

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



July 10, 2022

“Sunday School Stories Grown Up: Balaam’s Donkey”

Prelude “Improvisation: All Creatures Great and Small”

Welcome Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

Mission Message: Nominations Committee
Elder Margaret Sprude

***Call to Worship (Psalm 104)** Deacon Faye Moulton

One: Lord, you make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills, giving drink to every wild animal; the wild donkeys quench their thirst.

All: Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, you are very great.

One: By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches.

All: Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, you are very great.

One: The high mountains are for the wild goats; the rocks are a refuge for the rabbits.

All: Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, you are very great.

***Hymn #20** *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

***Call to Confession** Deacon Faye Moulton

***Time of Silent Confession**



Why do Presbyterians have elders and deacons? "The Church's ordered ministries described in the New Testament... are deacons and (elders). Ordered ministries are gifts to the church to order its life so that the ministry of the whole people of God may flourish. The existence of these ordered ministries in no way diminishes the importance of the commitment of all members to the total ministry of the church" (Ordered Ministries, PCUSA Book of Order 2019-2023)

This month's sung responses focus on God's actions toward humankind. "Come and Fill" is a repetitive hymn from the Taize community in France, emphasizing God's act of filling us with peace as we move from confession to action. Our Response of Praise, v.2 of "There is a Wideness in God's Mercy," can call us to love in ways that reflects the love of God that is broader than our own understanding.

***Unison Prayer of Confession**
Creator God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We hear the story of the surprising ways you are known, yet we limit your possibilities in our lives to Sunday mornings. We hear the story of re-directing grace, yet we stay stuck in our ways of comfort. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways. With hope in Christ, we pray. Amen.

Response to the Confession #466
*Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
Alleluia! (x2)*

***Assurance of Forgiveness**
...Believe and share the good news!
In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

***Response of Praise** #435 (verse 2)
*For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful,
we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.*

***Passing of the Peace**
Please share a sign of welcome and inclusion that is mutually comfortable (high five, handshake, fist/elbow bump) with your neighbors.
May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Children's Chat

Karen Hoffman

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Hebrew Scriptures Numbers 22:20-38 O.T. pg. 141

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

Sermon "A Surprising God" Rev. Chris Peters

Hymn #69** ***Here I Am, Lord

***Affirmation of Faith (Apostles' Creed, modernized translation)** Deacon Faye Moulton

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.***

***I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our
Lord,***

***who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.***

***On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the
dead.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

Moment of Gratitude

Prayer of Thanksgiving

"The Book of Numbers derives its name from two census lists that count the numbers for each of the twelve tribes of Israel. One... of the old wilderness generation begins the book in chap. 1. A second inaugurates the story of the new generation of Israelites in chap. 26." (Dennis T. Olson, Harper Collins Bible Commentary)

"A creed is a statement of belief, from the Latin word *credo*. *Credo* is translated, "I believe," which means, 'to give one's heart.' Say the creed on your own, replacing the words 'I believe' with 'I give my heart to.'" (Big God, Big Questions Confirmation Curriculum, 2018.)

While it's the prayer Jesus taught in Matthew 6 and Luke 11, our translation of the Lord's Prayer dates back to the 1500's, when Shakespeare's English was popular. The prayer includes three petitions - to sustain (give us daily bread), forgive (our debts... more on "debts" in next week's bulletin!) and protection (lead not into temptation...). (Adapted from: Big God, Big Questions Confirmation Curriculum, 2018.)

Ministers: The whole congregation

Pastors: Rev. Chris Peters & Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Liturgist: Deacon Faye Moulton

Interim Music Director: Ronnie Zanella

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children &

Youth: Trish Souliere

Ushers: Marybell Avery, Kathy Anderson, Joan Roberts, Joyce Douglas

Greeters: Katie Zulkoski and Franklin

Dish Washers:

Special Music:

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"
by Thomas Dorsey, arr. by Ronnie Zanella

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.

*Hymn #740

Lead Me, Guide Me

*Charge & Benediction

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude "If You But Trust in God to Guide You" by Aaron David Miller

*Please rise in body or spirit for these parts of worship.

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.

Giving to Westminster's Mission and Ministry

At Church: An offering to support Westminster may be placed in our Giving Baskets following the service. These are located by the Sheridan Blvd. doors in the narthex and the sanctuary elevator exit. Look for the signs that read "Giving Basket."

Online: To give online, visit the following web address:

<https://westminsterlincoln.org/generosity-and-the-joy-of-giving/>

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



*“I am the vine,
you are the branches . . .”*

The week of July 10, 2022

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

Adult Ed: “Scripture and Sermon Discussion”

We will have a casual 20-minute *Scripture and Sermon* discussion with Sarah Gergen, Chair of Adult Ed., as we walk through “Sunday School Stories Grown Up” this Sunday. We’ll meet in the Lounge at 11 am.

