

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

January 28, 2024

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Prelude

"Chorale" by Joseph Jongen

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

**\*Call to Worship (Psalm 111:1-4, 7-8; 10a CEB)**

Elder Jaime Hemmerling

One: Praise the Lord! I thank the Lord with all my heart.

***All: I thank the Lord in the company of those who do right, in the congregation.***

One: The works of the Lord are magnificent; They are treasured by all who desire them.

***All: God's deeds are majestic and glorious. God's righteousness stands forever.***

One: God is famous for wondrous works. The Lord is full of mercy and compassion.

***All: God's handiwork is honesty and justice; God's rules are trustworthy.***

One: Fear of the Lord is where wisdom begins; sure knowledge is for all who keep God's laws.

***All: Praise the Lord! Let us thank God with all our heart, mind, and strength!***

**\*Hymn #32**

***I Sing the Mighty Power of God***

**\*Call to Confession**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

**\*Time of Silent Confession**

**\*Unison Prayer of Confession**

***Merciful and loving God, you have called us to be your people and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not lived up to our calling to proclaim the good news in word and deed. We are quick to speak when we ought to listen and remain silent when it is time to speak. We put too***

**much faith in our own actions and fail to trust the strength of your Spirit. O God, forgive our foolish and sinful ways. Strengthen us anew to follow Christ's way in the world. By your Holy Spirit, give us the grace we need to be faithful disciples and fulfill our common calling. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, we pray. 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.***

## Children's Chat

Sarah Baltensperger

*(Children in Grades 1 – 5 are invited to come to Faith Village following the Children's Chat or to find and sit with their parents. Parents can pick up their children in Faith Village following the service.)*

## Special Music

"A Breathing Place" by Heather Sorenson  
Westminster Choir

## Prayer for Illumination

### Scripture

Hebrew Scriptures      Psalm 111      O.T. pg. 562  
Gospel Reading      Mark 1:21-28      N.T. pg. 35

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

**Sermon** "Seeking Shelter: Jesus Astounds Us"      Rev. Chris Peters

### \*Hymn #820

***Nothing Can Trouble (4x)***

## Installation of Church Officers

### Sentences of Scripture

### Statement on Ordination

### Profession of Faith

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

Do you believe in God the Father?

***I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.***

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

***I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.***

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

***I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.***

**Thanksgiving for Baptism  
Constitutional Questions  
Prayer of Ordination  
Declaration of Ordination  
Welcome  
Charge to the Newly Ordained and/or Installed**

**\*Hymn #450**

***Be Thou My Vision***

**\*Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

**Postlude**

"Fanfare" by Joseph Jongen

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

Today's Call to Worship comes from the Common English Bible translation of Psalm 111. Our Prayer of Confession comes from the PCUSA Book of Common Worship (2018) Service for Ordination and Installation. Other words for worship (liturgy) are adapted from The Presbyterian Outlook: Worship for January 28, 2024 by Rev. John Wurster, Pastor of St. Philip Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas. The Service of Ordination / Installation also comes from the Book of Common Worship (2018), with appropriate changes.

**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

**Liturgist:** Elder Jaime Hemmerling

**Interim Music Director:** Mary Young **Organist:** John Ross

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

**Greeters:** Joyce Douglas and Marilyn Hood

**Ushers:** Carol Shelbourn, Suzanne Bartlett, Martha Kingsbury

**Dishwashers:** David and Barbara Arunski



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

**The week of Jan. 28, 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 1:21-28—Jesus Astounds 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 28: People’s City Mission: Ministry of Service and Providing Space**, Tom Barber (Chief Executive Officer), People’s City Mission.

## **Congratulations to the Sipp!**

Congratulations to Henry and Mattie Sipp on the birth of Sterling Evert Sipp on January 4<sup>th</sup>. Sterling and parents are all doing well! As a new tradition to mark this milestone for our members at Westminster, we have a red rose on the communion table to mark and celebrate Sterling's birth. We'll share a symbol of welcome with the Sipp as well.

## **Building Note: Admin Elevator and Staff Office Floor Closure**

This Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, and Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, cleanup from a past bat colony will be taking place on the third floor of our administrative wing. Due to the needs of the cleanup crew, the elevator near the East entry of the building will be closed off these days. On Wednesday, Westminster's staff will be out of the office for our annual staff retreat to coincide with this day. Staff will be limited on Thursday as several will be working remotely due to the clean-up. We appreciate your patience and understanding this week.

