

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



July 30, 2023

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 12

Rethinking Redemption:

Christ's Love is Always the Answer

Prelude

"Prelude" by C.S. Lang

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

***Call to Worship (Psalm 119:132-133)** Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

One: Blessed be God whose word gives hope and shapes our dreams.

All: God, whose love has conquered death.

One: Blessed be God who orders our way and guides our steps.

All: God who leads us into life.

One: Let us worship God with gratitude for new life in Christ!

***Hymn #366**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

***Call to Confession**

Deacon April Kaul

***Time of Silent Confession**

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

Loving God, you invite us into faith, yet even when we walk in faith we fall short. We confess that we have turned away from you and have not lived with upright hearts. We confess that we have placed other priorities ahead of the priority of loving you and

loving others. Forgive us for failing to follow you as well as we would like. Guide our feet to walk in your ways and serve your world to the glory of your name. 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 April Kaul
...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 Sarah Baltensperger

Special Music "Who Will Separate Us from the Love of Christ?"
by Philip Stopford
Westminster Choir

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Hebrew Scripture Psalm 119:129-136 O.T. pg. 569
Gospel Lesson Romans 8:26-39 N.T. pg. 158

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

Sermon

“Christ’s Love is Always the Answer”
Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #846**

Fight the Good Fight

***Affirmation of Faith (The Study Catechism:
Confirmation Version, Q1-3)**

Deacon April Kaul

What is God's purpose for your life?

God wills that I should live by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, for the love of God, and in the communion of the Holy Spirit.

*How do you live by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ?
I am not my own. I have been bought with a price.
The Lord Jesus Christ loved me and gave himself for me. I entrust myself completely to his care, giving thanks each day for his wonderful goodness.*

*How do you live for the love of God?
I love because God first loved me. Amazed by grace, I live for the Lord who died and rose again, triumphant over death, for my sake. Therefore, I take those around me to heart, especially those in need, knowing that Christ died for them no less than for me.*

**Moment of Gratitude
Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Prayers of the People
Lord’s Prayer**

Deacon April Kaul

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 #840**

It Is Well with My Soul

*Charge & Benediction

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

"Epilogue" by Norman Gilbert

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

Today's words for worship come from scriptures of the day, Feasting on the Word Worship Companion (Editor: Rev. Dr. Kimberly Bracken Long), and the Confirmation Study Catechism.

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: Deacon April Kaul

Music Director: Ronnie Zanella

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Ushers: Erika, Dan, Ben & Sara Schafer

Greeters: Joyce Douglas & Marilyn Hood

Dishwashers: Sue Shamblin, Maureen Hergert

Communion Changes in August

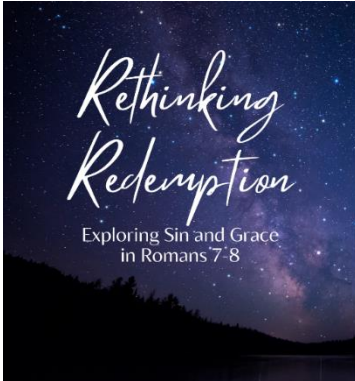
In August we will celebrate the Lord's Supper on the second Sunday, August 13. This change has been approved by Westminster's Session. Communion will resume our regular "first Sunday" schedule in September.



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

The week of July 30, 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 30 Christ’s Love is Always the Answer, Romans 8:26-39

Adult Education in July

Elder Ernie Hines is teaching a series on the Psalms this month at 10:45 AM in the Lounge.

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

Green Tips—Typically, your washing machine needs only 2 tablespoons of laundry detergent for a full load of lightly soiled laundry. Using less detergent reduces the concentration of “gray water” in our civic water treatment, is better for rivers, and saves you money! If you have other tips to share, send them to Pastor Jimmy at

jimmy@westminsterlincoln.org



SERVICE PROJECT WORSHIP SERVICE!

“KIDS AGAINST HUNGER” FOOD PACKING

With excitement, you are invited to join us for a unique worship service on Sunday, August 6th, from 9:30-11:00am in the Westminster Gym!



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 10,000 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.

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 30min 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!

Lunch Bunch in August

Lunch Bunch will meet Tues., Aug. 1, 11:30 AM, at Hi-Way Diner, 2105 Nebraska Parkway (Hwy 2). Please RSVP to Jim Kinkennon at 402-290-5888.

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>

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.

Prairie Readers | August 16 | 1 PM | Lounge

Weston Crawford will facilitate the discussion of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby VanPelt.

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!

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

All Church Pool Party

Westminster has reserved Star City Shores on Thursday, August 10 from 6:30-8:00 PM to celebrate the end of the summer holiday. There are pools and play areas, interactive water features, and water slides. Bring your friends and come cool off with us!

Week Beginning July 30

<u>Sun. (July 30)</u> 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 10:45 AM Adult Education, Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship	<u>Tues. (Aug. 1)</u> 5 PM Adult Ed, Conference Room
<u>Mon. (July 31)</u> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Reading Bible in a Year, Library 5 PM Ladies' Night Out	<u>Wed. (Aug. 2)</u> 1:30 PM Hearts & Hands, Library
	<u>Sun. (Aug. 6)</u> 9:30 AM <i>Kids Against Hunger</i> , Worship in the Gym 10:45 AM Adult Education, FH 12 Noon Sudanese Worship

Worship services are available on-line at this link:

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

joanne@westminsterlincoln.org

402-475-6702