

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



March 20, 2022

Third Sunday in Lent

Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday

Prelude

"Attende Domine" by Jeanne Demessieux

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

Pastor Nominating Committee Recognition

Call to Worship (based on 1 Samuel 2:1-10)

Elder Glenna Haller

One: *My heart exults in God: my strength is exalted in my God*

All: There is no one holier than you. There is no Rock like our God

One: *God makes poor and makes rich. It is God who both humbles and exalts.*

All: God raises up the poor from the dust; God lifts the needy from the ash heap, to place them among the mighty and promotes them to seats of honor

One: *God judges the ends of the earth*

All: God will endow the ruler with strength and exalt the head of the anointed one.

Special Music

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

Call to Confession

Robyn Uebele

Unison Prayer of Confession

Let us pray:

Loving God, we confess that we criticize and pass judgement on others. We have sought to control the way they live their lives of service to you. Forgive us for our shortsightedness and sin. Help us to understand, appreciate and love our siblings in Christ, who have diverse experiences and life challenges. Help us to recognize the variety of ways we can express our faithfulness and love to you. Amen.

Response to the Confession

"You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!"

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

You are the Christ, giver of mercy!

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

Traditional liturgical text; adapted by Richard Wetzell.
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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

Karen Hoffman

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Old Testament

Isaiah 55:1-9

O.T. pg. 685

New Testament

Luke 13:1-9

N.T. pg. 76

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

Sermon "God Moves Us...in a New Direction"

Rev. Ellen Davis

Interlude

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" by Carile Schnabl

Affirmation of Faith

Linda Burchard

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all people to Christ as Lord, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of people long silenced and to work with others for justice, freedom and peace.

Hymn #39

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Moment of Gratitude

Elder Glenna Haller

Litany of Celebration

God of Grace, thank you for tranquil, reflective moments when we are able to recognize you in the world. For all your beauty and your wonder, we give you thanks.

For the breath in our bodies, for our hearts and souls, for our connections with one another, we give you thanks and praise.

God of Reconciliation, be present with us when conflicts arise. Remind us that we have a higher calling, to forgive those who wrong us, to pray for those who persecute us, and to seek peace in the midst of strife.

For women who have survived challenging circumstances, for the faith and witness they have shared with us, we give you thanks and praise.

God of Love, we offer our gratitude to you for sibling in Christ who have comforted us and carried us in their hearts in prayer.

For those of all genders, ages and cultures, for our adoption as children of God and heirs to your promise, O God, we give you thanks and praise.

God of Creation, be present among us as we witness and serve, remember and reflect, sing and celebrate those who with your help, guide the way for lives filled with gratitude. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Rev. Lauren Peters

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.

Hymn #546

“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

Charge & Benediction

Rev. Ellen Davis

Postlude

“Tu Es Petrus” by Jeanne Demessieux

The flowers in the chancel are given by Pat Hackley in memory of her late husband, Chip, and to celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday.

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 entry foyer through the Sheridan Blvd./West-end sanctuary doors. When you enter the foyer, 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. Ellen Davis & Rev. Lauren Peters

Liturgists: Glenna Haller, Robyn Uebele, Linda Burchard

Music Director: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere