOR: Let the words of our mouth and the meditation of our hearts,
ALL: be acceptable to you, O God, our rock and our redeemer.

Opening Prayer (John)
ALL: Lord Jesus, come to our church this day. If the front door is locked, kick it open. If we are too cold or aloof, set us on fire. If our preacher preaches himself, shut him up. If we talk about everything except what is important, force us to confront the truth. If we become so concerned about the mere survival of our lives at the expense of the mission of our church, take it from us and tear it down. If we hunker down behind our sacred walls, push down the walls and drive us into a world where you are Lord of all.
PASTOR: You are Lord of all, including the church. We are only the workers in your vineyard. Help us never to forget that truth, even when it hurts. Amen.

Hymn #108 (red)
“God Hath Spoken by the Prophets”

God hath spoken by the prophets, spoken the unchanging Word,
each from age to age proclaiming, God the One, the righteous Lord!
’Mid the world’s despair and turmoil, one firm anchor holdeth fast:
God eternal reigns forever, God the first, and God the last.

2. God hath spoken by Christ Jesus, Christ, the everlasting Son;
brightness of the Father’s glory, with the Father ever one;
spoken by the Word incarnate, God of God, ere time was born;
Light of Light, to earth descending, Christ, as God in human form.

3. God yet speaketh by the Spirit, speaketh to our hearts again;
in the age-long Word expounding God’s own message, now as then.
Thru the rise and fall of nations, one sure faith yet standing fast,
God abides, the Word unchanging, God the first, and God the last.

WORDS: George W. Briggs, 1952, alt. © 1953, renewed 1981 The Hymn Society of America
MUSIC: Thomas J. Williams, 1890

Prayers of the People, Answered Prayers and Lord’s Prayer #895 (red) (Joseph)
PASTOR: We thank you, God, for your creation which sparks the imagination and draws our attention to its creator, your laws that govern the creation and show us the path of right living, your truth and grace that revive our hope and your love that spurs us to love.
We thank you for the miracles in our daily lives that renew our spirits and remind us of your steadfast goodness; (pause to allow naming of people, things and situations). Lord, in your love,
ALL: hear our prayer.
PASTOR: We thank you for Jesus of Nazareth, who loved you, your dream, and all your people fiercely. As Jesus wept for his friends, may we also weep with those who cry out in grief for those we name to you now: (pause to name people and situations). Lord, in your love,

ALL: hear our prayer.
PASTOR: As Jesus protested the abuse of your laws, may we also question practices, customs and traditions that are not in line with your teachings and covenant. (pause to name people and situations) Lord, in your love,

ALL: hear our prayer.
PASTOR: Thanking you, God, for our well-being, in your love, we ask you to bless those who are on our church’s or on our personal prayer list, and who celebrate their birthday or wedding anniversary today or in the week to come. (pause to name people and situations) Lord, in your love,

ALL: hear our prayer.
PASTOR: We thank you for this Lenten journey, may we never forget why we journey and what we are journeying toward as we pray the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples:

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 #2164 (black) “Sanctuary”
Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I’ll be a living sanctuary for you.
Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I’ll be a living sanctuary for you.

WORDS and MUSIC: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs, arr. by Nylea L. Butler-Moore © 1982 Whole Armor/Full Armor Music, admin. by The Kruger Organization

God’s Word Proclaimed (Joseph) John 2:13-22

Good News for Kids (John) “What Sign Can You Show Us for Doing This?”

Sermon (John) Sacrament of Holy Communion (Joseph)

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. In love you made us for yourself; and when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, your love remained steadfast. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the Easter feast, that, renewed by your Word and Sacraments and fervent in prayer and works of justice and mercy, we may come to the fullness of grace that you have prepared for those who love you. 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, whom you sent in the fullness of time to 
redeem the world. He emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in our likeness. 
He humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. He took upon himself 
our sin and death and offered himself, a perfect sacrifice for the sin of the whole world. 
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, have 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.

ALL: Amen.

Prayer of Confession and Words of Affirmation (Joseph)

PASTOR: The bread of heaven transforms a sinner into a saint. Receive the bread, eat and be transformed. 
ALL: We receive this gift knowing that we are only sanctified by God’s grace.

PASTOR: The bread of heaven strengthens us before sending us into the world. Pass on the gift with joy to 
all near and far.

ALL: We are thankful to God for the privilege of being chosen and sent. With gratefulness we will 
serve and witness.

PASTOR: The bread of heaven is holy and pure. Our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnest-
ly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Let us draw near with faith, make 
our humble confession and prepare to receive this Holy Sacrament.

