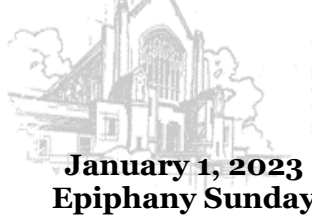


Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



January 1, 2023
Epiphany Sunday

Prelude

"How Brightly Shines the Morning Star"
by Dietrich Buxtehude

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

*Call to Worship (Psalm 72:18-19)

Deacon Kathy Phillip

One: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!

All: For God alone does wondrous things.

One: Blessed be God's glorious name forever:

All: May the Lord's glory fill the whole earth! Amen and Amen.

*Hymn #142

"'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

*Call to Confession

*Time of Silent Confession

*Unison Prayer of Confession

Great God: you have given us Jesus, light of the world. But we choose darkness and cling to sins that hide the brightness of your love. We are timid disciples who are slow to share the Good News. Cleanse our hearts, so that, forgiven and renewed, we may proclaim your love to the nations and tell of the glory shining in the face of Jesus, our Lord and our light forever. Amen.

***Response to the Confession**

#437

*You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!*

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

...Believe and share the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

***Response of Praise**

#113, refrain

*Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

***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

Ron 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

New Testament

Matthew 2:1-18

N.T. pg. 2

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

Sermon

“Gold, Frankincense, and Brutality”

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Hymn #153**

In Bethlehem a Newborn Boy

Star Words

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

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

Special Music

"I Want To Walk as a Child of the Light"
by Kathleen Thomerson, arr. by Tom Trenney
Jonah Bricker, tenor

Prayer After Communion

*Hymn #151

We Three Kings of Orient Are

*Charge & Benediction

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Postlude

"Caravan of the Three Kings" by Richard Purvis

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

Today's words in worship include liturgy and adaptations from *Words for Worship by A Sanctified Art LLC* | Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | sanctifiedart.org, as well as original words by Rev. Chris Peters.

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."

For online giving, scan the QR code.

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

Liturgist: Deacon Kathy Phillip

Music Director: Ronnie Zanella

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Ushers: Diana Wild, Kim Kubick, Carol Boehler

Greeters: Carol & Jim Bishop

Communion Servers: Glenna Haller, Marijane England, Sebit Deng, Diana Wild



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

The week of Jan. 1, 2023

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

Faith Village

Today is the Pajama Pancake Party in Faith Village!! It's your chance to wear your PJ's to church! We will make pancakes and watch a movie together. Meet in Cole Hall.

Lunch Bunch | January 3

Lunch Bunch will meet at Famous Dave's, 2750 Pine Lake Rd., Tuesday, January 3 at 11:30 AM. R.S.V.P. to Jim Kinkennon at 402-290-5888 or jimkinkennon@gmail.com.

Adult Education in January

For many years, the Adult Education Committee has planned a Forum for the Sundays in January we call "Community Conversations." Each Sunday features a leader from some arena in the public sphere. We have featured politicians, judges, school superintendents and others. All sessions begin at 10:45 AM and end at 11:30 AM. [There is no session for January 1.] This year we will feature the topic: **"When Public Decisions Affect Private Lives"**

On January 8, we will welcome Rev. Dr. Carl Eskridge, who also is preaching during the worship hour (as he did on November 27). Carl has served as a legal mediator, served on the Lincoln City Council, and has retired from the State of Nebraska Office of Public Counsel. Carl is a great communicator and public servant who cares deeply for the community of Lincoln.

On January 15, our guest will be Steve Smith, Director of Communications at Civic Nebraska. Steve is a correspondent and speaker with more than 25 years of award-winning writing, editing, media relations, and public relations experience.

On either January 22 or 29, (TBA) we will welcome J.J. Wilkins, a Lincoln Public Schools Elementary Principal who serves at Prescott School, which is partnered for mission outreach with Westminster Presbyterian Church.

On the other Sunday (22 or 29) we will feature a similar speaker, yet to be determined. But the Adult Education Committee will have someone stellar to address the topic.

Please plan to join us in the Lounge each of these four Sundays at 10:45 AM.

Wednesday LiNK Activities

Wednesday LiNK activities will resume on January 11, 2023 with a Holiday Party.

Youth Group Lock-In | January 6 - 7

There will be no Youth Group until the Lock-In on January 6. If your youth would like to attend the Lock-In, please register here: <https://forms.gle/sj12sKSEUMV4LDaQA>.

Tis the Season to Recycle!

Westminster's Green@Heart is once again collecting Styrofoam packaging and broken string lights for recycling. [We can't accept disposable food containers or packing peanuts.] The collection point by the east entry will be in place throughout the month of January. Failed lights too. This is our fifth year and it's possible that packaging, that we take back to Plastilite in Omaha, has been here before and reused. Many thanks for participating.

Green@Heart

Westminster folks are doing such a great job of recycling, setting their thermostats, etc. to take care of our planet. But our individual lifestyle efforts are a drop in the bucket compared to what needs to happen in the next decade or two. To make a real difference we urgently need to make changes on a larger scale, moving the powers that be in government and the corporate world. We need to be advocates for what we believe in!

Many of you have mentioned not knowing how to do this. It's really not that hard, and here's your chance for an excellent tutorial from the comfort of your own home! Advocacy 101: Be an effective advocate for matters you care about. Tues., Jan. 3, 7-8 pm. No registration needed. Get the Zoom link at: <https://www.firstplymouth.org/cat>

THANK YOU! Because of YOU, Westminster is Green@Heart.

Staying Green & Clean Up of Coffee Cups

We need several people to help wash coffee cups on Sunday mornings. Grab a friend and sign up for one Sunday a month. Sign up here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/17EShTjiBbeWH2YuCgtmYR78_Z6VcEyTqHuuw6s4XRCU/edit

Reverse Advent Calendar

If you have not had a chance to return your "Reverse Advent Calendar" it's not too late. If you are unable to bring your food to church, please contact your Deacon to arrange for someone to pick it up from your porch!

If you prefer not to collect items, the Westminster Food Pantry is always accepting donations! Please make your check out to Westminster Presbyterian Church, note the Food Pantry in the Memo line, and mail to the church at: 2110 Sheridan Blvd, Lincoln, NE 68502. Thank you!

****Please mark your box with the words "Reverse Advent Calendar." This will help us to track the participation for this meaningful event.**

