

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



**August 13, 2023**  
**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**  
**When Life Shows Up to Church II**

## Prelude

## Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

## Special Announcement

Tom Welstead

## \*Call to Worship (Psalm 105:1-4 Common English Bible)

Deacon Claire Titus

One: Give thanks to the Lord; call upon God's name;

**All: Let's make God's deeds known to all people!**

One: Sing to God; sing praises to the Lord;

**All: Let's dwell on all God's wondrous works!**

One: Give praise to God's holy name!

**All: Let the hearts of all those seeking the Lord rejoice!**

One: Remember the wondrous works God has done,

**All: Let us remember all God's marvelous works, and the justice God declared... Praise the Lord!**

## \*Hymn #754

**Help Us Accept Each Other**

## \*Call to Confession

Deacon Claire Titus

## \*Time of Silent Confession

## \*Unison Prayer of Confession

*Loving God, when the storms of life swirl around us, we forget your unfailing goodness and power to save us. When we hear Jesus say, "Come," we make excuses about why it is too hard to follow him, especially when the way seems dangerous and*

**challenging. Forgive our sins, Lord, and help us to step out in faith. Be merciful to us when we cry out, "We believe; help our unbelief!" In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**\*Response to the Confession** **#469**  
**Lord, listen to your children praying.**  
**Lord, send your Spirit in this place.**  
**Lord, listen to your children praying.**  
**Send us love; send us power; send us grace.**

**\*Assurance of Forgiveness** Deacon Claire Titus  
...Believe and share the good news!  
**In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!**

**\*Response of Praise** **(chorus x2)**  
**You make beautiful things**  
**You make beautiful things out of the dust**  
**You make beautiful things**  
**You make beautiful things out of us**

**\*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.**

## **Blessing of the Backpacks**

**Special Music** "A Thousand Storms" by Heather Sorenson  
Words by Herb Frombach  
Singers from Westminster Choir

## **Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture**  
Gospel Lesson Matthew 14:22-23 N.T. pg. 16  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** "What Do We Do When the Storms of Life Show Up to Church?" Rev. Chris Peters

**\*Hymn #821 How Can I Keep from Singing? (vs. 1-2 & 4)**

**Moment of Gratitude  
Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Response of Gratitude #581**

**Gloria Patri**

**The Lord's Supper  
Invitation**

**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 #507**

**Come to the Table of Grace**

**\*Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

**Postlude**

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

Today's words for worship are adapted from liturgy by Rev. Dr. Philip Gladden, retired PCUSA Minister, published in The Presbyterian Outlook Weekly Liturgy for Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

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 Claire Titus

**Music Director:** Ronnie Zanella

**Organist:** John Ross

**Director of Children & Youth:** Trish Souliere

**Ushers:** Joyce Douglas, Marilyn Hood, Kathy Anderson,  
Barbara Wright-Chollet

**Greeters:** Carol & Jim Bishop

**Dishwashers:** Lisa & Steve McConnell

**Communion Servers:** Ernie Hines, Emily Killham, Marybell Avery, Kathy Rohwedder, Ray Stevens



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

**The week of August 13, 2023**

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

### **Blessing of the Backpacks | Sunday, August 13**

If you are a student or educator of any kind, we invite you to come forward with your backpack to receive blessings for the coming year. If you don't have your backpack with you, come forward anyway for a blessing!

### **Sunday Sundae Bar**

To celebrate the beginning of the new academic year, the Children & Youth and Church Life Committees will be serving ice cream from the UNL Dairy Store in the Garden Room after the service today, along with a whole array of carefully curated sundae toppings.

### **Adult Education in August | 10:45 AM**

- Aug. 13: A Field Trip of Welcome and Belonging in the Presbyterian Church, Rev. Chris Peters, Lounge  
Take a journey from 1709 to today as we encounter spaces of discernment and decision-making related to welcome and belonging in areas of race, class, gender, and sexual orientation.
- Aug. 20: Welcoming Task Force Conversation, Garden Room  
Come ask questions of Task Force members and learn more! There will be a place to provide anonymous questions in advance in the Garden Room on August 13.
- Aug. 27: Welcoming Committee, Rev. Brian Ellison, Guest Speaker, Fellowship Hall  
Westminster has been a Covenant Network of Presbyterians congregation since 1997! The Covenant Network is an organization that connects churches in the work of being more welcoming, specifically in relation to our LGBTQIA+

neighbors. Brian will share more about the history of the Covenant Network and how their mission has evolved over the years!

