November 8, 2026
24th Week After Pentecost

Gathering

Prelude *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* Arr.Bernadine Johnson
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Welcome

A Time of Centering

*A Call to Worship:
One Voice: Family of God, rejoice! The kingdom of God is all around us!
All Voices: We gather to encourage one another to keep awake and watch, for the kingdom of God is at hand.
One Voice: Sometimes we grow weary in the waiting, and we wonder if we are watching and working for nothing.
All Voices: We gather to encourage one another to keep awake and watch, for the kingdom of God is at hand.
One Voice: Sometimes God surprises, and we are overwhelmed by joy and wonder at all God is doing among us.
All Voices: We gather to encourage one another to keep awake and watch, for the kingdom of God is at hand.
One Voice: Family of God, whether you are weary or energized, worried or wonder-filled, rejoice! The kingdom of God is all around us!
All Voices: We gather to encourage one another to keep awake and watch, for the kingdom of God is at hand. Thanks be to God! Amen.
(Lisa Hancock, *www.umcdiscipleship.org*)

*Gathering Hymn *I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord* #540 UMH

*Sharing God's Peace
May the Peace of God be with you and may it rest on me.

Proclamation

First Scripture Reading: Matthew 25:1-13 Page 1206
One Voice: The Word of God, for the People of God.
All Voices: Thanks be to God.

Children's Moment

Reflecting Hymn *Open My Eyes, That I May See* #454 UMH

Introduction to the Scripture Reading

Reflection Scripture Reading: Joshua 4:1-7 Page 271
One Voice: The Word of God, for the People of God.
All Voices: Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Response

Responding Hymn *O Lord, May Church and Home Combine* #695 UMH

A Prayer of Yearning:
All Voices: When our courage wears thin, O God, strengthen our resolve to choose you each day. Steel us for the long watches of the night – for we long to be found ready when you appear. Fill our lamps with your grace, that we might share your light with our children and with the generations that follow.

A Time for Silence

A Word of Assurance:
One Voice: We worship a God of mercy and love. So, choose the Lord each day, confident that God has chosen you. Thanks be to God!
(Based on a prayer by Michael Beu, www.ministrymatters.com)

Offering of Our Gifts and Ourselves
Offertory *The Solid Rock* Praise Ringers
Arr. Joel Raney / Copyright 2021 Agape / One License #327120

*Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* #94 UMH

*Prayer of Dedication:
All Voices: Watchful God, you call us to keep awake – to live with open eyes and attentive hearts, ready to recognize Christ in the needs and joys that surround us each day. As we offer our gifts and our lives, keep the flame of compassion burning within us. Fill us with the oil of kindness, generosity, and holy attentiveness, that our lives may shine with your love in a world too often dimmed by fear and indifference. Use these offerings and our willing spirits to bring light, hope, and welcome to your children. Keep us awake to your presence and faithful in your service, through Christ our Lord. Amen.
(Based on a Prayer from *www.umcdiscipleship.org*)

Sending Forth

*Sending Hymn *We Are God's People* #2220 FWS

*Benediction

Postlude *Legend of Madrid* By Nancy & Randall Faber
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*You are invited to stand as you are comfortable doing so.

Suggested Lectionary Scriptures for Next Week:
Judges 4:1-7; Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; Psalm 76; Psalm 90:1-12; Psalm 123; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

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Notice of Special Church Charge Conference after church On November 15

Notice of Annual Charge Conference meeting at 6 p.m.
November 15
Des Moines New Hope UMC
4525 Beaver Ave.

This Week at Aldersgate UMC

Sunday, November 8
9:30 am AUMC Worship | Sanctuary
10:30 am AUMC Learning Opportunities

Monday, November 9
9:00 am SCIC Begins | Rooms 121-126
10:45 am SCIC Recess | Gym
12:00 pm SCIC Lunch | Fellowship Hall
5:00 pm SCIC Afterschool Program | Gym
6:00 pm Adult Men's Soccer | Gym
6:30 pm Scouts | Upper Room & 132

Tuesday, November 10
9:00 am SCIC Begins | Classrooms 121-126
10:45 am SCIC Recess | Gym
12:00 pm SCIC Lunch | Fellowship Hall
5:00 pm SCIC Afterschool Program | Gym

Wednesday, November 11
5:00 pm Caring Team Meeting
6:00 pm Praise Ringers | Sanctuary
7:00 pm Polka Band Rehearsal | Music Room

Thursday, November 12
9:00 am SCIC Begins | Rooms 121-126
9:30 am United Women in Faith Meeting
10:45 am SCIC Recess | Gym
12:00 pm SCIC Lunch | Fellowship Hall
5:00 pm SCIC Afterschool Program | Gym
6:00 pm Adult Men's Soccer | Gym

Friday, November 13 - Church Office Closed

Saturday, November 14

Abbreviations:
AUMC = Aldersgate United Methodist Church
SCIC = Shalom Community Impact Center

A special thank you to all those assisting in Worship today:
Liturgist: Kaj Sinclair
Greeters: Judy & Gary Evans
Song Leader, AV Equipment Volunteers
Children's Moment: Mary Burkett

We love to have children in worship! They make noise. They squirm in their seats. They giggle and laugh out loud. They bring life to our church. Children are always welcome in worship! There is a Kids Table at the back of the sanctuary with the Children's Bulletins, Activity Sheets and crayons. Currently our Nursery is not staffed, but if your children - or you- need a break from the worship service, you are welcome to use the Nursery which is down the hall in Room #223.

Hearing Assistance Available. Our sanctuary is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask at the sound booth for a receiver and help with using it.

Sunday Morning Learning Opportunities
Kid Venture (Children 2nd grade and younger): Room 224
Bible Adventures (Children 3rd grade and above): Room 221
Adults and Youth: Room 226

Ways to Give
· **Mail:** 3600 75th Street, Urbandale IA 50322
· **Online or mobile:** www.aldersgatedsm.org/give
· **Automated:** reoccurring bank bill pay
· **Drop off:** in the outside mail box next to the office door

Eric Guy Pastor	eric@aldersgatedsm.org
Ariel Genheimer Music Ministry Associate	ariel@aldersgatedsm.org
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Tracey Mikesh Bookkeeper	tracey@aldersgatedsm.org
Michelle Breach Ariel Genheimer Kathy Johnson	Interim Pianist Interim Pianist Interim Organist

General Office Hours: Monday—Thur. 8:30am to 12:30 pm /
Closed on Friday
3600 75th Street, Urbandale, IA 50322 | (515) 278 - 0466 |
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Aldersgate
United Methodist Church

November 8, 2026
24th Week after Pentecost

Do you know what this is?
Answer in next weeks newsletter

At Aldersgate we believe that every person is a beloved child of God. We welcome each person into full participation in the life of this community and offer a safe and loving environment for everyone.