

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



February 26, 2023
First Sunday in Lent

Prelude

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

***Call to Worship** (based on Matthew 4:1-11) Deacon Claire Titus

One: For forty days and forty nights

All: Our Savior fasted in the wilderness.

One: Tempted to turn from God, tempted to turn to power and privilege,

All: Our Savior resisted.

One: Let us follow Jesus this Lent,

All: Through the wilderness...

One: Let us examine our temptations,

All: Let us grow, resist, and return back to God.

***Hymn #166 Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days**

***Call to Confession**

***Time of Silent Confession**

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

Gracious God, as we wander through this wilderness with Jesus, examining all the worldly comforts we turn to during times of stress and struggle, we confess the neglect of our faith. We confess all that we place above you, making idols of money, earthly power, and even food. Empty us this Lent, Holy God. Guide us in our spiritual practices so we can leave this wilderness season more aware of your presence and the ways our faith can sustain us. Amen.

***Response to the Confession**

#649, v. 1 & 3

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

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

***Response of Praise**

#435

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.

***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

Laurel Van Ham

(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.)

Sacrament of Baptism

Landon Jacob Zach

Pastor: With the whole church, let us confess our faith using the version of the Apostle's Creed found in your bulletins:

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.

Question of the Congregation: Do you, the members of Westminster, promise to love and nurture Landon, to provide for his Christian Education, and to set an example of faithfulness, to the end that he comes to confess Jesus Christ as Lord?

We do. We welcome you with joy and hope, energy and enthusiasm, laughter and communion, nurture and faith, love and acceptance.

***Hymn #482**

Baptized in Water

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Hebrew Scriptures

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

O.T. pg. 2

New Testament

Matthew 4:1-11

N.T. pg. 3

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

Sermon

“What is Temptation?”

Rev. Chris Peters

Special Music

“Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child”

Traditional Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan

Tatiana Eskridge, *soprano*

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 #475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*Charge & Benediction

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

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

Parts of today's words for worship are adapted from resources for the First Sunday in Lent as written by Rev. Dr. Teri McDowell Ott (Editor/Publisher, The Presbyterian Outlook) and published in The Presbyterian Outlook, 2023.

The **flowers** are given in celebration of the baptism of Landon Zach by his grandparents Mark & Deb Schorr.

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: Becky Bockrath, Martha Kingsbury, Suzanne Bartlett

Greeters: Kelly Braswell-Burbach, Valery Wachter

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 Feb. 26, 2023

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

LiNK Sunday | Feb. 26

After the service on Sunday, Feb. 26, the Children and Youth and Church



Life Committees invite you to make your own, personal fruit pizza to enjoy with your after-service coffee. We start with a sugar cookie “crust,” add cream cheese frosting for the sauce, and finish that special creation with a choice of fresh fruit toppings.

Youth Group: Urban Air | Feb. 26 | 12 PM - 2 PM

Join us at Urban Air on Sunday, Feb. 26. Please bring \$10 per person for admission, maximum of \$30 per family. Assistance is available. If you plan to join us, be sure to complete a waiver in advance.

<https://my.urbanairparks.com/waivers/7471A7A2-C389-4432-A2FF-CC8D8196DAE>.

World on a Plate | March 3

Join World on a Plate to support the needs in Syria and Turkey. Our offering will go to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for Syria and Turkey. Start looking for those Syrian and Turkish recipes or bring a dish from one of our local restaurants or stores. We will gather in Fellowship Hall, Friday, March 3 starting dinner at 5:30 PM. Join us in fellowship and in serving those who are needing us.

Monmouth College Chorale Concert | March 4

The Monmouth College Chorale will present a concert at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2110 Sheridan Blvd, Lincoln, NE at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 4 as part of the group’s spring break performance tour to Colorado. The 31-member choir, directed by Dr. Tim Pahel, will perform a wide variety of literature, from classical to folk and multicultural music. The Monmouth Chamber Choir, a select group of 15

students, will also perform several selections, including two vocal jazz pieces. The concert is free and open to the public. Visit our website for more information: <https://westminsterlincoln.org/event/monmouth>

Caring for Creation Lenten Calendar

Our friends at Saint Paul United Methodist Church have put together a Lenten calendar with daily tips for all of us about caring for creation. You can access it right here: <https://www.saintpaulumc.org/climate-justice/>

Join us for Gifts of Women Sunday | March 5 | 9:30 AM

Kathleen Keefer is our Guest Speaker for Worship

Westminster welcomes Kathleen Keefer of Clarinda, Iowa, who serves as present national Co-Moderator of Presbyterian Women.

At the Synod level her hats include chair of the Justice and Peace Committee, “Sower” editor, and representative of Missouri River Valley Presbyterian Women.

Her professional career focused on working with families who were overburdened and at risk. She investigated child abuse and neglect, supervised Child Protective Service workers who did investigations and was Program Manager of a Healthy Families America program. She has passion for social justice and for encouraging others to work with her in dismantling racism, ending systemic poverty and creating peace.



As we watch the heartbreaking aftermath of earthquakes in Syria and Turkey, you may be asking, “what can we do?” Prayer is our quickest and most clear way to respond, so please pray for recovery efforts. As Presbyterians, we also have

the gift of a physical response through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (“PDA”) and its partner organizations around the world. As Pastor Chris shared in the sermon on Sunday, Feb. 26, “PDA” is working with a Greek Orthodox partner in the region to supply blankets, medicine, and food. Here are some links to learn more and to help with a donation to PDA: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance: <https://pda.pcusa.org/> Turkey/Syria Earthquake: <https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/turkey-syria-earthquake/>

Lunch Bunch | March 7

Lunch Bunch will meet at Mi Tierra NW on Tuesday, March 7, at 11:30 AM. This is the new location at 8320 Holdrege. RSVP to Jim Kinkennon at 402-290-5888 or jimkinkennon@gmail.com.

History Buffs | March 18

We are resuming History Buffs on Sat., March 18 at 9 AM in the Lounge. Dr. Ken Govaerts, Civil Engineer, History Buff and Storyteller, will be speaking on *Historical Accomplishments of Abraham Lincoln and other Famous Civil Rights Leaders*. Mark your calendars.

Call for Eggstravaganza Donations

Our annual Eggstravaganza is coming up on April 5 and we can use your help. We are seeking donation bags of candy and/or any other small handouts for the children. Look for collection buckets at the top of the steps by the East entrance. If you have any questions, please contact Trish at trish@westminsterlincoln.org.

YOUR SESSION IN ACTION | February 2023

- Will be reading and discussing the book, [Growing Young](#), by Kara Powell.
- Reviewed the 2023 preliminary budget.
- Officers of the corporation were elected: Tim Gergen, President; Margaret Sprude, Secretary; and Ray Stevens, Treasurer. The Session members are trustees of the corporation.
- Approved Session meeting dates for 2023. Please keep in mind that all members of the congregation are welcome to attend Session meetings as an observer. Call the office to find a meeting date.
- Elected commissioners for the February Homestead Presbytery meeting.
- Approved the Annual Statistical Report. The Clerk of Session will submit the report. It contains demographic information about the congregation as well as financial data.
- Approved a request from Monmouth College Chorale to use our building for a concert on March 4, 2023. A meal will be provided.
- Approved two baptisms.

