

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



January 22, 2023
Third Sunday after Epiphany

Prelude

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

*Call to Worship (Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14 NRSVUE)

Deacon Kathy Phillip

One: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

All: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

One: One thing I asked of the Lord; this I seek:

All: To live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

One: I believe I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

All: Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage. Wait for the Lord.

*Hymn #846

Fight the Good Fight

*Call to Confession

*Time of Silent Confession

*Unison Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, when despair and suffering overwhelm us, we cry out for you and feel abandoned. We may doubt your presence and your promises. We may feel that you have turned away from us in anger or even as punishment. Thankfully, the stories of your boundless grace and welcoming embrace tell us a different story. In those times we feel abandoned or as if we are walking without

guidance, strengthen us with hope and fill our hearts with courage. As your church, uplift us so that we might show love to all who have felt abandoned or alone, providing shelter and mercy in voice and in action. With hope in Christ we pray. 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**

#581

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the
beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.***

***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

Tom Pappas

(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

Gospel

Matthew 4:12-23

N.T. pg. 3

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1 :10-17

N.T. pg. 166

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

Sermon

“A Letter to the Church in Lincoln”

Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #409**

God Is Here!

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

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.

Moment of Gratitude

Rev. Chris Peters

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Special Music

Prayers of the People

Deacon Kathy Phillip

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 #463**

How Firm a Foundation

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

*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.

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

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.



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: Becky Bockrath, Martha Kingsbury, Suzanne Bartlett

Greeters: Joyce Douglas & Marilyn Hood



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

The week of Jan. 22, 2023

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

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. All sessions begin at 10:45 AM and end at 11:30 AM. This year we will feature the topic: **“When Public Decisions Affect Private Lives”**

Our guest today will be **Bennie Shobe**. He is one of seven members of the Lincoln City Council. He was reelected to his second four-year term in May of 2021. Bennie grew up in Bowling Green, Kentucky. He attended Western Kentucky University where he earned a bachelor’s and a master’s degree before moving to Nebraska to study at UNL. Since moving to Lincoln, Bennie has been involved with several community groups and organizations. He has served as president of the Lincoln Branch NAACP, on the Lincoln Commission on Human Rights board, the Malone Community Center Board of Directors, and Indian Center board and a host of advisory committees.

Our guest on Jan. 29 is Lincoln's 40-year champion of City Libraries, **Pat Leach**. As the recently retired director of libraries, Pat has had many accomplishments in this role, including helping libraries navigate the pandemic. Pat is a reader, life-long learner, and wonderful speaker who cares deeply for the Lincoln community.

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

Sermon Set-Up

Youth are invited to take part in a sermon set-up discussion on Sunday mornings at 9:15, a session designed to deepen the worship experience. We enjoy donuts together while discussing the lectionary scripture and identifying how it can apply to our lives today. Youth are invited to attend service with their families or together in the balcony.

Sunday Youth Group

The Sunday Youth Group meeting focuses primarily on friendship. Join your church friends to talk, play games, do homework together, or just hang out.

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 through Feb. 5.** 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.

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_Z6VcEyTqHuuw6s4XRUCU/edit

The Gathering Place, located at 1443 E Street, provides a nutritious evening meal seven days a week for people who may have few resources. Westminster has had this as a mission for a number of years, with a team who serves the meal, which is prepared by the Gathering Place staff. This mission is part of Mission/Outreach's response to "When were you hungry?" in our community. Each month, on the 2nd Friday, we send our team of 6 to 8 volunteers to serve from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. We are inviting YOU to join our team. To volunteer or for information, contact Carolyn Harp, charp3@neb.rr.com or 402-261-6897.

Worship services are available on-line at this link:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLh0s_z2jgkVzHETwungAAfaEa-vENwoCR

Week Beginning January 22

<p><u>Sun. (22)</u> 9:15 AM Sermon Set-Up 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship/ Nursery 9:40 AM Faith Village 10:45 AM Adult Ed. Series, Bennie Shobe, Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship, Chapel 6:30 PM Youth Group, Youth Room</p> <p><u>Mon. (23)</u> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Library 6 PM Session, Fellowship Hall 6:30 PM Scouts, Cole Hall</p> <p><u>Tues. (24)</u> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p><u>Wed. (25)</u> 1:30 PM Hearts & Hands, Library 5:30 PM Westminster LiNK, Cole Hall 6:30 PM Bible in a Year, Lounge 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary 6:30 PM Hearts and Hands, Library</p> <p><u>Sun. (29)</u> 9:15 AM Sermon Set-Up 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship/ Nursery 9:40 AM Faith Village 10:45 AM Adult Ed. Series, Pat Leach, Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship, Chapel 6:30 PM Youth Group, Youth Room</p>
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Week 2	\$10,790
YTD Giving	\$81,069

Televised Worship

Thurs. at 12:30 pm/Sat. at 1 pm.
 Channel 1302/Spectrum & Channel 13/Windstream.

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402-475-6702