

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



July 16, 2023

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 10 Rethinking Redemption: Sin's the Problem in Us

Prelude "Praeludium in G, BuxWV147" by Dietrich Buxtehude

Welcome Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

***Call to Worship (Psalm 119:105-111 selections; Common English Bible)** Rev. Chris Peters

One: Your word is a lamp before my feet,

All: And a light for my journey.

One: I have sworn, and I fully mean it.

All: I will keep your righteous rules.

One: Lord, make me live again according to your promise.

All: Lord, accept my spontaneous gifts of praise.

One: Your laws are my possession forever.

All: Your teachings are my heart's joy.

One: Let us worship God with joyful singing!

***Hymn #610 O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing**

***Call to Confession** Elder Jaime Hemmerling

***Time of Silent Confession**

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

Gracious and loving God, we are a people who are often concerned about ourselves first-and-foremost. We worry about what is ours and are concerned with obtaining more. We accumulate the goods of this world before sharing. We consider our own desires before praying for the Spirit's guidance. Forgive us, we pray, and gently guide us back to your way. Help us to think of others and share what we have with the world for its betterment. In the name of Jesus we ask this, 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 Jaime Hemmerling

...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

Trish Souliere

Special Music

"I Wait For You In Silence" by David Hill

(words based on Psalm 62)

Ben VandeVere, *tenor*; Westminster Choir

I wait for you in silence, my Rock and my Salvation
My helpless soul will cling to my God and not be shaken
For You alone are strong, Your mercy suffers long
I wait for you in silence, my God

We poor are but a vapor, and wealth itself is passing
Take greed away and treasure, leave only what is lasting
For You alone are strong, Your mercy suffers long
I wait for you in silence, my God

My soul, await in silence what God alone can give you
Pour out your heart before him, no other can fulfill you
For God alone is strong, His mercy suffers long
I wait for you in silence, my God

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Hebrew Scripture Isaiah 55:10-13

O.T. pg. 686

Gospel Lesson Romans 8:1-11

N.T. pg. 157

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

Sermon

“Sin’s the Problem in Us”

Rev. Chris Peters

*Hymn #418

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

*Affirmation of Faith (from a Declaration of Faith)

We know that God is not confined to the story we can tell. The story itself tells us God works through sovereign will among all peoples of the earth. We believe God works beyond our imagining throughout the universe. We acknowledge no other God. We must not set our ultimate reliance on any other help. We must not love anyone or anything more than we love God. We praise and enjoy God. To worship God is highest joy. To serve God is perfect freedom.

Moment of Gratitude

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Special Music

"Nachamu, Nachamu Ami (Comfort, comfort my people)"
words from the prophetic readings after Tisha B'Av (Isaiah 40:1-3)
arr. by Leonardo Gonçalves
Ben VandeVere, *tenor*; Ronnie Zanella, *piano*

Prayers of the People

Elder Jaime Hemmerling

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 #80

You Shall Go Out with Joy

***Charge & Benediction**

Pastor Chris Peters

Postlude

“Fuga in G, BuxWV175” by Dietrich Buxtehude

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

Today's Confessional sequence and Affirmation of Faith come from The Presbyterian Outlook's Order of Worship for July 16, 2023, written by Rev. Dr. Tara Bulger, Senior Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Huntsville, AL. Today's unified Prayer of Confession has been adapted and expanded from that resource by Pastor Chris to reflect today's worship focus.

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 Jaime Hemmerling

Music Director: Ronnie Zanella

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Ushers: Robyn Uebele, Leslie Miner, Cynthia Olson

Greeters: Kathy Phillip, Valery Wachter

Dishwashers: Tom Pappas & Laurel Van Ham

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 16, 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 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 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

GREEN TIPS--Coffee grounds make good garden compost. If your house does not produce grounds, Starbucks has free "Grounds for Your Garden" and local coffee shops may offer them free as well.

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

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 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!

Resiliency Week in Lincoln | July 17-21

Resiliency Week begins with a news conference announcing Lincoln's first Local Food Plan. The event will take place at 10:30 AM, Monday, July 17, at Shadow Brook Farm, 2201 W. Denton Rd. Come celebrate this milestone and learn about opportunities for farmers, entrepreneurs, and backyard farmers. Then keep an eye on your social media for more events and sustainability announcements, including EV Readiness.

Prairie Readers in July

On July 19 at 1 PM, Prairie Readers will meet to discuss *Harlem Shuffle* by Colson Whitehead. Linda Burchard will facilitate.

Pastor Jimmy is preaching at Palmyra Presbyterian Church today, in service to the greater church.

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.

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

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.

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 16

<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	7 PM Faith and Cancer Support Group, Library
<u>Mon. (July 17)</u> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Reading Bible in a Year, Library	<u>Wed. (July 19)</u> 1 PM Prairie Readers, Lounge 1:30 PM Hearts & Hands
<u>Tues. (July 18)</u> 10 AM South Branch Library Summer Event, FH 3 PM Presbyterian Council Meeting, Lounge	<u>Thurs. (July 20)</u> 9 AM Friendship Home All Staff Meeting, FH 7 PM Camera Club, Lounge
	<u>Sun. (July 23)</u> 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 10:45 AM Adult Education, Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship

Worship services are available on-line at this link:

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