**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](mailto:robynu2@hotmail.com).

## **Hard Topics: Israel-Gaza Oct. 7 Incident | Feb. 4 | 10:45 AM**

Adult Ed has scheduled an important offering for Feb. 4. Under the banner "Hard Topics" we will have a guided discussion over the Israel-Gaza October 7 incident and ensuing conflict. Peter Levitov, Retired Associate Dean of International Affairs at University of Nebraska, and Immigration lawyer will moderate. In preparation, contact Joanne Gabriel [joanne@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:joanne@westminsterlincoln.org) at the church office to be sent a 2-page Word doc summary of the region prepared by Peter. Also, go to the bulletin for Jan. 28 on the website, scroll down to The

Vine and click on the following link for informative maps. [Israel-Palestine conflict: A brief history in maps and charts | Israel-Palestine conflict News | Al Jazeera](#)

### **Souper Bowl of Caring: Soup-er Bowl Can Drive and Collection**

Along with the Souper Bowl of Caring collection, this year the Westminster Youth Group is also sponsoring a Soup-er Bowl Soup Can drive, **ending on February 11, Souper Bowl Sunday**. We invite you to bring cans or boxes of soup to church and drop them off in the tote with a Souper Bowl of Caring sign at the top of the East stairs. Soup donations will benefit the Westminster Food Pantry. The Souper Bowl of Caring is a national movement to fight hunger and poverty by encouraging giving in local communities. Westminster's monetary collection will be split between The Gathering Place and Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach. If you have any questions, contact Trish at [trish@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:trish@westminsterlincoln.org).

### **Lunch Bunch**

Lunch Bunch will meet on Tuesday, February 6, 11:30 A.M., at Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que, 2750 Pine Lake Road. RSVP to Jim Kinkennon at 402-290-5888 or [Jimkinkennon@gmail.com](mailto:Jimkinkennon@gmail.com).

### **History Buffs Program | Feb. 10**

There will be a History Buffs program on Saturday, Feb. 10 at 9 AM in the Lounge. Dr. Ryan Shelstad will speak on the topic, "The History of Cardiac Surgery and Development of the Heart/Lung Machine."

### **VBS 2024: Hero Hotline**

*Called together to serve God*

June 3-7, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

It is time to register for VBS! Sign your children up to enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time as they are called together to serve God. They will become Heroes and discover that

answering God’s call together means striving for the things that bring peace and the things that build each other up!

We will be collaborating with Good Shepherd Presbyterian again this year, but sessions will take place at Westminster, 2110 Sheridan Boulevard. Registration is \$10/child (\$30 max/family) before May 31. Register now at <https://westminster-presbyterian.mycokesburyvbs.com/>.

Adults and youth are also invited to become heroes with the kids. Whatever your interest or gift is, we have a place for you! You can build sets, create science/craft projects before VBS, work directly with the kids, provide materials, serve snacks, perform skits, or something else entirely. Sign-up at <https://westminster-presbyterian.mycokesburyvbs.com/> or contact Trish Souliere at [trish@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:trish@westminsterlincoln.org) or at 402-475-6702 to explore the options.

**Week Beginning January 28**

<p><b><u>Sun. (Jan. 28)</u></b> 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> <p><b><u>Mon. (Jan. 29)</u></b> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Library 6 PM Session, Lounge</p> <p><b><u>Tues (Jan. 30)</u></b> 5 PM Ladies’ Night Out</p>	<p><b><u>Wed. (Jan. 31)</u></b> 9 AM Staff Retreat, Eastridge Presbyterian 1:30 AM Hearts &amp; Hands, Library 5:30 PM WestminsterLiNK 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><b><u>Sun. (Feb. 4)</u></b> 9:30 AM Worship/Faith Village 10:45 AM Hard Topics, Israel Gaza Oct. 7 Incident, Lounge 10:45 AM Confirmation Class, FH 11:30 AM Youth Group, Snowman Golf with Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p>
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**Ordination and Installation  
Deacons and Elders  
January 28, 2024**

**To be Ordained and Installed as Elders**

Jon Bennett

Skyler Bennett

Stephan Biheng

**To be Installed as Elders (previously ordained)**

Dave Arunski

Sarah Baltensperger

Karen Hoffman

Susie Hughes

Jim Kinkennon

**To be Ordained and Installed as Deacons**

Brooke Larson

Shirley Wiggins

**To be Installed as Deacons (previously ordained)**

Marijane England

Claire Titus

Janell Welstead

Brian Lammers

Jeanne Atkinson

Michael Gregg

## **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.

## **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.

## **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 @westminsterlincoln.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.

## **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