

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



September 3, 2023
Lovin God, Loving Neighbor
Won't You Be My Neighbor?

Prelude

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

Choral Introit

"Won't You Be My Neighbor?"

By Fred Rogers, arr. By Roger Emerson
Singers from Westminster Choir

*Call to Worship (Psalm 118:1, 4-5, 19-20 Common English Bible)

Deacon Carolyn Harp

One: Give thanks to the Lord because God is good...

All: Let those who honor the Lord say it: "God's faithful love lasts forever!"

One: In tight circumstances I cried out to the Lord.

All: The Lord answered me with wide-open spaces.

One: Open the Lord's gate, so I can come in and give thanks to the Lord.

All: This is the Lord's gate; those who are righteous enter through it.

One: Give thanks to the Lord because God is good...

All: Let those who honor the Lord say it: "God's faithful love lasts forever!"

*Hymn #15

All Creatures of Our God and King

*Call to Confession

Deacon Carolyn Harp

*Time of Silent Confession

*Unison Prayer of Confession

Loving God, you welcome us with the gift of grace, inviting us to welcome others in response. Still, we label neighbors who differ from us as strangers. We

draw lines of race, wealth, class, and acceptance between people of ‘my’ neighborhood and ‘that other’ neighborhood. We give into fear rather than live into the potential of new relationships with others. Lord, forgive us and change us by your grace. Inspire us to share your welcome in our own unique ways, as your people and as a church. Amen.

***Response to the Confession** **#425**
*Son of God, whose heart is peace,
Son of God, most holy,
to your presence we have come;
give us now your love.*

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

***Response of Praise** **#581 Gloria Patri**
Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

***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

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Hebrew Scriptures Deuteronomy 10:17-20 O.T. pg. 167

New Testament Acts 16:11-15 N.T. pg. 136

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

Sermon “Won’t You Be My Neighbor?”

Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #766** **The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound**

Moment of Gratitude
Prayer of Thanksgiving

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 #515**

I Come with Joy

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

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

Today’s words for worship are from the PCUSA Book of Common Worship (2018), and are also inspired by themes and scriptures in Wont You Be My Neighbor? Intergenerational Sessions based on Mr. Rogers’ Neighborhood, copyright 2019 Westminster John Knox Press. Our Prayer of Confession is written in that spirit 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: Deacon Carolyn Harp

Music Director: Ronnie Zanella

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Ushers: Diana Wild, Carol Boehler, Skylar Bennett

Greeters: Joyce Douglas, Marilyn Hood

Dishwashers: Becky Bockrath and Sarah Baltensperger

Communion Servers: Margaret Sprude, Diana Wild, Janell Welstead, Tom Welstead, Kathy Rohwedder



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

The week of Sept. 3, 2023

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

Westminster Neighborhood Welcome Bash | Sept. 10

Kick-off the new year with a ton of fun! After worship, we will gather in the parking lot for games, food trucks, music, and community! In addition to all the fun stuff, various Life Groups will be showcasing upcoming activities and families can get their kids signed up for Faith Village. Children can also be registered for Faith Village in advance by completing the online form <https://forms.gle/7qwGiLpg3udB2qzq7>

LiNK Wednesday Nights

Wednesday activities will begin again on Sept. 6 from 5:30-7:30 PM. Families are welcome to join us for dinner, which will be served from 5:30-6 PM. Afterwards, kids from nursery age through high school are invited for activities, discussion, and fun.

Church Directory Photo 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.

Several people have not been able to use the on-line sign-up form, especially on their phones. Please call the church office for an appointment if you are unable to get online. Once picture taking begins, we'll go completely to a call-in sign-up. If none of these dates and times work for you, we hope to add some more in the future.

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.

Maui Fire Response

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is currently responding to the devastating fires on the islands of Maui and Hawaii through care teams, response grants, and collaborating with and supporting United Church of Christ congregations there and the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster. To support these efforts, you may go to the following link for designating gifts to PDA for fire response, or you are invited to join Westminster for World on a Plate: Hawaii, a meal fundraiser for PDA efforts in Hawaii. Keep reading for more information on World on a Plate: Hawaii. <https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/hawaii-wildfires/>

Green Tip of the Week:

Appliances like ovens, dishwashers and dryers should be used, if possible, in the early mornings or afternoons, to save on your air conditioning costs and to keep the peak demand for the grid lower. (When new peaks are reached, it can affect electric rates!) If you have other tips to share, send them to Pastor Jimmy at jimmy@westminsterlincoln.org.

