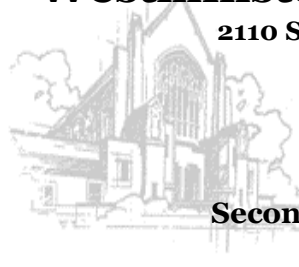


Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



January 16, 2022

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Prelude

"Give Me Jesus" arr. Robert Billingham

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

Call to Worship (Psalm 36:7-10)

One: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

All: All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

One: They feast on the abundance of your house,

All: And you give them drink from the river of your delights.

One: For with you is the fountain of life;

All: In your light we see light.

One: O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,

All: and your salvation to the upright of heart!

Special Music

"Help Us Accept Each Other" Text by Fred Kahn
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Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe
We are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.

Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them, or as they may become.

Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
in living situations to do the truth in love;
to practice your acceptance until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness, and laughter's healing art.

Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance, for justice, and for bread,
we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on;
renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us, make us one!

Call to Confession

Time of Silent Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, we confess that we have been led astray by the idols of our world. We have depended on our possessions and have not placed our trust in your grace. We have grouped ourselves with those who look, speak, or believe "like us" and have ignored your call to strive for a beautiful diverse unity in the church and world. We have sought security in the might of the sword rather than the strength of your Holy Spirit. Forgive us,

Holy One-in-Three and Three-in-One. Lead us to true repentance that we may serve you faithfully. Through Christ we pray. 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

Sarah Baltensperger

(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 Poetry

Psalm 36:5-10

O.T. pg. 510

Epistle

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

N.T. pg. 174

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

Sermon "Gifts for the Common Good"

Rev. Chris Peters

Special Music

"Simple Gifts" arr. Robert Train Adams

Litany of Affirmation (Confession of Belhar 10.3)

All: We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another. We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways; in that we love one another;

One: that we experience, practice, and pursue community with one another;

All: that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another;

One: that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind;

All: together are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity

One: together know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ

All: that we need one another and upbuild one another; admonishing and comforting one another;

One: that this freedom can only be established in freedom and not under constraint;

All: that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation of Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God.

Moment of Gratitude

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Instrumental Response

Prayers of the People

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

"Lift Every Voice and Sing" arr. John Barr

Flowers are given in memory of Judson B Douglas, III and to celebrate the work of the Pastor Nominating Committee, from Joyce Douglas.

Westminster welcomes and values children in worship. If a parent feels a break is needed for their child during the service, our Infant Room is available. This is located off the narthex through the West/Sheridan-end sanctuary doors. When you enter the narthex, turn to your right, where the door will be open.

There is a large basket near the Sheridan Street doors where your offering can be placed following the service.

If you don't want to take your bulletin with you, please dispose of it in the recycling basket as you exit the sanctuary.

Ministers

The whole congregation.

Pastors

Rev. Chris Peters

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Music Directors

John & Laura Ross

Director of Children & Youth

Trish Souliere



*"I am the vine,
you are the branches . . ."*

The week of Jan. 16, 2022

*Westminster Presbyterian Church is an inclusive faith family, inspired by Jesus Christ,
to call, nurture, and empower disciples.*

Community Conversations

As is our long-established custom, knowledgeable community members have been invited in January to speak to pertinent issues of the day. There is no issue more all-consuming than COVID and this will be WPC's first opportunity to learn about and consider Lincoln's response to the pandemic. Please look over the list below then plan on attending sessions on how various entities in Lincoln have fared. We've asked speakers to respond to the question, "What did your institution do to cope with COVID and what are your ongoing plans while we still have an active pandemic."

We'll gather in Fellowship Hall at 10:45 am after worship.

Our presenters are:

- January 16: Dr. Rich Lloyd is Health Sciences President of Bryan School of Nursing and Executive President of Hastings College
- January 23: Teresa Ewins is Chief of Police for the Lincoln Police Department
- January 30: Dr. Bob Rauner is founder and president of Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln

Worship Update

Westminster's Session and leadership thank you for continuing to wear a mask on-site and in worship for the sake of our youngest disciples who still cannot be vaccinated, especially in light of the ongoing increase in cases due to omicron. As shared in our November Session Notes, we ask that worshippers continue to mask up so that we may be able to most safely resume congregational singing when the COVID dial returns to yellow. This approach was not changed at our Dec. meeting, though there was balanced discussion. We will continue to update you on any changes to come from our Safety Task Force or Session in this space and/or in our Session Notes.

