

***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

Trish 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

Hebrew Scriptures Exodus 17:1-7

O.T. pg. 64

Gospel Lesson and Sermon

Rev. Chris Peters

Today's scripture, the Gospel Lesson of John 4:5-42 (N.T. pg. 94), will be broken up into four sections. During each section, we will explore the corresponding question.

- Reading 1 John 4:5-15
Question 1 “Where do you find living water?”
Reading 2 John 4:16-30
Question 2 “How can our understanding grow?”
Reading 3 John 4:31-38
Question 3 “What nourishes you today?”
Reading 4 John 4:39-42
Question 4 “Will we be bold enough to hear *and* to share?”

***Hymn #165**

The Glory of These Forty Days

Affirmation of Faith (A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

Moment of Gratitude

Special Music

"Sacred Waters" by Joseph Martin
Westminster Choir Sextet

Prayers of the People

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 #438**

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

“Christe, Du Lamm Gottes, BWV619” by J.S. Bach

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

Parts of today’s words for worship come from or are adapted from resources for the Third Sunday in Lent by Rev. Dr. Teri McDowell Ott in the Presbyterian Outlook, Feasting on the Word: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1 (Editor: Kimberly Bracken Long), and 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.

Ministers: The whole congregation

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

Liturgist: Deacon Carolyn McCall

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

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Ushers: Marilyn Hood, Joan Roberts, Kathy Anderson, Barbara Wright-Chollet

Greeters: Katie & Leo Zulkoski

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 March 12, 2023

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

Casual Membership Discussion

When: Today, immediately following worship.

Where: In the Garden Room. Look for the table with a balloon.

"I feel included and welcomed here. Westminster is a warm place."

"The worship and music help me reset for the week."

"Because it's my church family."

These are a few of the many reasons Westminster members have identified when asked *why* they are members of Westminster. At Westminster, all are welcome and we hope all who enter our community and our spaces feel a sense of belonging. One way of strengthening that connection is to become a member of Westminster. Joining as a member provides a more formal and public step of commitment to making this particular church and people the community in which you wish to worship and follow Jesus. Membership also opens even more doors of involvement in ministry and mission, while giving you a voice and vote in congregational meetings.

Wanting to learn more about WPC? This time is for you! You'll be able to spend about 15 minutes connecting with members, including church elders, to ask questions and hear about a more detailed membership class session meeting soon.

Already planning to join WPC? This time is also for you! In addition to asking questions, you'll have the opportunity to find a Sunday to join in the very near future (maybe even the following Sunday!), and we'll have New Member Information Forms for you to fill out.

Adult Education Series: "Why Do I Serve? Let Me Tell You My Story."

Sundays at 10:45 AM | Lounge

Today - Kathy Rohwedder

March 19 - Allen Wachter

March 26 -TBA

Bag Lunch Book Discussion

with Pastor Chris



Third Tuesday (3/21, 4/18, 5/16).
Noon. WPC Library.

Bag Lunch Book Discussion with Pastor Chris
Growing Young: 6 Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church

What are our core commitments as a congregation, and how do they compare to churches that are vital and vibrant in this “post-Christian” world? Pack a lunch and come explore these and similar questions with Pastor Chris during our first series of “Bag Lunch Book Discussions” focusing on Study, Discussion, and Table Fellowship.

Growing Young is a book published by the Fuller Seminar Youth Institute that will be read by Westminster’s Session over the next three months. From the first chapter, “The news for the church is not all gloom and doom... All around the country, hundreds of “bright spot” congregations are effectively loving and serving young people. We call these churches that grow young because:

1. They are engaging young people ages 15 to 29; and
2. They are growing – spiritually, emotionally, missionally, and sometimes also numerically.

This book describes what we found. It spells out the *core commitments* of churches that are... growing young.”

A few copies of the book are still available on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact Joanne (joanne@westminsterlincoln.org) for a copy!

Growing Young Bag Lunch Reading Schedule at Noon

March 21: Chapters 1-3 (Growing Young; Unlock Keychain Leadership; Empathize with Today’s Young People)

April 18: Chapters 4-6 (Take Jesus’ Message Seriously; Fuel a Warm Community; Prioritize Young People (and Families) Everywhere)

May 16: Chapters 7-8 + Appendix (Be the Best Neighbors; Growing Young in Your Context; Research Methods + Procedures)

Prairie Readers | Wed., March 15 | 1 PM in the Lounge

The Book for March is *"The Woman in the Library"*, by Sulari Gentill.
Discussion Leader: Martha Van Sickle.

History Buffs Resumes | Sat., March 18 | 9 AM in the Lounge

We are resuming History Buffs for March, April, and May 2023 starting with Dr. Ken Govaerts, Civil Engineer, History Buff, Story Teller speaking on "Historical accomplishments of Abraham Lincoln and other famous Civil Rights leaders." Dr. Ken's bio: Retired Civil Engineer and life-long educator, both university engineering faculty and corporate technical and engineering training.

Westminster Foundation

What questions do you have about the Westminster Foundation? Your Foundation trustees have set a goal to communicate regularly with the congregation throughout the church year. Please share your questions with a foundation trustee. We want to be sure we're addressing your questions and look forward to hearing from you.

Westminster Foundation trustees include: Joyce Douglas, Mark Schorr, Pat Leach, Allen Wachter, David Anderson, Erika Schafer, Steve Hughes, Sandi Larson, Greg Hershberger and Jim White.

Sunday Youth Group | March 26, 5 PM

Are you ready for Chopped: The Feeding of the Five Judges Part 2? It is almost time! Brush up on your kitchen skills over the next couple of weeks and get ready to whip up a masterpiece on Sunday, March 26.

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. Collection buckets are at the East entrance.

VBS 2023: Make Waves | June 5-9, 9 AM – 12 Noon

What you do today can change the world around you.

It's time to get your kids registered for VBS! Kids ages 4 through 5th grade are invited to register before June 3

at <https://vbsmate.com/westminsterlincoln>. Registration is \$15/child (\$45 max/family). Adult and youth volunteers are welcome to sign up at the same link.

