

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



June 25, 2023

Proper 7

The Meaning of Our Calling IV

Prelude "Dearest Jesus, We Are Here" BWV 633 by J.S. Bach

Welcome Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

***Call to Worship (Psalm 86, select verses; NRSV)**

Elder Margaret Sprude

One: Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you O Lord, I lift up my soul.

All: For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.

One: For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you.

All: For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.

One: There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours.

All: For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.

***Hymn #826**

Lift High the Cross

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Time of Silent Confession**

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

You call us, O Lord, and reveal the meaning of our calling in the stories of Jesus. Yet even when we see your good purpose for our lives, we hedge and hesitate. Lord, we fear that naming our faith beyond the church walls might get us labeled by our friends.

We fear that telling the truth of your justice will cause us to be put down or pushed aside. We fear claiming the good news of your radical love will create tension in our relationships. Lord, relieve our fears today. Help us to see our value in your eyes so that we might see the value you have for others. Forgive us. Renew us. Guide us, in the name of Jesus 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** #654
***In the Lord I'll be ever thankful;
in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God; do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.
Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.***

***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 Rev. Chris Peters

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Hbrew Scripture Jeremiah 20:7-13 O.T. pg. 722
Gospel Lesson Matthew 10:24-39 N.T. pg. 10
The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Sermon "Speaking Jesus Means Speaking Boldly"
Rev. Chris Peters

Special Music

"Take Up Your Cross" by Thomas Keesecker
Westminster Choir

Sacrament of Baptism Amanda Edge and Joshua Dean Swanson

Apostles' Creed (Modern Version)

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.

Baptismal Affirmation by Congregation

Elder: Do you, the members of Westminster, promise to welcome Amanda and Josh, to walk with them in their faith and in their questions, and to be a friend in their journey with Jesus?

All: We do. Amanda and Josh, we welcome you with joy and hope, energy and enthusiasm, laughter and communion, nurture and faith, love and acceptance.

New Member Recognition

Elder: I invite all gathered to welcome our new Westminster members using the printed words of welcome...

All: We welcome you to the Westminster church family, and pledge to support you in our shared worship, faith, and service together. With you we are more the church Christ is calling us to be!

Prayers of the People

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

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 #526**

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

"I Trust, O Christ, in You Alone" by Johann Pachelbel

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

Today's liturgy (our words in worship) come from The Presbyterian Outlook's Order of Worship for June 18, 2023, written by Rev. Stephanie Sorge, Pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Harrisonburg, VA

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 red Giving Baskets following the service. These are located by the Sheridan Blvd. doors in the narthex and near the top of the stairs in the sanctuary on the Garden Room / South side. Look for the red baskets and signs that read "Giving Basket." Ushers monitor the baskets and collect the offerings following the service. **For online giving,** scan the QR code.



Ministers: The whole congregation

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

Liturgist: Elder Margaret Sprude

Music Director: Ronnie Zanella

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Ushers: Becky Bockrath, Martha Kingsbury, Suzanne Bartlett

Greeters: Joyce Douglas and Marilyn Hood

Dishwashers: Dorrie Gage and Becky Bockrath



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

The week of June 25, 2023

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

This June in worship we are exploring the question of the meaning of our calling as disciples today, using stories from the gospel of Matthew as our guide. This summer, let’s dig into discipleship because worship is always in season!” --Pastor Chris

The Meaning of Our Calling: A Worship Series in Matthew

June 25 *Speaking Jesus Means Speaking Boldly*

In our **July 2 worship service**, our sermon time will focus on WPC elders sharing about their experience of also serving as one of Westminster’s commissioners to presbytery. In the PCUSA, we are a “connectional” church, as Pastor Chris noted in his sermon last week. One way we connect is through our representative leadership – sending three elders to our regional presbytery meetings to vote on decisions and to connect with other churches. We will sing the hymns, *From All that Dwell Below the Skies* and *Here I Am, Lord!*

Adult Education in June

Join Pastor Jimmy Shelbourn at 10:45 AM in the Lounge today for the last session exploring the PC(USA) Book of Confessions. Today’s topic is *Recent Confessions – C. ’67, Brief Statement of Faith, & Belhar*

GREEN TIPS – Sunlight can quickly heat up a room and strain the A/C. Close blinds or drapes on the sunny side of your house to save energy and money!

If you have other tips to share, please send them to Pastor Jimmy jimmy@westminsterlincoln.org

Chevo, Coffee Farmer

Chevo is one of the most dedicated and hardworking people you will ever find. He has over 40 years of experience and takes pride in producing some of Costa Rica's finest coffee. But before Café Con Amor and the direct sourcing of the Farmers Project he had never tasted a cup of the coffee grown and nurtured with his own hands. This morning he shares that pleasure with you! Enjoy your cup of ethical coffee.

