

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

January 21, 2024

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Prelude

“Nachtstück No. 4” by Robert Schumann

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

***Call to Worship**

Rev. Chris Peters

One: God calls us to worship with hope and joy.

All: We are here to worship. Praise God!

One: Drop your nets and leave your boats. God is with us.

All: We are here to worship. Hear the call!

One: Jesus calls us to a new life with a new focus.

All: We are here to worship. Let us follow Christ with open hearts, open minds, and open hands.

***Hymn #409**

God Is Here!

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Time of Silent Confession**

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

God of mercy, we confess that we have settled in our faith. We have gotten comfortable in our categories: haves and have-nots, makers and takers, bigots and bystanders, self-starters and subordinates, law-abiders and illegals, the perpetrators and the innocent. We confess that we are comfortable living under systems of injustice and exploitation. We confess our discomfort in speaking truths that unmask idolatries. Make us ready to follow Jesus, ready to repent, and eager to change our hearts and lives. Call to us again, and show us your mercy. Let us hear the good news and lead lives that follow it. Amen.

***Response to the Confession**

Hear the Good News of Salvation

#441 (verse 2)

(From the Glory to God hymnal notes: "this text, was written by John B. Renville, the first Native American Dakota to be ordained to the Presbyterian ministry and was published in the Dakota hymnal.")

**All the sins I have committed,
to my Savior now I bring.
I bow down with tears of anguish;
Christ forgives and so I sing:
Jesus Christ, how much I love you!
Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look upon me.
Love me still and cleanse within.**

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

We pour water into the baptismal font at this time as a sign of our renewal in baptism and in confession. It is a visual reminder of the Nicene Creed's affirmation, "I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins," and Romans 5:5 that promises, "God's love is being poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit."

...Believe and share the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

***Response of Praise**

Glory to God #583

(From the Taize Community of France)

***Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!***

***Passing of the Peace**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

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.***

Special Music

*"Gaelic Blessing" John Rutter
Westminster Choir*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Hebrew Scriptures

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

O.T. pg. 860

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:14-20

N.T. pg. 35

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

Sermon "Seeking Shelter: Jesus Calls Us"

Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #721**

***Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore
(v.1-3)***

***Litany Affirmation of Faith** (Confession of 1967 Inclusive
Language Text)

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach
of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God
superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But
God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing
power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of
the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful people.
The power of God's love in Christ to transform the
world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and
Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of
God's love.***

Moment of Gratitude

Prayers of the People

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 #720**

Jesus Calls Us

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

"Canonic Study No. 1 in C" by Robert Schumann

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

Today's words for worship are adapted from liturgy by Rev. Stephanie Sorge,
Pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Harrisonburg, VA, as published in The
Presbyterian Outlook: Order of Worship for January 21, 2024.

Flowers today are given in memory of Judson Douglas by Joyce Douglas and in memory of Judy Buss by April and Justin Douglas.

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 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 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

Interim Music Director: Mary Young

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Greeters: David and Kathy Anderson

Ushers: Leslie Miner, Robyn Uebele, Cynthia Olson, Barb Andersen

Dishwashers: Tom Pappas and Laurel Van Ham



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

The week of Jan. 21, 2024

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

January Sermon Series, “Seeking Shelter”

As we consider the Christian’s calling to work for just solutions to housing concerns in our Community Conversations series, we will be exploring passages of spiritual calling and invitation in worship. Our series, “Seeking Shelter: Invitation, calling, and belonging in the early ministry of Jesus” will engage lectionary texts that encourage us to consider our sense of direction for our own spiritual journeys.

Today we look at Mark 1:14-20—Jesus Calls Us.

Westminster Community Conversations 2024

Good Neighbors:

Understanding and Responding to Housing Concerns in Lincoln

The Christian scriptures, particularly the parables of Jesus, emphasize the call for people of faith to be good neighbors. This January, join Westminster Presbyterian as we seek to better understand housing concerns and the landscape of affordable housing in Lincoln. From learning, we move to questions of service as we welcome representatives from partner organizations that seek to aid those facing critical housing concerns. Each session will take place at 10:45 AM in the Lounge.

January 21: Neighborworks: Expanding Affordable Housing and Strengthening Neighborhoods, Wayne Mortensen, (Chief Executive Officer), Neighborworks Lincoln.

January 28: People’s City Mission: Ministry of Service and Providing Space, Tom Barber (Chief Executive Officer), People’s City Mission.

