

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

Live Streamed on November 7, 2021  
Commitment Sunday

## Prelude

John Ross, organist

## Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

Rev. Chris Peters

## Call to Worship (Psalm 146:1-2, 5b-10 Common English Bible)

Deacon Kathy Anderson

*One: Praise the Lord! Let my whole being praise the Lord.*

***All: I will praise the Lord with all my life; I will sing praises to God as long as I live.***

*One: The person whose hope rests on the Lord their God – is truly happy!*

***All: God, the maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them. God, who is faithful forever, who gives justice to people who are oppressed, who gives bread to people who are starving!***

*One: The Lord: who frees prisoners. The Lord: who straightens up those who are bent low. The Lord: who loves the righteous.*

***All: The Lord, who protects immigrants, who helps orphans and widows... The Lord will rule forever! Praise the Lord!***

## Special Music: We Give Thee but Thine Own

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive,  
And gladly, as thou blesses us, to thee our first fruits give.

The captive to release, to God the lost to bring,  
To teach the way of life and peace; it is a Christ-like thing.

And we believe thy word, though dim our faith may be;  
Whate'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it unto thee.

Text by William Walsham How, c. 1858

## Call to Confession

Deacon Kathy Anderson

## Time of Silent Confession

## Unison Prayer of Confession

***O God, you have been faithful, yet we have not loved you with our whole hearts. We stumble and value the treasures of this world more than the gift of your grace. You showed us how to love our fellow human beings, yet we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We speak harshly behind the backs of***

***our friends, speak ill of those who think differently than us, and ignore the hurting in this world. Turn us back to you, O God, that we may follow your guidance and live lives of joy and hope. We seek your mercy through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

### **Assurance of Forgiveness**

... Believe and share the good news!

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

### **Passing of the Peace**

*Please greet those around you with a wave, peace sign, or by making eye contact repeating this response:*

May the peace of Christ be with you.

***And also with you.***

### **Children's Chat**

Trish Souliere

(Children in Grades 1 – 5 are invited to come to Faith Village following the Children's Chat or to find and sit with their parents. Parents can pick up their children in Faith Village following the service.)

### **Prayer for Illumination**

#### **Scripture**

Hebrew Scriptures      Psalm 146      O.T. pg. 581

Gospel Lesson      Mark 12:38-44      N.T. pg. 49-50

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

### **Sermon** “The Spirit of Giving”

Rev. Chris Peters

### **Special Music**

“What Gift Can We Bring” by Marshall  
Jeremy Duck, soloist

What gift can we bring, what present, what token?  
What words can convey it - the joy of this day?  
When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing,  
what song can we offer in honor and praise?

Give thanks for the Past, for those who had vision,  
who planted and watered so dreams could come true.  
Give thanks for the Now, for study, for worship,  
for mission that bids us turn prayer into deed.

Give thanks for Tomorrow, full of surprises,  
for knowing whatever Tomorrow may bring,  
God gives us his word that always, forever,  
we rest in his keeping and live in his love.

This gift we now bring, this present, this token,  
these words can convey it - the joy of this day!  
When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing,  
this song we now offer in honor and praise!

**Affirmation of Faith (Apostles' Creed)**

Deacon Kathy Anderson

*I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

**The Lord's Supper**

**Invitation**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

**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**

***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.***

**Communion of the People**

**Prayer After Communion**

**Commitment of Offerings for the Coming Year**

**Litany of Dedication**

*The Creator of all life and love  
has given our earth bountiful blessings.*

**God created humanity to share in the wonder and joy of these blessings.**

*All thanks be to God, Giver and Receiver of all that is good.*

**We return to God portions of what God has given us: our time, the fruits of our labors, our commitment.**

*May the giving from the fullness of our lives be acceptable in God's sight.*

**May the gifts we bring show that God's rule is at hand—both now and to come.**

*We dedicate our offerings toward the ministry God has given us.*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!**

**Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

**Postlude**

John Ross, organist

## **Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting of the Corporation and the Congregation will be held jointly during the worship service on Sunday, Nov. 21, 2021. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect officers (elders, deacons, and Foundation) for 2022, and to hear the report of the corporation. In addition, three changes to the bylaws have been recommended to the congregation for vote at this meeting.

- 1 - To remove a section dealing with deacons
- 2 - To change the number of members of the session to 18-30 (from 24-30)
- 3 - To change the number of members to 4-11 (from 5–11) and clarify the makeup of the Nominating Committee

## **Church Family Happenings:**

We welcome new members, Matt and Brooke Larson, and their daughters, Collins and Rowen, who joined Westminster on Oct. 24.

Our sympathy to Matt and Heather Schmidt and family at the death of Heather's father, Charles "Chuck" Hoskins.

Prayers of sympathy to Mark and Vicki Davis at the death of Vicki's father, Ray Frericks, on Oct. 14.

Our sympathy to Jack and Harriet Gould at the death of Jack's brother, Donald Gould, on Oct. 14.

Sympathetic prayers go out to the family of Charles "Chick" Thorne who passed away on Oct. 2. A Memorial Service for Chick was held on Friday, Nov. 5 at Westminster.

We celebrate with Wiw Tut and Nyakeni Bichoik, who were married at Westminster on Sat., Nov. 6.