Westminster at the Movies

Today at 1 PM at the Joyo Theater (6102 Havelock Ave.), plan to spend the afternoon watching the 1993 movie "The Sandlot." The Sandlot takes place in the summer of 1962, when a new kid in town is taken under the wing of a young baseball prodigy. We have invited the congregation from Good Shepherd to join us and it should be a fun afternoon. Refreshments are available for purchase.

Anniversary Celebration, 50 Years!!

Friday, July 7, 2023 | 2 to 5 PM

You are invited to help Steve & Susie celebrate their 50th Anniversary! Mark your calendars and join us for an Open House reception honoring Steve and Susie Hughes in 50 years of marriage at The Museum of American Speed, located at: 599 Oakcreek Drive, Lincoln, NE. Come help us celebrate with cake. The Museum will be open for you to enjoy the various cars and antique displays.

Used Book Sale

It's official! This year's Book Sale will be held in Fellowship Hall August 13-20. Start checking your shelves for items to donate—books (of course!), puzzles, games, CDs and DVDS—and bring them to the church library **NO LATER THAN AUG 9**. This is the sole source of funds for library materials, and we always have lots to choose from, so donate and then buy!

Service Project Worship Service!

“Kids Against Hunger” Food Packing

Sunday, August 6th, 9:30-11:00am in the Westminster Gym

With excitement, you are invited to join us for a unique worship service on Sunday, August 6th! That day Westminster will team up with Heartland Kids Against Hunger (heartlandkah.org) to pack 12,500 meal kits during our worship! Here’s a Q&A as you prepare for this fun and joyful Sunday together:

Where will we worship? Worship will take place in the Westminster Gym (with entry on the preschool hallway across from Faith Village).

What will our worship look like? Worship will include a Call to Worship, Special Music piece, scripture, brief message and time for our project. Communion may move to the following Sunday, pending Session approval.

What ages can come? All ages! Families are encouraged to participate. Nursery and a kids’ option will be available for our youngest disciples.

What should I wear? This will be a “casual Sunday,” so please wear clothes that are comfortable for a service project. Closed-toe shoes are recommended, and all participants will be asked to wear a hair net for the packing time for food safety considerations. Look out for Pastor Chris in shorts that Sunday!

Will we livestream? We will not livestream our full Sunday service, but Pastor Chris will pre-record a 30-minute service for our YouTube worshippers.

What if I have other questions? Reach out to Pastor Chris (chris@westminsterlincoln.org) or Mission/Outreach Chair Glenna Haller!

PW Fall Kick-Off

Presbyterian Women invites all women of Westminster to attend our annual **Fall Kick-off** on Sat., Aug. 19, at 10:30 AM. We will meet for coffee, fellowship, and introduce the PW 2023-2024

Bible study called "Sacred Encounters: the Power and Presence of Jesus in Luke-Acts." Study books will be available for purchase.

Save the Date! YOU are invited to participate!

Saturday, August 26, Westminster will be hosting Covenant Conversation: Nebraska. Churches and Presbyteries across Nebraska have been invited to gather right here for a time of learning, sharing, and discovering what it means to be a church that welcomes all. Watch for more details on our Facebook page and The Vine and E-vine. -From the Welcoming Task Force

Staff Schedules

- Pastor Jimmy will be on vacation from June 26 - July 4.
- Richard will be out of town July 3 through July 6.
- Trish will be working from home this week, as she continues to recuperate from her June 20 knee surgery.

Week Beginning June 25

<p><u>Sun. (25)</u> 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship with Baptism, New Members 10:45 AM Adult Education, Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship, Chapel 1 PM Westminster at the Movies: <i>The Sandlot</i>, Joyo Theater</p> <p><u>Mon. (26)</u> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Reading Bible in a Year, Library 3 PM Communications Meeting, Lounge 6 PM Session, Lounge</p> <p><u>Tues. (27)</u> 10 AM Library Summer Events, FH 5:30 PM Deacons, Lounge</p>	<p><u>Thurs. (29)</u> 9 AM Friendship Home, Fellowship Hall 5 PM Ladies' Night Out, Billy's</p> <p><u>Sun. (July 2)</u> 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 12 Noon Sudanese Worship, Chapel</p> <p>The Church office will be closed on Monday, July 3rd and Tuesday, July 4th for the Independence Day holiday.</p>
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Worship services are available on-line at this link:

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