

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



July 2, 2023

Proper 8

Presbytery Report Sunday

Prelude

"Simple Gifts" by J. Wayne Kerr

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

***Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 13)**

Skyler Bennett

One: Let us sing to the Lord!

All: Our God has dealt bountifully with us.

One: The night was dark, and God's face seemed hidden.

All: In sorrow and pain, we cried out to God.

One: Still we trusted in God's steadfast love,

All: And now our hearts rejoice in God's salvation!

***Hymn #327**

From All That Dwell Below the Skies

***Call to Confession**

Elder Kathy Rohwedder

***Time of Silent Confession**

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

God of Providence, your faithfulness is from everlasting to everlasting, but we fail to trust. You hold all creation in the palm of your hand, but we take our lives into our own hands more often than we would like to admit. When we trust ourselves more than your grace, forgive us. When we get caught up in our own strivings, relieve us. When we think the world rests on our shoulders, remind us. Call us back to your way. Teach us to turn our lives over to your gracious care. Amen.

***Response to the Confession** #471
*O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
When I call, answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
Come and listen to me.*

***Assurance of Forgiveness** Elder Kathy Rohwedder
...Believe and share the good news!
In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

***Response of Praise** #616
*Our God is an awesome God
who reigns from heaven above
with wisdom, power, and love;
our God is an awesome God!*

***Passing of the Peace** Elder Margaret Sprude
*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 Karen Hoffman

Prayer for Illumination Skyler Bennett

Scripture
Gospel Lesson Matthew 10:40-42 N.T. pg. 11
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Called to Service: As Westminster Elders
and Presbytery Commissioners"
Elders Margaret Sprude, Kathy Rohwedder and Glenna Haller

***Hymn #69 I, the Lord of Sea and Sky (Here I Am, Lord)**

Affirmation of Faith (Confession of 1967) Skyler Bennett
*To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as
God's reconciling community. This community, the
church universal, is entrusted with God's message of
reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the
enmities which separate people from God and from
each other. Christ has called the church to this*

mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call.

Special Music "I Stand In Awe" by Chris Tomlin, arr. Dan Galbraith
Catriona McNeally, *soprano*
Ronnie Zanella, *piano and baritone*

Prayers of the People Elder Glenna Haller

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 #300** **We Are One in the Spirit**

***Charge & Benediction** Elders Margaret, Kathy and Glenna

Postlude "God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens" by Dale Wood

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

Today's liturgy is adapted from The Presbyterian Outlook's Order of Worship for July 2, 2023, written by Rev. Ginna Bairby, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Taos, New Mexico.

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

Liturgists: Skyler Bennett, Elders Margaret Sprude, Kathy Rohwedder and Glenna Haller

Music Director: Ronnie Zanella

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Ushers: Carol Boehler, Diana Wild, Deb Schorr

Greeters: Kathy and David Anderson

Dishwashers: Becky Bockrath, Dave and Barb Arunski

Communion Changes in July and August

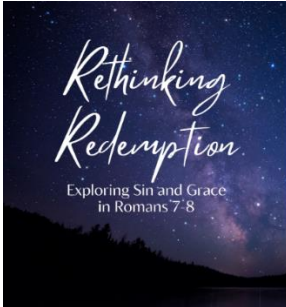
In July and August, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper on the second Sunday. That's July 9th and August 13th. Both changes have been approved by Westminster's Session. Communion will resume our regular "first Sunday" schedule in September.



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

The week of July 2, 2023

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



“If you’ve ever stuck your foot in your mouth, disappointed a friend, or even hurt a loved one, you know the aftermath is not a fun feeling. The good news is that grace can help us move forward with hope! The Apostle Paul wrestled with similar feelings while exploring sin and redemption in his letter to the early Christian church in Rome. From Taylor Swift to the Beatles and other (nonmusical) examples,

in July we’ll be Rethinking Redemption with Paul as our guide. This summer, let’s dig into discipleship because worship is always in season!”

--Pastor Chris on our July worship series

Rethinking Redemption: Exploring Sin and Grace in Romans 7-8

July 9	I’m the Problem, It’s Me
July 16	Sin’s the Problem in Us
July 23	Finding Answers to the Problem
July 30	Christ’s Love is Always the Answer

What to Expect in Worship: Sunday, July 9

On July 9, we begin a new series focusing on the 7th and 8th chapters of Romans: *Rethinking Redemption*. This Sunday’s texts are Psalm 145:8-14 and Romans 7:15-25a, and our sermon, “I’m the Problem, It’s Me” takes some outside inspiration from Taylor Swift! As a congregation we will sing, “God is Here!” “Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy,” and an inspiring meditative piece, “Amen.”

