

Order of Worship

Gathering

Prelude:

Fantasia in G Major - J.S. Bach

Words of Welcome / † Mission Statement

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Announcements

Dan Loven-Crum

Recognition of Shelia Hargreaves

Trish Hoffman-Ahrens / Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Examen

Dan Loven-Crum

Call to Worship

Tom Welch

Hearing God's Word

Children's Church

Rebecca Morello

Musical Reflection:

Something's Coming - Leonard Bernstein

Scripture:

II Samuel 15:5-12

Tom Welch

Reflection

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Musical Meditation:

In My Life - John Lennon / Paul McCartney

Responding to God's Word

Communion

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Musical Reflection:

Julia - John Lennon

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

The Basket

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

† Hymn:

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth

Countryside Blessing

Marie Otis

Postlude:

I'm Still Standing - Elton John / Bernie Taupin

OUR WORSHIP HAS CONCLUDED.

NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS.

† Indicates those places where those who are able
are invited to stand.

May 14, 2023

Mother's Day

*"The Season of
Accomplishment"*

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron



Who We Are:

We are an inclusive, open and affirming family of faith,
welcoming all to God's table of love and acceptance.

We are diverse, yet united by Christ's example.

We care for one another, support one another and
challenge one another to become all that God creates us to be.

We work together to nurture our community and
to promote peace, equality and justice in our conflicted world.

Tyler Gruttemeyer, vocals - Matt Wallace, sax

Rick Avard, piano - Alex Ritter, organ

Carlos Figueroa, drums - Steve Gomez, bass

Music notes:

Mothering God You Gave Me Birth is an adaptation by Jean Janzen (1933-present) of musings by Julian of Norwich (1342-1416), whose life fell entirely during the "Hundred Years War." According to Janzen's study of Julian of Norwich, 'Julian saw Christ as our "true mother," saying, "The human mother will suckle her child with her own milk, but our beloved Mother, Jesus, feeds us with himself."'

On Mother's Day we also remember the mothering figures who are no longer with us. John Lennon wrote *Julia* about his mother who was killed in a car crash when he was 17 years old. Having been raised by his aunt for much of his life after his parents split at age five, the song's lyrics and musical style reflect a childhood he didn't have with his mother, though they reconnected in his teens. It was written in India when Lennon was studying transcendental meditation and many of the Beatles' more nuanced and profound lyrics were penned.

Sunday Flowers This Week

Flowers were given today by Cathy and Rick MacInnes
in memory of their mothers, Ruth MacInnes and Jan Eicher.

Joys and Concerns

Join us as we pray for our congregation members and their loved ones who are on our Joys and Concerns list every week on Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. If you have someone who would benefit from prayer, want to share a joy or be included on the bulletin list and or on Countryside's Prayer Chain, contact Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones at 402-391-0350, ext. 225 or sarahrj@countrysideucc.org

JOYS:

Please lift these joys with prayers of celebration and praise!

On this Mother's Day, we give thanks to the mothers who gave us life. We may have joyful or strained relationships, but we are grateful that we were brought into this world by our mothers. We also celebrate all those who have had a 'mothering' impact on us, no matter their gender.

Elaine Wiles will graduate from Westside High School in a few short weeks! She has accepted an offer to attend Colorado School of Mines. She invites everyone to join in a celebration of her graduation on May 28 from 1:30 to 3:30 pm in Marys' Hall.

CONCERNS:

Please join in praying for the following new and ongoing concerns:

Dick (Pat) Galusha continues to be hospitalized and is not doing well. Please pray for peace for him and surround his wife Pat with your prayers as well.

Please pray for **Daron Kruse (Judy Hartlieb)**. Daron's mother, Mary Ellen Kruse, passed away this week. Daron shared that she was 93 years old, had been under hospice care, and was surrounded by family at the time of her death. We pray for comfort, support, and strength for Daron and his family at this time. Her funeral was held Friday morning at Corpus Christi-Queen of the Apostles Catholic Church in Council Bluffs.

After spending some time in Methodist Hospital, **Marylinn Smith** moved into assisted living at Bailey Pointe at Miracle Hills during the first week of May. She is in Room 134 if anyone would like to send a card or pay her a visit. We lift her in prayer for healing and adjustment during this time of transition.

Prayers for **Dave Wingert**, who had a "little glitch" during some eye surgery. He will fully recover but is currently in quite a bit of pain.

We continue to pray weekly for the Pastoral Search Committee, as they continue in their discernment towards calling Countryside's next Settled Pastor. We want them to feel our support as they carry on with their good work!