

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

April 9, 2023

Easter Sunday / Resurrection of the Lord

Prelude "Prelude and Fugue in C, BWV 531" by J.S. Bach

Welcome Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

Choral Introit "Risen Indeed" by Allen Pote
Westminster Choir

***Call to Worship** (adapted from Psalm 32 and liturgical
resources) 8 am Deacon Kathy Phillip
10 am Sarah Baltensperger

One: This is the day that the Lord has made; let
us rejoice and be glad in it.

All: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

One: This is the good news we have received, in
which we stand, and by which we are saved:

All: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

One: That Christ died and was buried, and rose
again on the third day.

All: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

One: Jesus appeared to Peter, and to the twelve,
and to many faithful witnesses.

All: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

One: At last Jesus came to us, that we might
come to believe and proclaim this good news to
the world.

All: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

***Hymn: Jesus Christ is Risen Today** **Insert**

***Call to Confession**

***Time of Silent Confession**



Welcome to Easter
Sunday at
Westminster! At
Westminster, we strive
to be an inclusive faith
family that "expands
our lives in faith,
connects people
deeply, and makes a
difference through
service." If you are
visiting with us, please
take a red visitor bag
with you today. Those
are located in the
Sheridan Blvd. entry
hallway (called the
"Narthex").

What's the deal with Easter? The word, Easter, comes from a term meaning "dawn." For Christians, Easter is a celebration of Jesus Christ's resurrection and defeat of death following the events of Holy Week, which included Jesus's death on a Roman Cross on the preceding Friday. In the first 300 years of Christian practice, "Christ's passion, death, and resurrection were commemorated together" on one day. Sometime in the 4th Century, the Church came to agreement that Easter would be celebrated on a Sunday. (*Introduction to Christian Worship*, James F White, cited).

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

Lord Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit you raise us from the waters of baptism to share in your glorious resurrection. Yet we do not always live as Easter people. We are unsure of your promise, skeptical of your will, and fearful in the face of mystery. Like Mary, we weep at the tomb, but do not recognize you quickly. Call us by name, risen Lord, that we may know you with confidence. Whenever we are tempted to fear loss, give us courage to confess your Easter victory. Whenever we are drawn into conflict, keep our minds on your reconciling love. Forgive our sin and renew our whole lives, that we might live as people claimed by your grace. In Christ and by the power of the Spirit, we pray. Amen.

***Response to the Confession**

Christ the Lord is Risen Today!

Insert

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

...Believe and share the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

***Response of Praise**

#581 Gloria Patri

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 (10 AM)

Trish Souliere

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Gospel Lesson John 20:1-18 N.T. pg. 114

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

Sermon “Who Are We Seeking?” Rev. Chris Peters

Hymn: *Thine Is the Glory*

Insert

*Affirmation 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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Special Music

"Glorious Day" Mark Hall and
Michael Bleecker, arr. Mary McDonald
Westminster Choir

Prayers of the People

8 am Deacon Kathy Phillip
10 am Sarah Baltensperger

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

Westminster is a Presbyterian Church (USA) congregation. The Brief Statement of Faith is one of the many documents in our Book of Confessions. The Statement was written as a guiding confessional statement for the "new" Presbyterian Church USA following reunification in the 1980's. The Brief Statement is written in three main sections, each one describing traits of the Holy Trinity, along with how Presbyterians believe the Trinity enables or participates in the life of faith. This Easter, our Affirmation of Faith is the Jesus-focused section of the Statement.

"This majestic hymn celebrates the paradox that for Christians a means of painful death has been transformed into a symbol of renewed life; a sign of defeat has become an emblem of victory. With the cross traced on our foreheads at Baptism we are marked as Christ's own forever." (from Glory to God hymnal footnotes, 826). Presbyterians embrace the image of an empty cross, reflecting our belief in new life and possibility in Jesus Christ.

Ministers: The whole congregation

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

Liturgists: 8 AM
Deacon Kathy Phillip
10 AM Sarah Baltensperger

Music Director:
Ronnie Zanella

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children

& Youth: Trish Souliere

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: *Lift High the Cross

Insert

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

"Toccata from *Symphonie No. 5*"
by C.M. Widor, arr. R. Proulx

*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.

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.