GREEN TIPS – Change out your furnace or A/C air filter every three months to increase efficiency and save money and energy.

If you have other tips to share, please send them to Pastor Jimmy

jimmy@westminsterlincoln.org

Adult Education in July

Elder Ernie Hines will begin a four-part series on the Psalms on July 9 at 10:45 AM in the Lounge.

July 9: Exploring the Psalms — The Shaping of the Psalter

July 16: Exploring the Psalms — King David, Books I & II

July 23: Exploring the Psalms — Solomon and Exile, Books III & IV

July 30: Exploring the Psalms — God Reigns, Book V

Stop by the Garden Room after worship to enjoy conversation with friends and a cup of coffee that was sustainably grown and ethically produced. This is what justice tastes like!

Hearts & Hands

Hearts & Hands is a fun-loving group that meets every Wed. from 1:30 – 3 PM, in the church library. Our mission is to knit and crochet items for the People's City Mission—hats, scarves, baby items, toys, etc. We donate finished items in Nov. before the holidays. All needle work folks are welcome to come visit and see what you're missing! Laughter is free. All yarn donations are welcome! Questions? Call Francys Scheele, 402-310-4212.

Mission/Outreach: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (“PDA”)

We have collected the Hygiene Kit items that you have so generously gifted and now our focus has changed to **School Kits**.

Please note - Same place. Different focus. The PDA bucket is now ready to receive items for the PDA School Kits.

- 1 Blunt Scissors
- 3 - 70 Count Spiral Notebooks
- 30 Centimeter Ruler (12”)
- Handheld Pencil Sharpener
- 6 - New Pencils with Erasers
- Large Eraser
- Box of 24 Crayons
- Cloth Bag

As before, you are welcome to complete a full kit or bring items which will be used to build a kit. Cloth bag sewing instructions are on the display or you can purchase bags to donate. Mission/Outreach thanks you for your support of this PDA project.

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 6, 9:30-11 AM 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! Details are in the July Messenger.



Josh Whitfield on “Inclusive Economy”

One of our very own will be “spotlighted” on the tv program “Inclusive Economy.” Josh Whitfield and his company, PooPatrol, LLC were asked to be a part of this program. As an advocate for himself and other people with disabilities, Josh gladly agreed to be a part of this project showing that people with intellectual or developmental disabilities are great workers and can even be business owners. This is a program produced

with the help from Nebraska Council of Developmental Disabilities, Nebraska Association of Specialized Providers and Nebraska Public Media and others. Nebraska Public Media will be televising the program July 5 at 7PM, July 9 at noon, July 19 at 7PM, and July 23 at noon. Watch and learn more about how you may contribute to an inclusive economy.

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.

Staff Schedules

- Pastor Jimmy will return from vacation on July 5.
- Pastor Chris is on vacation until July 9.

Beyond Words: From Mere Welcome to True Belonging

Registration is now open for Covenant Network of Presbyterians' Covenant Conversation: Nebraska, being held at Westminster, Saturday, August 26 from 9 AM – 4 PM. Check out the schedule and workshops! Join us for a great day!

<https://covnetpres.org/event/covenant-conversation-nebraska/?fbclid=IwAR1iRFs3ivqX0U9EXNypsGfYKiQNG8oPnSipEZZSdfDsBvPybsnMnogTFlo>

At this event, we'll join with friends from Homestead, Missouri River Valley, and Central Nebraska presbyteries to explore the following questions:

- As Christians who believe that God's love truly extends to all people, how can we show true hospitality to anyone who walks through our church doors, especially members of the LGBTQIA+ community?
- We've said we're welcoming, but how can we show this welcome beyond the walls of our churches and offer God's love to the broader community?
- At Covenant Conversation: Nebraska, we'll worship, learn, and converse together about how we can live into a "new day" in the church and renew our commitments to witnessing to God's love for the whole world.

The church office will be closed on Friday afternoons in July. Call Pastor Jimmy (402-239-5555) if you need pastoral care.

Week Beginning July 2

<u>Sun. (July 2)</u> 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 12 Noon Sudanese Worship, Chapel	<u>Wed. (July 5)</u> 1:30 PM Hearts & Hands
<u>Mon. (3) & Tues. (4)</u> Church office will be closed for the Independence Day holiday.	<u>Sun. (July 9)</u> 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship with Communion 10:45 AM Adult Education 12 Noon Sudanese Worship

Worship services are available on-line at this link:

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