It's the Little Things That Count

Shampoo—deodorant—razors—shaving cream—bar soap—lotion—toothpaste Westminster's Presbyterian Women In partnership with the Lincoln Hygiene Network invite all of the Westminster family to collect new personal care and hygiene products. These products help restore health, dignity, and self-esteem to Lincoln's most vulnerable children, teens, and adults. Lincoln Hygiene Network serves as a bank for products that are then distributed to over 20 non-profits across Lincoln, including Lighthouse, Voices of Hope, Cedars, Matt Talbot, Fresh Start, Friendship Home, and LPS.

Look for the colorful barrel at the top of the stairs off the east parking lot. Pick up the Lincoln Hygiene Network brochure and shopping list. Then help PW fill the barrel. Financial donations are also accepted at lincolnhygienenetwork.org.

As God is gracious to us, so we are called to show love to others.

Won't You Be A Neighbor?

Toothbrushes—Chapstick—conditioner—feminine products—socks—dish soap

Westminster Welcome – A time of learning and connecting!

Sunday, Sept. 24, 10:45 AM in the Lounge

At Westminster, “you belong!” Westminster has a rich history and a bright future that we hope you will be a part of! If you’re a visitor, considering joining, or have a friend who might like to learn more about Westminster, this session is for you! We’ll spend about 40 minutes learning about Westminster, our history, opportunities today, and our Vision 2026 direction. Then, we’ll take 20 minutes for questions and conversation with Pastor Chris and members. New Members from the past year are welcome to come as well to learn more about how to plug in and to be better supported in your journey at WPC. Please contact Pastor Chris to confirm attendance or with any questions at chris@westminsterlincoln.org.

ALOHA

You are invited to **World on a Plate--LUAU Hawaii**

At Tom and Laurel Pappas’ Home

Winsome Manor, 4150 South Street

Friday, Sept. 29 at 5:30 PM

Please RSVP to: (402) 202-9889 and text the dish you are bringing.

Bring your favorite Hawaiian dish, your own plate and utensils.

The monetary Breadbasket will be given to

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

HAWAII WILDFIRES - DR000165

Celebrate the Season of Creation!

From Sept. 1 to Oct. 4 the liturgical year turns to reflection on the wonders of creation. Westminster is among the groups supporting these special events at First Presbyterian Church.

Fri., Sept. 8, 7:30 PM Joel Satore presents pictures and stories from his National Geographic Photo Ark Project. Tickets at fpclincoln.org or 402-477-6037.

Sun., Sept. 17, 7 PM. A Changing Climate: Challenges and Opportunities Featuring Dr. Martha Durr, Nebraska State Climatologist, and Josh Moenning, Norfolk Mayor

CROP Walk | October 8, 2023

Help fight hunger by joining the Westminster CROP Walk Team! You can join the team by registering to walk, collecting pledges, and joining us at Bethany Christian Church on October 8 or you can sponsor a walker with an online donation through the Lincoln CROP Walk website <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/team/westminster-presbyterian-2>. Walkers can also accept cash or checks; checks should be made payable to CWS/CROP. We will be ordering Team Westminster t-shirts again for everyone who walks so please send your t-shirt size(s) to Trish, trish@westminsterlincoln.org, after you register.

Week Beginning September 3

<u>Sun. (Sept. 3)</u> 9:30 AM Worship with Communion 12 Noon Sudanese Worship	1:30 PM Hearts & Hands, Library 5:30 PM WestminsterLINK 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
<u>Mon. (Sept. 4)</u> Church office is closed for the Labor Day Holiday	<u>Sat. (Sept. 9)</u> 8:30 AM Scouts Training Event
<u>Tues. (Sept. 5)</u> 9:45 AM Staff Meeting 5 PM Adult Ed, Conference Room 6 PM Building and Grounds, Lounge	<u>Sun. (Sept. 10)</u> 9:30 AM Worship/Faith Village Resumes 10:30 AM Westminster Neighborhood Welcome Bash 12 Noon Sudanese Worship
<u>Wed. (Sept. 6)</u> 10 AM Public Library Equipment Display in Far East Parking Lot	

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

402-475-6702