ALL: I do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in my own goodness, 
but in your unfailing mercies. I am not worthy that you should receive me, but give your 
word and I shall be healed, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

PASTOR: The One who raised Jesus from the dead offers us new life today. Our sins are forgiven. Our lives 
are cleansed. Our inner nature is being renewed. God does not forsake us. Meet the world with 
the assurance that you are loved, valued, and empowered as an ambassador of God’s eternal realm. 
Amen.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Dedication (Joseph)

PASTOR: Thank you Lord God, for not only feeding me with the body and blood of your Son, but also re-
minding me that I am part of a community of people who have died and risen together with Christ 
and my core identity consists in this spiritual union with Christ. And that Christ’s story is not just 
his story but also my story and the story of every human being.
**Announcements**

**Today, March 7, 2021**

- **Sunday School Spring Break**
  11:00 a.m.

- **Worship Watch Party**
  Fireside Room, Legacy Estates
  1:00 p.m.
  Topic: Aldersgate UMC Virtual Coffee
  "hour"
  To have both audio and video, you’ll need a web camera and a microphone with your computer, tablet or cell phone. If you use a headset or ear buds with a microphone, it will help with the feedback during our chat.

Join Zoom Meeting
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/812243946?pwd=clRSQUlOZjYrQjJyZHk0aTZvQzFMQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/812243946?pwd=clRSQUlOZjYrQjJyZHk0aTZvQzFMQT09)
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)
Meeting ID: 812 243 946
Password: 021075
Find your local number: [https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcFkfw3laD](https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcFkfw3laD)

**Monday**

7:00 p.m. Trustees — zoom

**Tuesday, March 9**

7:00 p.m. Celebration & Thanksgiving Planning Team — zoom

**Wednesday**

6:00 p.m. On Fire: Mayor Josh Moenning — First Plymouth zoom

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**ALL:**

I commit myself anew to living as you command. Guide, protect, and help me in living out my intentions, and receive, bless and use these, my gifts as a statement of my sincerity. In Jesus’ name, your ultimate sign of love, I ask. Amen.

**Hymn #382 (red, vs. 1, 4)**

"Have Thine Own Way Lord"

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Thou art the potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after thy will, while I am waiting, yielded and still.

4. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Hold o’er my being absolute sway.
Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see Christ only, always, living in me!

WORDS: Adelaide A. Pollard, 1902
MUSIC: George C. Stebbins, 1907

**Prayer for Coronavirus Victims and Those Attending Them (John)**

Go into the world ready to be kind when others are unkind, and to be passionate when others are complacent. Be fearless, for the grace of God, the love of Jesus, and the abiding friendship of the Holy Spirit go with you, now and always. Amen.

**Postlude**

“Psalm XIX” — B. Marcello

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**Announcements**
Thursdays
9:00 a.m. Take Off Pounds Sensibly — Sunshine Room
2:30 p.m. Connected & Caring Prayer Meeting — zoom
   Join Zoom Meeting
   https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81488353446pwd=YVRqT1Z3NncvSWFmekNIT3dWZFpidz09
   Meeting ID: 814 8835 3446
   Passcode: 848320
   Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
   Meeting ID: 814 8835 3446
   Passcode: 848320
   Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbE5F9y7tN

Fridays
8:30 a.m. Take Off Pounds Sensibly — Sunshine Room

Saturday
9:30 a.m. Lenten Study Finding Peace in an Anxious World (wisdom) — zoom
   Join Zoom Meeting
   https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86326966723?pwd=US9zVWxqVFJTV1OVWhvYkJCVDZHHz09
   Meeting ID: 863 2696 6723
   Passcode: 848320
   One tap mobile
   +12532158782,,86326966723#,,,,*848320# US (Tacoma)
   Dial by your location
   +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
   Meeting ID: 863 2696 6723
   Passcode: 848320
   Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcGvVdtHK8

Next Sunday, March 14  Daylight Saving Time Begins
9a Children’s Sunday School — zoom
   Join Zoom Meeting
   https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88069175128?pwd=Sm85R3VWMlhVY0c5c3BoSkRBNUhuUT09
   Meeting ID: 880 6917 5128
   Passcode: 991876
   One tap mobile
   +16699006833,,88069175128#,,,,,0#,991876# US (San Jose)
   Dial by your location
   +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
   Meeting ID: 880 6917 5128
   Passcode: 991876
   Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/keeyuVYaqo
9:30 a.m.  Online Worship on www.aldersgateline.org or our Facebook page  Limit of 10 in attendance.
9:40a Youth Sunday School — zoom (same link as the Children’s Sunday School)
11:00 a.m. Worship Watch Party — Fireside Room, Legacy Estates
1:00 p.m.  Virtual Coffee “hour” — zoom
   Join Zoom Meeting
   https://us02web.zoom.us/j/812243946?pwd=c1RSQU1OZjYrQjIyZHk0aTZvQzFMQT09
   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)
   Meeting ID: 812 243 946
   Password: 021075
   Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcFkw3laD
1:30 p.m.  A.R.M. Youth Group — zoom