****Westminster Presbyterian Church

**2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE**

**April 11, 2021**

**Creation Celebration**

**Welcome** Rev. Chris Peters

**Prelude**  John Ross, organ

**Call to Worship (Psalm 8:1; 3-4; 9** Common English Bible**)** Laurel Van Ham

Liturgist*: Scripture often references wonder at God’s creation from a human perspective. Let us join our voices in wonder of our majestic God and Creator as we call ourselves to worship…*

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name throughout the earth! You made your glory higher than heaven.

***When I look up at your skies, at what your fingers made – the moon and the stars that you firmly set in place;***

What are human beings that you think about them; what are human beings that you pay attention to them?

***Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name throughout the earth!***

***\*Hymn #32 I Sing the Mighty Power of God***

**Call to Confession**

Liturgist*: As we rejoice in the hope of Christ’s resurrection and the assurance of forgiveness, we also recognize our ongoing failure to respond to God faithfully. Let us confess our sin, first silently, then together as God’s people…*

**Time of Silent Confession**

**Unison Prayer of Confession**

***Gracious and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sins. Although Christ is risen from the grave and has shattered the power of death, we are still held captive by fear and doubt. We have neglected the poor and the hungry and ignored the cries of the oppressed. We pursue profits and pleasures that harm the land and pollute the waters, leaving this world depleted and damaged for future generations. Have mercy on us, O Lord. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we and all your creatures may know the joy of life abundant, given through Christ Jesus, the risen Lord. Amen.***

**Response to the Confession**

***#447 We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.***

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

Liturgist: As we envision a world where all may live in harmony with one another and with God’s creation, trust in the assurance of the resurrection – in Christ we are forgiven.

… Believe and share the good news!

***In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!***

**\*Response of Praise**

***#581 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.***

**Sacrament of Baptism** Leo Robert Zulkoski

Question of the Congregation: Do you, the members of Westminster Church, promise to love and nurture Leo, to provide for his Christian Education, and to set an example of faithfulness, to the end that he comes to confess Jesus Christ as Lord? ***We do.***

**Children’s Chat** Laurel Van Ham

***Special Music All Things Bright and Beautiful*** Westminster Preschool

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture**

**Old Testament Ezekiel 34:15-24**

**Gospels John 10:11-16**

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

**Sermon** “Hired Hand or Good Shepherd” Rev. Dr. Ellen F. Skidmore

***\*Hymn #14 For the Beauty of the Earth***

**Prayers of the People** Laurel Van Ham

**The Lord’s Prayer**

***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 debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.***

**\*Charge & Benediction** Rev. Chris Peters

**Postlude** John Ross, organ