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

Ushers: 8 AM Joan & Bill Roberts, David & Kathy Anderson
10 AM Diana Wild, Marilyn Hood, Joyce Douglas,
Shalla Young, Robyn Uebele

Greeters: 8 AM Josh Whitfield, Valery Wachter
10 AM Josh Whitfield, Janice Rohwedder

Guest Musicians: Andrew Linden & Josias Perez, *trumpet*; Eric Linke, *horn*; Ramon Araújo, *trombone*; Kason Fiedler, *tuba*; Dietrich Hitt, *timpani*; Tamario Brooks, *percussion*



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

The week of April 9, 2023

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

Coffee and Conversation

Join us for coffee and conversation between services today in the Garden Room.

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. (Matthew 25:35)

You are invited to join the Westminster Mission team as we follow the call of the gospel of Matthew for Christians. A team of volunteers cook, serve, and clean up for **Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach** the first Friday on even numbered months. We arrive around 5 PM and are ready to leave by 7 PM. If you have questions or would like to be part of the team, please contact Gary Haller or the church office.

Thank You!

Many thanks, Westminster, for providing loads of candy to fill our eggs for the annual Easter egg hunt! Many more thanks to our faithful reception desk volunteers for filling our plastic eggs! Thanks to your generosity and efforts, Eggstravaganza hunters searched for over 1,000 eggs on Wednesday evening. You all are phenomenal!

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

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.

Prairie Readers | Wed., April 19 | 1 PM in the Lounge

The book for April is “Sparks Like Stars,” by Nadia Hashimi.

Discussion Leader: Lisa DeBuse

Stewardship/Finance Highlight

This week's Finance highlight looks back to last Sunday's Palm Sunday celebration. Westminster's budget supports our purchase of Eco Palms, an economical and sustainably-sourced provider of palms. The cost of \$90 for 200 palms for our 200+ worshippers was funded by our Worship and Music ministry budget, supported by your annual pledges and Westminster Foundation budget support!

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 Bag Lunch Reading Schedule at Noon

April 18: Chapters 4-6

May 16: Chapters 7-8 + Appendix

You're invited!

2023 Faith Partners Kickoff Breakfast

Wed., April 19, 8 to 9:30 AM

Habitat ReStore – 5601 S. 59th Street

Habitat’s mission is to [put God’s love into action](#) by bringing people together to build homes, communities and hope. Join our network of faith partners to help families in need of safe, affordable housing in Lincoln. Find out more about how your congregation can help by attending our Kickoff on Wednesday, April 19. Enjoy inspiration, fellowship and free breakfast at this informative event. We’d love to see you there and look forward to [doing great things together!](#) RSVP Rose Opbroek at ropbroek@lincolnhabitat.org or 402.660.6193. Please RSVP by April 17.

We Need to Hear from You

To conserve resources, we are updating our mailing list for *The Messenger* and want to know your preferences. We are asking you to choose one of the options below and email your preference to joanne@westminsterlincoln.org by April 25. If we don’t hear back from you, we will no longer mail *The Messenger* to you. If you are unable to respond by email, call the church office at 402-475-6702. Please know that you can always be added back to the list by contacting the church.

1. Send *The Messenger* to my email address, which is: _____ and discontinue sending it in the mail. If you are getting *The Messenger* by email only, there is no need to contact the church. We’ll continue to send it to your email.
2. I no longer wish to receive *The Messenger*.
3. Continue to mail a paper copy of *The Messenger*.

Week Beginning April 9

<p><u>Sun. (9) Easter</u> 8 AM Easter Worship 9:15 AM Coffee and Conversation, Garden Room 10 AM Easter Worship 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p> <p><u>Mon. (10)</u> Church building closed for staff holiday. 6 PM Mission & Outreach, Zoom 6 PM Children & Youth, Zoom</p> <p><u>Tues. (11)</u> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 10 AM Circle 5, Lounge 10:30 AM Finance Committee, Library 5 PM Personnel, Zoom 6 PM Welcoming Task Force, Lounge 6 PM A & P, Zoom</p>	<p><u>Wed. (12)</u> 10 AM Presbytery Admin & Finance, Lounge 1:30 PM Hearts & Hands, Library 5 PM Foundation Board Meeting, Lounge 5:30 PM Westminster LiNK 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><u>Sun. (16)</u> 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 9:40 AM Faith Village 10:40 AM Adult Ed., Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship 6:30 PM Youth Group</p>
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Please see the “Stewardship/Finance Highlight” from the past week in the eVine. This highlight shares an activity or function in the life of Westminster that was funded specifically because of our budget and your giving through pledges!

Televised Worship

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

Channel 1302/Spectrum & Channel 13/Windstream.

