

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

March 7, 2021

Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday

Prelude

Nocturne in Bb minor, Op. 9, No. 1 by Chopin
Dr. Brenda Wristen, piano

Welcome

Rev. Chris Peters

Call to Worship (Psalm 146)

Deacon Susie Hughes

I will praise the Lord as long as I live.

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Happy are they whose hope is in the Lord their God;

who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;

The Lord cares for the stranger; the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

The Lord shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, through all generations!

****Hymn #320 The Church of Christ in Every Age***

Call to Confession

Time of Silent Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of glory and righteousness, we confess that we do not live as citizens of your kingdom. We give allegiance to worldly thrones. We ignore the neediest in our midst. We discount our own worth. We forsake your just rule and the rules of your kingdom. Take from us the spirit of isolation, greed, lust for power and false pride. Give us instead the spirit of interdependency, generosity, humility and love. In all things grant us time for amendment of life that we may serve you all the length of our days. Through Christ Jesus we pray. Amen.

Response to the Confession

***#471 O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.¹***

Assurance of Forgiveness

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

*Response of Praise

***#577 Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.***

Children's Chat

Rachel Hinze, Director Westminster Preschool

Anthem

Open My Eyes, That I May See by Clara H. Scott
April Kaul, soloist
Westminster Women's Choir

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Gospels Matthew 25:31-46

The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

**You are invited to stand in body or spirit.*

Introduction of Speaker

Rev. Ellen Davis

Meditation Christy Abraham, Peace and Social Justice Coordinator for Homestead Presbyterian Women

**Hymn #727 Will You Let Me Be Your Servant*

Litany for Women Who Disrupt Systemic Poverty

Holy and loving God, author of life and giver of every good gift, you visit us with your glory and set us on paths of justice and compassion. Receive our thanks and praise! Hear especially our gratitude for women who have kept your commandments in caring for the least among us. For Mary and Hannah's proclamation of your righteousness and for all who continue this praise and declaration...

All: We give you thanks.

For Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah and Tirzah's insistence on their worth and for all who challenge the economics of patriarchy,

All: We give you thanks.

For Esther who negotiated with power and for all who strategize on behalf of the powerless,

All: We give you thanks.

For Lydia's just use of wealth and for all who use their influence for good,

All: We give you thanks.

For Tabitha's care for the well-being of others and for all who are turned outward with compassionate care,

All: We give you thanks.

For the woman at the well who risked speaking to you and who shared good news, for all who speak up and speak out,

All: We give you thanks.

For women who organize themselves, increasing power by numbers; For women who dance, paint, sing, all artists who expand our vision of justice; For young women crying out against all manner of evil; For women with length of days who teach by experience; For women who educate, propose new policies, legislate and activate;

All: We give you thanks.

Leader : Hear our thanks and praise, O God. For we pray in the name of the one who dwells in our midst and calls us to serve, Christ our God. **Amen.**

Communion

Rev. Lauren Peters

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Lord's Prayer

Communion of the People

Prayer After Communion

Prayers of the People

Deacon Susie Hughes

Presentation of Presbyterian Women Lifetime Membership

*Charge & Benediction

Postlude

Prélude from Pour le Piano by Debussy
Dr. Brenda Wristen, piano

The flowers are given to the glory of God, in loving memory of Lewis Hackley and in honor of the *Gifts of Women Sunday* by Pat Hackley.

**You are invited to stand in body or spirit.*