

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

February 4, 2024

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Prelude "Revive Us Again" by Larry Shackley

Welcome Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

Choral Introit "This Little Light of Mine" arr. Mark Hayes
Westminster Choir
Kent Hemmerling, percussion

***Call to Worship** Deacon Claire Titus
One: When we look at the night sky, speckled with stars,
All: We find that God's imagination brings us joy.
One: When we accept those not chosen on life's playgrounds
on our team,
All: We join Jesus in sharing healing and hope.
One: When we set aside time for prayer, as well as wonder,
All: We meet the Spirit, who is at our side all the time.

***Hymn #12** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

***Call to Confession** Deacon Claire Titus

***Time of Silent Confession**

***Unison Prayer of Confession**
Gracious God, it's tempting to give up and give in, to hide from the injustices of the world, to protect ourselves and our own, to turn off the evening news full of bad news. Forgive our sins of escape, of ignoring, of turning our backs on those in need. Forgive our sins of apathy when you call us to action. Renew us, Holy God, by your grace. Strengthen us to follow Christ's call. 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**

Deacon Claire Titus

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

Trish Souliere

(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.)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Hebrew Scriptures

Psalm 147:1-11, 20

O.T. pg. 582

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:29-39

N.T. pg. 35

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

Sermon "Seeking Shelter: Jesus Redirects Us" Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #314**

Christ, Be Our Light

Moment of Gratitude

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Supper

Invitation

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

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

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

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 #828**

More Love to Thee, O Christ

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

"Toccata in Seven" by John Rutter

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

Today's Call to Worship is adapted from *Where the Broken Ones Gather: Lectionary Liturgies for RCL Year B* by Rev. Thom M Schuman. Our Prayer of Confession comes from *The Presbyterian Outlook Worship Resources for February 4, 2024* by Rev. Teri McDowell Ott, Editor.

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: Deacon Claire Titus

Interim Music Director: Mary Young

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Greeters: Kathy Phillip & Valery Wachter

Ushers: Diana Wild, April Douglas, Skyler Bennett, Carol Shelbourn

Dishwashers: Kelly Braswell-Bubach and Dorrie Gage

Communion Servers: Dave Arunski, Marybell Avery, John Bennett, Skyler Bennett, Tom Welstead, Kathy Anderson and Diana Wild



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

The week of Feb. 4, 2024

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

Adult Education Today: Israel-Gaza Oct. 7 Incident | 10:45 AM

Plan on staying for Adult Education after worship today to participate in a session and discussion on the crisis in Gaza and Israel. International expert Peter Levitov will moderate.

Mission/Outreach is pleased to bring Equal Exchange Coffee and Equal Exchange Organic Chocolate to Westminster friends. The coffee you enjoy during the fellowship hour is also Equal Exchange. By choosing the Equal Exchange brand, we are making a strong statement about our values as a community.

Available for Purchase: We give the opportunity to purchase Equal Exchange products during Fellowship Hour after services on the first Sunday of each month. Thank you for supporting our ongoing commitment to making these products available.

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.

Lincoln's Climate Action Plan Updates

Your city wants to hear your ideas! Kim Morrow, Lincoln's Chief Sustainability Officer has issued an invitation especially to Lincoln's Faith Communities to hear updates on Lincoln's Climate Action Plan and to offer feedback on what is most important to you. This is a very pragmatic way to give voice to your values. Plan now to attend this special event TODAY, February 4th, 4:00-5:00 PM, at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 84th and South Streets.

Sunday Social Hour – Shrove Sunday Pancake Brunch

February 11, 10:45 AM

All church members are invited to attend a Shrove Sunday Pancake brunch in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, February 11. The Zanders will be flipping pancakes for a pancake bar – all the pancakes will be plain pancakes, and you will be able to decorate your pancake with your choice of delicious toppings. Coffee, juice, and sausage will also be provided. Join your church friends in preparing for the upcoming season of Lent by sharing pancakes in Fellowship Hall!

Lunch Bunch | Feb. 6

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.

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."

Meeting of the Congregation | Feb. 18

The Annual Stated Meeting of the Congregation will be held on Sunday, Feb. 18, following the worship service. The agenda includes proposed bylaws changes, the presentation of the 2023 annual reports, the presentation of the 2024 budget and the approval of the pastor's terms of call for 2024. The February Messenger, which contains annual reports from the committees at Westminster as well as other information, is available on the church's website—westminsterlincoln.org.

Rev. Bill Yeager, a former pastor at WPC, died on Jan. 6. A memorial service was held on Feb. 3 at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

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 or at 402-475-6702 to explore the options.

Recycling Styrofoam Ends Feb. 11

Please make plans to get your Styrofoam to church by February 11. After that date we'll deliver the collected foam to Plastilite in Omaha. Thanks for filling multiple giant bags.

Adult Education During Lent

During the season of Lent, Adult Education will feature discussions based on themes in the hymn "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing." The sessions will be following the format of scripture reading and group discussion: to facilitate discussion, chairs will be in concentric circles. Join us each Sunday in Lent from 10:45 to 11:30 AM. Pastor Jimmy will be leading the discussions.

Week Beginning February 4

<p><u>Sun. (Feb. 4)</u> 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> <p><u>Mon. (Feb. 5)</u> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Library 12 PM PEO Group, Lounge 6:30 PM Scouts, Den Meetings, Youth Areas 7 PM PW Circle 4</p> <p><u>Tues (Feb. 6)</u> 9:45 AM Staff Meeting, Conference Room 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch</p>	<p><u>Wed. (Feb. 7)</u> 10 AM PW Circle 3, Lounge 1:30 AM Hearts & Hands, Library 5:30 PM WestminsterLiNK 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><u>Fri. (Feb. 9)</u> Confirmation Class Retreat</p> <p><u>Sat. (Feb. 10)</u> Confirmation Class Retreat 9 AM History Buffs, Lounge 11:30 AM Antique Car Club, Cole Hall</p> <p><u>Sun. (Feb. 11)</u> 9:30 AM Worship/Souper Bowl of Caring Collection/Faith Village 10:45 AM Pancake Brunch, 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