

October 15, 2023  
*The God Who Offers Peace*  
Reverend Dr. Keith Herron

Countryside Community Church  
13130 Faith Plaza | Omaha, NE 68144 | 402-391-0350  
[countrysideucc.org](http://countrysideucc.org)

A decorative banner at the bottom of the page features silhouettes of people in a church setting, including a person with arms raised in praise. The text "Because of YOU our church changes lives." is overlaid on the silhouettes, with "YOU" in a larger, orange font.

Because of **YOU** our church changes lives.

## Order of Worship 10:00 a.m.

### Gathering

Prelude: *If You Never Come to Me* - Antônio Carlos Jobim

Words of Welcome / † Mission Statement

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Announcements

Dan Loven-Crum

Examen

Dan Loven-Crum

Call to Worship

Deb McCollister

### Hearing God's Word

Children's Church

† Hymn #233: *Alleluia, Sing to Jesus*

Scripture:

Philippians 4:1-9

Deb McCollister

Reflection:

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Musical Meditation: *It is Well with My Soul*

### Responding to God's Word

Communion

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

Choral Reflection: *The Peace of God* - Richard Horn

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Keith Herron

The Basket

† Hymn: *Savior, Again to Your Dear Name*

Countryside Blessing

Shelley Boyd

Postlude: *Freedom Jazz Dance* - Eddie Harris

OUR WORSHIP HAS CONCLUDED.

NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS.

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

C4 Choir - Adam Witte, director

Tyler Gruttemeyer, vocals - Matt Wallace, sax - Rick Avard, piano

Alex Ritter, organ - Carlos Figueroa, drums - Steve Gomez, bass

## Savior, Again to Your Dear Name 711

1 Sav - ior, a - gain to your dear name we raise with one ac -  
 2 Grant us your peace up - on our home - ward way; with you be -  
 3 Grant us your peace, Lord, through the com - ing night; turn all our  
 4 Grant us your peace through - out our earth - ly life: com - fort in

cord our part - ing hymn of praise; we give you thanks be -  
 gan, with you shall end the day; guard now the lips from  
 dark - ness to your per - fect light; then, while we sleep, our  
 sor - row, cour - age in the strife; then, when your voice shall

fore our wor - ship cease, and now de - part - ing, wait your word of peace.  
 sin, the hearts from shame, that in this house have called up - on your name.  
 hope and strength re - new, for dark and light are both a - like to you.  
 make our con - flict cease, call us, O Lord, to your e - ter - nal peace.

*The Peace Of God -*  
 Richard Horn

The peace which passes understanding,  
 which the world can neither give nor take away,  
 be among us and abide in our hearts.  
 Now and forever. Amen.

# 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](mailto:sarahrj@countrysideucc.org)

## JOYS:

*Please lift these joys with prayers of celebration and praise!*

We give thanks to the Peace Art Gallery which we have enjoyed for the last two months and are grateful to everyone who participated.

## CONCERNS:

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

**Kathy deBoer's** brother-in-law, Marty has been in the hospital for an infection that resulted from a sliver in his foot. The infection caused tissue damage that resulted in the amputation of his foot and leg to mid-calf. Prayers for him and his family as they navigate the difficult recovery process.

We continue to pray for the brother of **Margie (Glenn) Phillips**, Dan McKee. Margie and Glen are now in Montana to help care for him, and he is still in the hospital. We pray for full healing for Dan and for safe travels for Margie and Glenn.

Kari Walters asks for prayers as she continues to grieve the death of her son, Philip Sumner, who died in a car accident at the end of the summer. We ask God to provide comfort and strength for her as she continues to deal with this terrible loss.

**Bruce (France) Blanchard** is recuperating from knee replacement surgery and hopes to return to his normal life soon.

We are grateful to be the Christian partner of the Tri-Faith Initiative and to stand united with our neighbors at the American Muslim Institute (AMI) and Temple Israel, especially during this difficult time of violence. We pray with sighs too deep for human words that there might be a resolution to the unrest in the Middle East that does not result in increased bloodshed and death, and we pray that God will continue to lead us to vulnerably show up for our siblings on this campus.

## Sunday Flowers This Week

Flowers were given today by Jodie Nichols  
in honor of family members celebrating birthdays in October:  
John, Murle and Scarlett.



BECAUSE OF **YOU** OUR CHURCH CHANGES LIVES

## What Jonah Learned about Abundance

by Lee Hull Moses

**A**t first glance, Jonah seems an odd choice for a reflection on stewardship. There is no offering of gifts here, no passing the plate, no mention of money at all. Missing is the imagery of the overflowing baskets of first fruits in Deuteronomy 26, or the quiet generosity of the widow in Luke 21. Jonah, as we'll see, isn't even a particularly generous person; quite the opposite, in fact. And yet, this little story of a reluctant prophet has much to offer as we discover the joy of sharing God's abundant grace. Jonah learns over the course of his story that God's justice is not a zero-sum game; more for other people doesn't mean less for me. There is plenty of God's grace to go around, enough for all the Ninevites and Jonah too. "Should I not be concerned about Nineveh?" God asks (4:11), as Jonah sulks, but the obvious truth is that God has been concerned about Jonah all along. Even when Jonah is running away from God, God provides what he needs: safety in the storm, a rescue from the depths of the sea. The abundance of God's grace is that there is enough; no one needs to be left out.

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We live today in a culture that is bent on scarcity; we have believed the narrative that there is not enough to go around, and so we should hang on tight to what we have. We're convinced that if you get something good, that means there will be less available for me. Perhaps the greatest gift the church can give the world right now is to bear witness to God's abundance. The story of Jonah – along with the rest of the Biblical witness – convinces us that there is enough – enough of God's care, enough of God's grace, enough of God's love.



BECAUSE OF

**YOU**

OUR CHURCH CHANGES LIVES