Prayers of comfort at this time of grief for the family of Ron Wachter, who died suddenly on July 5. Family members include his wife, Valery, and their sons, Allen and Eric. Visitation is Sunday from 2-4 pm at Roper & Sons South. The funeral will be held at Westminster on Monday, July 11, at 11 am, followed by a light lunch in Fellowship Hall.

Mission/Outreach School Kits Project

Please help Mission/Outreach fill the giant crayon box on the table near the east entrance. A supply list and instructions are on the table. We will collect items until September and then have fun putting the kits together.

Elevator Awaiting Repairs

While we are waiting for the elevator to be repaired, you are invited to have a seat in the Garden Room and watch the live-streamed service that is happening in the Sanctuary. You will be able to visit with friends before and after worship in the Garden Room. If you have questions, please contact Tom Welstead, chair of Building and Grounds or Pastor Chris.

Lohmen Lore

Holidays and other celebrations at the Lohmen church often include special music provided by a) an 18th century pipe organ, b) a Blaskapelle, c) a men's chorus, or d) a small chamber orchestra.



Last week's answer: The Lohmen church has many affiliations. It is NOT Presbyterianisch, but it IS Lutheran, Evangelical (i.e., Protestant), and also the largest church in a five-church parish.

Moment of Gratitude Sharing Opportunity

We have a lot to be thankful for at Westminster this year, and we will continue to lift up such areas during our Moment of Gratitude in worship. All are welcome to share a moment or area for which they are thankful, or you may submit a moment for Pastor Chris to share on your behalf – in name or anonymously. Requests to share or have Chris share may be emailed to Chris at chris@westminsterlincoln.org. Due to our worship planning patterns, it may be 1-3 weeks before your moment appears in worship.

July Prairie Readers

Wednesday, July 20, 1 pm, Lounge

Book: *The Brilliant Life of Eudora Honeysett* by Annie Lyons

Discussion leader Becky Bockrath

Pastor Jimmy will be out of the office on vacation until July 26.

World on a Plate

The evening of July 22, *World on a Plate* is going to Greece. Don't go looking for your passports, we are just heading east on South Street to the Pappas Oikos! Mark your calendar, RSVP, and start researching that great Greek cuisine! Dinner begins at 6 PM. Please RSVP to Kathy Rohwedder at kathroh@yaho.com or text (402)202-9889.

Star City Shores Pool Party | August 11, 6:30 to 8 PM

The all-church pool party at Star City Shores is coming up in August. Westminster will have the entire facility reserved just for us from 6:30 PM-8 PM. Plan to come out to cool off with your friends.

Attention Earth Stewards and Nature Lovers: David Attenborough hosts The Green Planet, a new BBC series portraying “planet Earth from the perspective of plants.” Cutting edge technology shows nature’s beauty and ingenuity in previously unseen ways and highlights our own dependence on plants. See it on PBS, Wednesdays at 7 PM, starting July 6.

History Buffs | Saturday, July 16 at 9 AM.

The Onomastics of an Indian Woman (Sacagawea)

Presented by Gary Moulton

The term "onomastics" relates to the study of names—place-names usually, but also to personal names. Gary was led to this topic when he wondered if during the Lewis and Clark expedition terms for Sacagawea changed over time and if those changes were the result of circumstances.

For example, did expedition journalists (particularly Lewis and Clark) use more familiar or affectionate names for her as they got to know her better? Did she go from "Indian squaw" to "our Indian woman," from "interpreter’s wife" to "Sacagawea" as time passed? And did specific names for her reflect particular attitudes? After examining all references to her in the journals, Gary has some interesting suggestions for answering these questions. All are welcome.

Week 27 Giving	\$13,863
YTD Giving	\$323,356
Weekly Budget	\$10,970
YTD Budget	\$296,199

Televised Worship

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

Channel 1302/Spectrum & Channel 13/Windstream.

joanne@westminsterlincoln.org

402-475-6702

Week Beginning July 10

<p><u>Sun. (10)</u> 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 9:30 AM Nursery 10:30 AM A & P Meeting, Conference Room 11 AM <i>Scripture and Sermon</i> Discussion, Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p> <p><u>Mon. (11)</u> 11 AM Funeral for Ron Wachter 5 PM Church Life, Library</p> <p><u>Tues. (12)</u> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 10:30 AM Stewardship & Finance, Lounge 10:30 AM Lincoln Library Summer Reading Challenge, Fellowship Hall 5 PM Personnel, Zoom</p>	<p><u>Wed. (13)</u> 9:30 AM Homestead Presbytery Admin & Finance Committee, Lounge 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM Hearts & Hands</p> <p><u>Sat. (16)</u> 9 AM History Buffs, Lounge</p> <p><u>Sun. (17)</u> 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 9:30 AM Nursery 11 AM <i>Scripture and Sermon</i> Discussion, Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p>
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