

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



January 29, 2023
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Prelude

"Processional on AZMON" by David Cherwien

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

Mission Moment: Junior League Diaper Drive Mattie Sipp

***Call to Worship** (Matthew 5:1-10 Adapted) Deacon Claire Titus

One: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

All: Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

One: Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

All: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

One: Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

All: Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

One: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

All: Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

One: Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad for your reward is great!

All: Let us give thanks to God as we worship with joy and gladness!

***Hymn #366**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

***Call to Confession**

***Time of Silent Confession**

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

You have told us what is good, O God. Your hopes for us are clear. And yet we live as though it is unclear what you would have us do. We live as though we're not the recipients of grace upon grace. We have withheld what is not our own. We have judged where it was not our place. We have sinned by what we have done and what we have failed to do. Knowing that we have sinned, we seek your mercy. Lord, strengthen us so that we may follow in the way you would have us go, the way of Christ. 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

Jaime Hemmerling

(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 Scriptures

Micah 6:1-8

O.T. pg. 866

New Testament

1 Corinthians 1 :18-31

N.T. pg. 166

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

Sermon

“Foolishness or Calling?”

Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #26**

Earth and All Stars!

***Affirmation of Faith (A Declaration of Faith)**

God created human beings with a need for community and with freedom to enter into it by responding to their Maker with grateful obedience and to one another with love and helpfulness.

We believe that we have been created to relate to God and each other in freedom and responsibility. We may misuse our freedom and deny our responsibility by trying to live without God and other people or against God and other people.

Yet we are still bound to them for our life and well-being, and intended for free and responsible fellowship with them. Since every human being is made for communion with God and others, we must treat no one with contempt.

We are to respect and love all other people and ourselves as well.

Moment of Gratitude

Rev. Chris Peters

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Special Music

"Offertory" by John Beck

Westminster Choir

Prayers of the People

Deacon Claire Titus

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 #372**

O for a World

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

"Postlude in D" by Healey Willan

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

Parts of today's words for worship, often called "liturgy," are adapted from resources for today's scriptures written by Rev. Dr. Baron Mullis, Pastor at First Presbyterian, Philadelphia, PA (a friend and reference for Pastor Chris for his call at Westminster!) and published by the Presbyterian Outlook.

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.



Ministers: The whole congregation

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

Liturgist: Deacon Claire Titus

Music Director: Ronnie Zanella ; **Organist:** John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Ushers: Erika Schafer, Ben Schafer, Daniel Schafer

Greeters: Katie & Leo Zulkoski



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

The week of Jan. 29, 2023

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

Finding our Purpose . . . Together

A Worship Series Exploring 1 Corinthians, Chapters 1-3.

1/29 “Foolishness or Calling?”

2/5 “Understanding Our Gifts”

2/12 “God Gives Our Growth”

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 are featuring the topic: **"When Public Decisions Affect Private Lives"**

Our guest today 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.

Diaper Collection at WPC

Junior League of Lincoln is collecting diapers for families who struggle to afford them. Most childcare centers require parents to provide a day's supply of disposable diapers when they drop off their child, which can be a hardship, especially for single mothers working full time. WPC is one of the drop off locations for donations. There will be a tote at the east entrance. Doors are generally open from 10 am to 2 pm (9 am to 1 pm on Tues.) and 5 – 7 pm during the week and Sundays from 9 – 11 am.

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

Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch will meet at *The Mettle Grill*, 5500 S 56th Street, on Tuesday, Feb. 7 at 11:30 AM. Please RSVP to Jim Kinkennon at 402-290-5888 or jimkinkennon@gmail.com. Come join us!

Prairie Readers Book Club

Prairie Readers will meet on Feb. 15 in the Lounge at 1 PM. The book this month is *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. Our facilitator is Susie Hughes.

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.

Providing Flowers in the Sanctuary

Were you wondering how to get signed up to provide flowers in the Sanctuary to honor a loved one or to celebrate a birthday or anniversary?

The process is simple:

Step 1: Sign up for your choice of Sundays by contacting April Douglas at ajdouglas7929@gmail.com or 402.429.8881 (call or text) and include the event or person you are honoring so the information can be listed in the worship bulletin.

Step 2: Choose your own florist, then order and make payment for the arrangement of your choice. Arrange for the flowers to be delivered to the church on Friday between 10 AM and 2 PM. It's that simple!

If, for any reason, the flowers need to be picked up and delivered to the church, let April know and arrangements can be made.

Worship services are available on-line at this link:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLhOs_z2jgkVzHETwungA_AfaEa-vENwoCR

Week Beginning January 29

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| <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> <p><u>Mon. (30)</u> 6:30 PM Scouts, Cole Hall</p> <p><u>Tues. (31)</u> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting</p> | <p><u>Wed. (1)</u> 10 AM Circle 3, Lounge 1:30 PM Hearts & Hands, Library 5:30 PM Westminster LiNK, Cole Hall 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><u>Sun. (5)</u> 9:15 AM Sermon Set-Up 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship/ Scout Sunday/Nursery 9:40 AM Faith Village 12 Noon Sudanese Worship, Chapel 6:30 PM Youth Group, Youth Room</p> |
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| Week 4 | \$14,181 |
| YTD Giving | \$108,116 |

Televised Worship

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

Channel 1302/Spectrum & Channel 13/Windstream.

joanne@westminsterlincoln.org

402-475-6702