

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



**January 8, 2023**  
**Baptism of the Lord**

## Prelude

## Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

## \*Call to Worship (Psalm 29:3, 9 & Isaiah 43:1)

Deacon Claire Titus

One: The voice of the Lord thunders over the waters!

**All: And in the temple of the Lord, God's people cry:  
"Glory!"**

One: We do not fear, for the Lord has spoken:

**All: God has called us by name; we belong to God!**

## \*Hymn #475

**Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

## \*Call to Confession

## \*Time of Silent Confession

## \*Unison Prayer of Confession

*Merciful God: in the water of baptism, you promise forgiveness and new life. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another. We cling to destructive habits. We hold grudges. We allow the past to hold us captive. In your grace, free us from sin. Fulfill the promise of our baptism so that we may rise to new life and live together in peace. 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**

New Testament

Matthew 3:13-17

N.T. pg. 3

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

**Sermon**

“Living Together”

Rev. Dr. Carl Eskridge

**\*Hymn #630**

**Fairest Lord Jesus**

**\*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. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Special Music**

“My Son, the Beloved” by David Blackwell

**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 #482**

**Baptized in Water**

**\*Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Carl Eskridge

**Postlude**

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\*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 Claire Titus

**Music Director:** Ronnie Zanella

**Organist:** John Ross

**Director of Children & Youth:** Trish Souliere

**Ushers:** Diana Wild, Kim Kubick, Carol Boehler

**Greeters:** David & Kathy Anderson

### **Please welcome Rev. Dr. Carl Eskridge, our guest preacher this morning.**

Carl Eskridge, a native of North Carolina, graduated from St. Andrews University (NC), Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary (TX), San Francisco Theological Seminary (CA), and the University of Nebraska College of Law. Ordained by Homestead Presbytery in 1979, Carl was called as pastor to the Palmyra and Heritage/Lincoln Presbyterian Churches and has served Homestead Presbytery in many capacities during his 43-year tenure. He currently moderates the Session of the Wahoo/Czech Church and the Auburn Presbyterian Church and regularly preaches in congregations throughout the area. For 25 years Carl worked as an attorney for the Nebraska Office of Public Counsel/Ombudsman, retiring January 1, 2021. He also served two terms on the Lincoln City Council representing Central and NW Lincoln. In retirement Carl is an active mediator and serves on the boards of the Lincoln Electric Service, Community Action Partners, the Lincoln Library Foundation, the Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation, and the Administration and Finance Committee of Homestead Presbytery. Carl's wife, Janet Hannah Eskridge, is an artist and an active community volunteer. Carl and Janet were married June 1, 1974, and they have 2 daughters and 4 grandchildren, three in Omaha and one in Nashville, TN.



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

**The week of Jan. 8, 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. We have featured politicians, judges, school superintendents and others. 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**"

**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.

### **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.

### **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](https://docs.google.com/document/d/17EShTjiBbeWH2YuCgtmYR78_Z6VcEyTqHuuw6s4XRUCU/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.**

### **Join Others in Reading the Bible in a Year**

Join with fellow Westminster-ites in small groups or individually to read the Bible in the year 2023. Marijane England will be the facilitator and serve as a resource for group leaders. Contact Marijane England at [marijane.england@gmail.com](mailto:marijane.england@gmail.com) if you have questions or would like to sign up.

**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](mailto: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](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLh0s_z2jgkVzHETwungAAfaEa-vENwoCR)

### **Televised Worship**

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

Channel 1302/Spectrum & Channel 13/Windstream.

**Week Beginning January 8**

<p><b><u>Sun. (8)</u></b>            9:15 AM Sermon Set-Up            9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship/            Nursery            9:40 AM Faith Village, Cole Hall            10:45 AM Adult Ed. Series, Rev. Dr.            Carl Eskridge, Lounge            12 Noon Sudanese Worship, Chapel</p> <p><b><u>Mon. (9)</u></b>            11 AM Explorers Bible Study,            Library            5 PM Church Life, Lounge            5 :30 PM Worship and Music            6 PM Mission &amp; Outreach, FH            6 PM WCY Children &amp; Youth, Zoom            6:30 PM Scouts Pack 61—Den/Pack            Meeting, Cole Hall</p> <p><b><u>Tues. (10)</u></b>            9:15 AM Staff Meeting            10 AM Circle 5, Lounge            3:30 PM Habitat, Library            5 PM Personnel, Zoom            5 PM Adult Ed, Lounge</p> <p><b><u>Wed. (11)</u></b>            10 AM Homestead Meeting,            Lounge</p>	<p>1:30 PM Hearts &amp; Hands, Library            5:30 PM Westminster LiNK            Holiday Party, Cole Hall            6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal,            Sanctuary            6:30 PM Hearts and Hands,            Library</p> <p><b><u>Fri. (13)</u></b>            6 PM Pinewood Derby Set-Up, FH</p> <p><b><u>Sat. (14)</u></b>            8:30 AM Pinewood Derby, FH            11:30 AM Outside Group, Cole            Hall</p> <p><b><u>Sun. (15)</u></b>            9:15 AM Sermon Set-Up            9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship/            Nursery            9:40 AM Faith Village            10:45 AM Adult Ed. Series, Steve            Smith, Lounge            12 Noon Sudanese Worship,            Chapel            12 Noon Youth Group Games            with Good Shepherd</p>
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Week 1	\$9,776
YTD Giving	\$70,280