Faith to Forest Zoom Series—Week 2

In this week's episode Westminster welcomes back some old friends, Extension Educator, Sarah Browning, and Statewide Arboretum Coordinator, Bob Henrickson, joined by a new face, Kaylyn Nerverve, Park Planner with the Lincoln Park Department. These pros will help us be successful in selecting, planting, and caring for the trees on our own properties and will also discuss considerations related to climate change. Zoom in this Thurs., Jan. 20, 7-8 pm, at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83742356716> See your January Messenger for information about the rest of the series.

Another recommendation from Green@Heart:

Concerned about climate change? Believe we're called to do something about it? Hear Bill McKibben, Christian layman, professor and one of America's most well-known climate activists, talk about his calling, his spirituality, and his endeavor to move Washington and Wall Street in the name of a fairer, more sustainable society and planet. GreenFaith's Senior Ambassador, Nana Firman, joins Bill for this conversation. Monday, Jan. 17, 7 pm CST. Register at <https://www.lumunos.org>

Green@Heart Recycles Again!

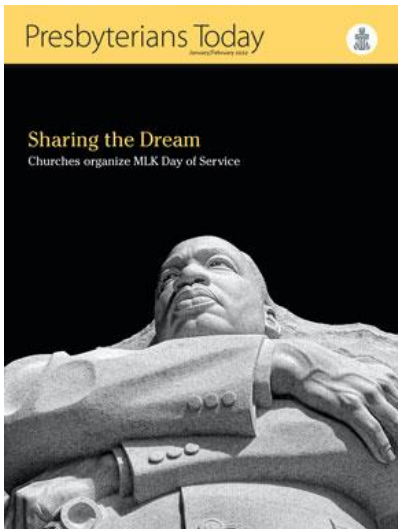
Don't send Styrofoam or non-functional Christmas lights to the landfill. We will gather these items at the church again and deliver them to special recycling centers for YOU! There is a designated drop-off box at the east entrance.

Wednesday Nights

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." - Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

This week, we will be learning about the time Jesus healed a blind man.

Please note that due to the increased risk of covid transmission, we have suspended in-person meals. All groups will meet at 5:30 pm and end at 7 pm.



Westminster's Reverse Offering is a feature story in the January/February 2022 Presbyterians Today Magazine!

We are on page 16-17 in the linked PDF version online, and page 18-19 in the print version. The link to the online version is in last week's eVine. There are some copies of the article by itself available at the receptionist desk.

Usher Teams

We only need one more volunteer to usher for the 4th Sunday of the month. We are also looking for usher subs if people are willing to be put on a sub list. Please email Kim at kim.kubick@hotmail.com if you are willing to volunteer!

Greeter Teams

The Church Life Committee is looking for worship greeters for 2022. If you have any questions, please reach out to Pam Wealand at pjwealand0983@gmail.com.

Week Beginning January 16

<p><u>Sun. (16)</u> 9:15 AM Youth Sermon Set-up 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 9:40 AM Faith Village/Nursery 10:45 AM Adult Ed, FH 10:45 AM Confirmation Class 12 Noon Sudanese Worship 7 PM H.S. Youth Group</p> <p><u>Mon. (17) MLK Day</u> Church Bldg. and Preschool Closed for Holiday 11 AM Explorers Study Group, Zoom</p> <p><u>Tues. (18)</u> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Faith and Cancer Support Group, Parlor</p>	<p><u>Wed. (19)</u> 1 PM Prairie Readers 1:30 PM Hearts&Hands, Library 5:30 PM Wed. Activities 5:30 PM Bell Rehearsal, Sanctuary 7 PM Acts Study, Zoom 7 PM Virtual Choir Rehearsal</p> <p><u>Sun. (23)</u> 9:15 AM Youth Sermon Set-up 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 9:40 AM Faith Village/Nursery 10:45 AM Adult Ed, FH 10:45 AM Confirmation Class 12 Noon Sudanese Worship 7 PM H.S. Youth Group</p>
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Prepaid Pledges 2022	\$55,917	Week 2 Giving	\$10,794
Week 1 Giving	\$19,606	YTD Giving	\$86,317
YTD Giving	\$75,523		

The 2022 budget is being finalized and will be available at our Congregational Meeting in February.

Televised Worship

Thurs. at 12:30 pm/Sat. at 1 pm.

Channel 1302/Spectrum & Channel 13/Windstream.

joanne@westminsterlincoln.org

402-475-6702