Fruit Pizza after Church | January 21

After the service on Sunday, January 21, the Children and Youth and Church Life Committees invite you to remember summer with a slice of fruit pizza. We start with a sugar cookie "crust," add cream cheese frosting as sauce, and finish with a selection of fresh fruit toppings.

Recycling Styrofoam

Once again Green@Heart will be helping you responsibly dispose of foam packaging from holiday purchases. There is a receptacle by the east door to collect foam. (Food containers and packing peanuts not accepted.) Failed light strings will also be collected. So you know, we take the foam to its source in Omaha, Plastilite. They make the original foam packaging and also reuse the old to make new. So, it's possible that we've sent foam back and forth to them five times.

Sunday Youth Group | Today from 3 - 5 PM

The Youth Group will meet this afternoon at the John Breslow Ice Hockey Center, 433 V Street at 3 PM for an afternoon of ice skating. Please bring \$5 for admission and skate rental.

Long-Time Pantry Packers

Our Westminster Pantry is one of our Mission projects of the church. Thanks to many volunteers it is very successful. Some of the volunteers are packers who box up the food every week for six families and it is sent to the People City Mission. Because we are so blessed to have many volunteers it is necessary to only pack once every three months. However, it is a commitment, and we have three couples that are retiring after many years of service. Larry Peach and his grandson, William McConnell, have packed many years for us, as has Marcia Hollestelle and Jane Lacey. Deb Schorr and Nancy Hlava also worked many years and Deb has packed for over 30 years. That is amazing and we are so very thankful for all the hours that all of you have spent boxing up food for the hungry.

We are so thankful for all our packers, and I know many of you have packed in the past. Thank you so much for all your hours of service and dedication to our Westminster Food Pantry.

World on a Plate—USA | Fri., Jan. 26

World on a Plate is returning to the United States!

Our January dinner will be a potluck of our U.S. favorites... From the East to West, North to South... there are so many choices to prepare. Ellen Davis will be hosting World on a Plate on Friday, January 26 at 5:30 PM in her home at 3630 Pawnee Street.

RSVP: Email kathrohw@yahoo.com or text (402) 202-9889.

Ladies' Night Out | Tuesday, January 30 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. You are invited to join us this month at Mi Tierra South. Their address is 5500 Old Cheney Rd. #4. Join us and bring a friend as we celebrate the New Year together. Please RSVP by Sat., Jan. 27 to robynu2@hotmail.com.

Scam Email/Text Reminder

Westminster pastors (and staff) will not contact members for gift cards or other requests. If you receive an email from an address that does not end in @westminster.org, please do not respond and reach out to the staff person to verify directly using their work email. If you receive a text or other communication on behalf of a WPC staff person and have any uncertainty about the sender, please contact the church office.

Acolytes

We are looking for children and youth of all ages to serve as acolytes during our worship service. Please add your name to the schedule here <https://shorturl.at/jjOX7>. If you have any questions, please contact Trish, trish@westminsterlincoln.org or 402-570-0163.

Faith and Cancer Support Group

Tuesday, February 20 | Library at 7 PM

Cancer is associated with many emotions wrapped up within. In our support group at Westminster, we can share those thoughts and feelings with others who are experiencing similar concerns. This Life Group meets every third Tuesday of the month from 7-8 PM in the church library. All are welcome. Contact Bruce Sheffield at 402-783-0394 or Janice Rohwedder at 402-730-5568.

Week Beginning January 21

<p><u>Sun. (Jan. 21)</u> 9:30 AM Worship/Faith Village 10:40 AM Fruit Pizza, Garden Room 10:45 AM Community Conversations, Lounge 10:45 AM Confirmation Class, FH 12 Noon Sudanese Worship 3 PM Youth Group, John Breslow Ice Hockey Center</p> <p><u>Mon. (Jan. 22)</u> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Library 6:30 PM Scouts—Den Meetings</p> <p><u>Tues (Jan. 23)</u> 9:45 AM Staff Meeting</p> <p><u>Wed. (Jan. 24)</u> 1:30 AM Hearts & Hands, Library 5:30 PM WestminsterLiNK 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p>	<p><u>Fri. (Jan. 26)</u> 5:30 PM World on a Plate-United States 5:30 PM Scouts Pinewood Derby Set-up, FH</p> <p><u>Sat. (Jan. 27)</u> 8:30 AM Scouts Pinewood Derby, FH</p> <p><u>Sun. (Jan. 28)</u> 9:30 AM Worship/Ordain and Install Officers/Faith Village 10:45 AM Community Conversations, Lounge 10:45 AM Confirmation Class, FH 12 Noon Sudanese Worship 6 PM Youth Group</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

402-475-6702