

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



July 9, 2023

Proper 9

Rethinking Redemption: I'm the Problem, It's Me

Prelude

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

***Call to Worship (Psalm 145:1-5, Common English Bible)**

Deacon Claire Titus

One: I will lift you up high, my God, the true king.

All: I will bless your name forever and always.

One: I will bless you every day.

All: I will praise your name forever and always.

One: The Lord is great and so worthy of praise!

All: God's greatness can't be grasped.

One: One generation will praise your works to the next one, proclaiming your mighty acts. They will talk all about the glorious splendor of your majesty;

All: I will contemplate your wondrous works.

***Hymn #409**

God Is Here! (v.1-3)

***Call to Confession**

Deacon Claire Titus

***Time of Silent Confession**

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

Holy One, we confess to you and to each other that we are tired and weighed down by the mistakes we have made. When we encounter your grace the weight of sin is clear. We tend to guiltily replay our lies, greed, anger, selfishness, judging, and apathy even when you have shown us mercy. We give this burden to you, mindful of Jesus' promise that he will

*give us rest, thankful for the hope we find in the gift of grace. Help us trust in you as we go forward.
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** Deacon Claire Titus
...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**
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 Jaime Hemmerling

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Hebrew Bible Psalm 145:8-14 O.T. pg. 581
Gospel Lesson Romans 7:15-25a N.T. pg. 157
The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Sermon "I'm the Problem, It's Me" Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #415** **Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy**

Moment of Gratitude
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Special Music

"Creation Sings!" trad. Irish melody
words by Shirley Murray
Michael Jha, *baritone*

The Lord's Supper Invitation

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

Blessing of the Elements Prayer after Communion

*Hymn #601

Amen (x4)

*Charge & Benediction

Pastor Chris Peters

Postlude

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

Parts of today's words for worship come from or are adapted from Feasting on the Word: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 2; Dr. Kimberly Bracken Long, Editor. Today's Prayer of Confession is adapted from Feasting on the Word, incorporating language by Pastor Chris.

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: Claire Titus

Music Director: Ronnie Zanella

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Ushers: Marybell Avery, Joyce Douglas, Joan Roberts, Kathy Anderson

Greeters: Stephanie and Scott Rogers

Dishwashers: Marijane England and Joan Roberts

Communion Servers: Elders Jaime Hemmerling, Ernie Hines, Ray Stevens, Jim Hlava, Tom Welstead

Communion Changes in July and August

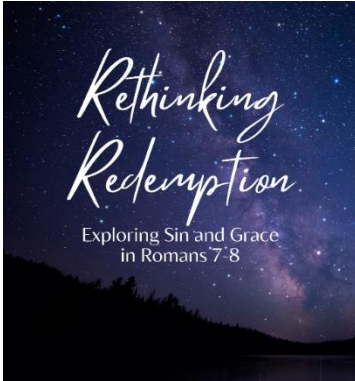
In July and August, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper on the second Sunday. That's July 9th and August 13th. Both changes have been approved by Westminster's Session. Communion will resume our regular "first Sunday" schedule in September.



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

The week of July 9, 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

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| July 9 | I’m the Problem, It’s Me, Romans 7:15-25a |
| July 16 | Sin’s the Problem in Us, Romans 8:1-11 |
| July 23 | Finding Answers to the Problem, Romans 8:12-25 |
| July 30 | Christ’s Love is Always the Answer, Romans 8:26-39 |

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

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| 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 |

We pray for peace and comfort for the family and friends of **Clifford Bomberger** who died on July 5. The **funeral** will be on Tues., July 11, 11 AM, at Roper and Sons Midtown Chapel, 4300 'O' St.

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Mission/Outreach: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance ("PDA") School Kits

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

Please notice - 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")
- Hand Held 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 and the eVine.



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 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.

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 November 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 Francy Scheele, 402-310-4212

GREEN TIPS – Use LED bulbs in lamps and fixtures to save at least 75% on energy and the cost of lighting.

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

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.

Beyond Words: From Mere Welcome to True Belonging

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

<https://covnetpres.org/event/covenant-conversation-nebraska/?fbclid=IwAR1iRFs3ivqX0U9EXNypsGfYKiQNG8oPnSipEZZSDFdsBvPybsnMnogTFlo>

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 9

<p><u>Sun. (July 9)</u> 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship with Communion 10:45 AM Adult Education, Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p>	<p>10 AM South Branch Library Summer Event, FH 10:30 AM Stewardship & Finance, Library 5 PM Personnel, Zoom</p>
<p><u>Mon. (July 10)</u> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Reading Bible in a Year, Library 5 PM Church Life, Library 5:30 PM Worship & Music, Lounge 6 PM Mission & Outreach, FH 6 PM Children & Youth, Zoom</p>	<p><u>Wed. (July 12)</u> 1:30 PM Hearts & Hands</p>
<p><u>Tues. (July 11)</u> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p><u>Sun. (July 16)</u> 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 10:45 AM Adult Education, Lounge 11:30 AM Youth Group, Water Fun at Good Shepherd 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p>

Worship services are available on-line at this link:

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