### **Used Book Sale | August 13-20**

This year's Used Book Sale begins today in Fellowship Hall. Come and browse today and any time the church is open all week long! In addition to books there are also puzzles and games. This is the sole source of funds for library materials, and we always have lots to choose from! So, thank you for your donations. Now come and buy!

### **Prairie Readers in August**

Prairie Readers will meet August 16 at 1 PM in the Lounge. Weston Crawford will facilitate the discussion of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby VanPelt.

### **Presbyterian Women's Fall Kick-Off**

Saturday, August 19 | 10:30 AM in the Parlor  
Shampoo ... St. Louis ... Sacred Encounters

All women of Westminster are invited to come and discover the connections. PW enters a year of opportunities to do purposeful Bible study, meaningful mission, build lasting friendships in Circles, and find a caring and inclusive community here and beyond Westminster. Do come! Oh, and there will be scones! Questions? Contact Linda Burchard (402) 477-5572, [lindajburchard@gmail.com](mailto:lindajburchard@gmail.com)

### **Realm Church Directory Update**

We are planning an in-house update to the church directory photos and contact information. Jim Kinkennon will be available to take photos in Fellowship Hall from 10 AM to 5 PM Mon. through Wed. and Fri., as well as on Thurs. from 10 AM to 8 PM, during the weeks of Aug. 28 through Sept. 8, except for Labor Day. We hope you will sign up for a time online [https:// tinyurl.com/yv492tm6](https://tinyurl.com/yv492tm6) or by calling the church office. We are missing current photos of many of you, which keeps us from getting to know each other, especially putting our newer members at a disadvantage. There will be no pressure to buy anything. Just bring your smile! More information will be shared soon on ways to request or access the church directory.

## **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 Mission focus for August is Willie's Underwear Project.** This project was started by Willie Shafer, a long-time member of Westminster. Sadly, Willie is no longer with us, but her legacy continues. Willie's Underwear Project is exactly what it sounds like - providing underwear and sweatpants and t-shirts and socks to school nurses and counselors for when a student is ill at school or has an accident and needs a change of clothes to be able to return to class. Sometimes a parent can't be reached, or the parent can't get a change of clothes to the school quickly or a change of clothes just isn't available in the household at the time. This would mean the child has to sit in the nurse's office until a solution is found.

You can donate items in the bucket at the top of the stairs near the 27th Street entrance or give a gift card or check to the Westminster Office. If giving a check, write Willie's Underwear Project in the memo line. Mission/Outreach thanks you for your generosity.

## Presbyterians in the Park | Sunday, October 1

The worship service will be at the Antelope Band Shell with lunch afterwards at the Auld Center. There will be more details coming.

### Week Beginning August 13

<p><b><u>Sun. (Aug. 13)</u></b> Used Book Sale, Fellowship Hall 9:30 AM Worship with Communion, Blessing of the Backpacks 10:30 AM Sunday Sundae Bar, Garden Room 10:45 AM Adult Education, Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p> <p><b><u>Mon. (Aug. 14)</u></b> Used Book Sale, Fellowship Hall 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Reading Bible in a Year, Library 5 PM Church Life, Library 5:30 PM Worship &amp; Music, Lounge 6 PM Mission &amp; Outreach, FH-C</p> <p><b><u>Tues. (Aug. 15)</u></b> Used Book Sale, Fellowship Hall 9:45 AM Staff Meeting 10:30 AM Stewardship &amp; Finance, Library 7 PM Faith &amp; Cancer Support Group, Library</p>	<p><b><u>Wed. (Aug. 16)</u></b> Used Book Sale, Fellowship Hall 1 PM Prairie Readers, Lounge 1:30 PM Hearts &amp; Hands, Library 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p><b><u>Thurs. (Aug. 17)</u></b> Used Book Sale, Fellowship Hall 7 PM Camera Club, Lounge</p> <p><b><u>Fri. (Aug. 18)</u></b> Used Book Sale, Fellowship Hall</p> <p><b><u>Sat. (Aug. 19)</u></b> 9 AM Calvin Crest Fun Day/ Instadium for Youth 9 AM PW Kickoff, Cole Hall</p> <p><b><u>Sun. (Aug. 20)</u></b> Used Book Sale, Fellowship Hall 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Adult Education, Garden Room 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p>
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**Worship services are available on-line at this link:**

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

### Televised Worship

Thurs. at 12:30 pm/Sat. at 1 pm.

Channel 1302/Spectrum & Channel 13/Windstream.

[joanne@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:joanne@westminsterlincoln.org)

402-475-6702