Worship services are available on-line at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/@WestminsterLincoln/streams>



Easter Lilies 2023

Donations for Easter lilies are given by the following members and friends:

In loving memory of Tom & Eleanor Adamson, by Cathy Adamson and Nancy Leavitt

In loving memory of Isaac T. Avery, Jr. & Caroline L. Avery and Roland Campbell, by Marybell Avery & Stan Campbell

In loving memory of Earl & Florence Beard, by Martha Beard Dennis

In honor of Charlotte Campbell, by Marybell Avery & Stan Campbell

In memory of Dr. Henry Cech, by Lesley and Kent Jagers and Sydney and Steve Uthoff

In loving memory of Sylvia & Lou Chollet and Joseph & Marjorie Glover, by Barb Wright-Chollet & Ray Chollet

In loving memory of our loved ones who have gone before us, by Mindy Cole & Katie Cole Dement

In honor of our loving parents, Dana & Kay Cole, by Mindy Cole & Katie Cole Dement

In loving memory of Robert C. (Bob) Dawson, by Nancy Dawson

In loving memory of Chip Hackley, by Pat Hackley

In loving memory of The Rev. Roger Harp, by Carolyn Harp

Given by Helen Hayes & Janet Hayes

In loving memory of our Skelley & Hershberger parents, by Cathy & Greg Hershberger

In honor of my granddaughter, Rachel Hoffman, by Carolyn Harp

In loving memory of Claire & John Hoppe, by Susan & John Hoppe, Jr.

In loving memory of Macy Michelle Jagers by Lesley, Kent and Kyle Jagers and Avery, Myles, Rowan and Reese Eklund

In loving memory of our stepparents, by Karen & John Janovy, Jr.

In loving memory of Earl & Florence Luff, by Art & Earlene Knox

In loving memory of the greatest and most loving husband, father and grandfather, Ted Maude, by Marilyn Maude & Family

In loving memory of Bill Newson, beloved father, by Jim & Dorothy Smiley

In loving memory of Bernie & Marylu Nider and Don Kreiter, by Susie Kreiter; Chris Nider; Laurie, Andy, Natasha, Maggie & Travis Glenn; Julie, Joe, Josh, Rachael & Jason Madsen; Pat & Natalie Nider

In loving memory of Harold & Lucille Nootz, Nina & Chris Nootz and Mary Nootz, by Pam & Rex Martin

In loving memory of Thomas Olson, by Cynthia Olson

In loving memory of our parents, Steve & Lala Owen and Bob & Nell McKee, by Bill & Robin Owen

In honor of all past and present members of the U.S. Military, by Bill & Robin Owen

In loving memory of Margot Peterson, by Jon Peterson

In loving memory of Leo & Zetta Phillip and Ray & Helen Matulka, by Kathy Phillip

In loving memory of Marilyn J. Rooney, by Michael J. Rooney

In loving memory of Ray & Mary Esther Stevens, Vernon & Elnor Dunn, Gerald D. Myers, by Karen & Ray Stevens

In honor of Ron Wachter, by Allen Wachter

In honor of Jo Waddell, by Cynthia Olson

In loving memory of Glenn Wagner, by Sally Butler

In loving memory of Helen Wagner, by Sally Butler

In loving memory of James & Nancy Weesner, by Amy & Tim Clare

In loving memory and appreciation of Jeannie and Bus Whitehead, by Sydney and Steve Uthoff; Brittany and Matt Goldberg; Lesley, Kent and Kyle Jagggers; Avery, Myles, Rowan and Reese Eklund; and Mark, Chris, Maddie and Katie Whitehead

In loving memory of Dale & Norma Young, by Shalla Young & Phil Young

Donations made to one of the WPC Endowment Funds:

In loving memory of Earl & Florence Beard, by Martha Beard Dennis

Given by Helen Hayes & Janet Hayes

In loving memory of Claire & John Hoppe, by Susan & John Hoppe, Jr.

In loving memory of the greatest and most loving husband, father and grandfather, Ted Maude, by Marilyn Maude & Family

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In loving memory of Margot Peterson, by Jon Peterson

In loving memory of Robert "Bob" Rohrbaugh, by Ginny Rohrbaugh & Family

In loving memory of Marilyn J. Rooney, by Michael J. Rooney

In loving memory of Ted Schirmer, by Regi Schirmer

In loving memory of H. Darrell & Esther Shanklin, by Jimmy & Carol Shelbourn

In honor of Ron Wachter, by Allen Wachter

In honor of Jo Waddell, by Cynthia Olson