

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

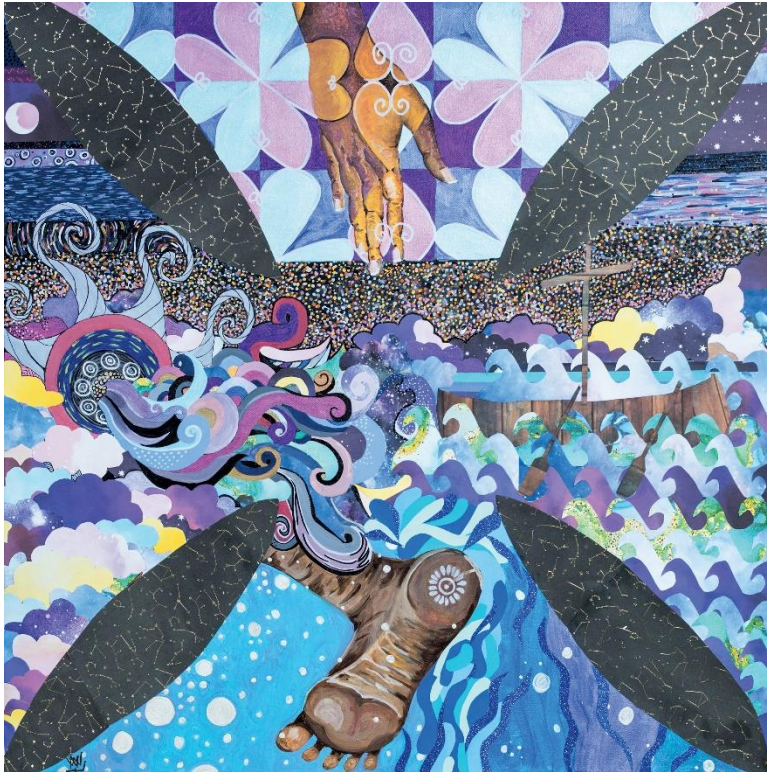
2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

February 25, 2024

Second Sunday in Lent

## Wandering Heart

A Lenten Series



'Lift Off' by Nicolette Peñaranda

Acrylic, ink, paper collage, and mixed media on canvas.

**Prelude**

Improvisation: "Rescue Me from Danger"

**Welcome**

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

**Introit**

**Return To You (Wandering Heart Theme Song)**

Congregation Joins the Singing of the Chorus, Insert

**\*Waypoints on the Journey: Choppy Waters**

Matt Larson, Brooke Larson, Collins Larson, Rowan Larson

**\*Invitation to Worship** (Poem by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org))

Matt Larson, Brooke Larson, Collins Larson, Rowan Larson

One: I'd rather not need rescue.

**All: I'd prefer a five-step plan and a quick-fix solution.**

One: I'd prefer stubborn insistence over honest vulnerability, because rescue requires asking for help.

**All: Rescue names the rising water. Rescue sees the tired, treading feet.**

**Rescue feels the swell of the wind and the rain at a slant.**

One: But when the floor falls out and the world is on fire and my small hands cannot fix the hurt welling in me,

**All: the prayer that slips out is, "rescue, rescue, rescue me."**

**\*Hymn #165**

***The Glory of These Forty Days (v.1-2, 4)***

**\*Call to Confession**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

**\*Time of Silent Confession**

**\*Unison Prayer of Confession**

***Gracious God, there are days that threaten to swallow us up, days when the storms of life feel too big for our survival. In those moments, we often cling to the sides of our ships in fear, spending more energy hiding from storms than looking for you. Forgive us for doubting ourselves. Forgive us for doubting you. Rescue us from the storms of today and from the fears that trap us. With hope in our hearts we pray in the name of our rescuing Lord, Jesus. Amen.***

**\*Response to the Confession #437**

**You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!**

***You are the Lord, giver of mercy!***

***You are the Christ, giver of mercy!***

***You are the Lord, giver of mercy!***

### **\*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 #475 (verse 1)      Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

***Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy graces;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.***

***Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;  
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!***

### **\*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**

Jaime Hemmerling

*(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

Psalms 22:23-31

O.T. pg. 501

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 14:22-33

N.T. pg. 16

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

#### **Sermon**

"Rescue Me From Danger"

Rev. Chris Peters

#### **Special Music**

"O Sacred Wondrous Love" arr. Heather Sorenson  
Reagan Hinze, Catrionia McNeally, Sanda Masic, and Mary Young

### **\*Affirmation of Faith (PCUSA Brief Statement of Faith) Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn**

***We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.***

***Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the***

***world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.***

**Prayers of the People**  
**Lord's Prayer**

Rev. Chris Peters

***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 #353**

**My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less**

**\*Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

**Postlude**

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me” by Al Roberts

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

Today's liturgy, or words for worship, are adapted from “Wandering Heart Words for Worship: Second Sunday in Lent” by A Sanctified Art LLC (sanctifiedart.org).

**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

**Waypoints on the Journey:** Matt Larson, Brooke Larson, Collins Larson, Rowan Larson

**Greeters:** Joyce Douglas, Marilyn Hood

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

**Dishwashers:** Megan and Jason Woita



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

**The week of Feb. 25, 2024**

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

## **Lent 2024**

### **Wandering Heart: Join the Journey!**

We want you to “Join the Journey” of Lent 2024 with Westminster, Lincoln, NE! This year we will figure out faith with the disciple Peter using the Wandering Heart theme and focus by A Sanctified Art ([sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)). This Lenten journey will encompass Sunday worship, Faith Village, and Adult Education *and* educational programming for all ages on Wednesday nights!

To ‘join the journey’, pick up a Lent Passport, which will guide you through the theme each week. Passport stamps may be earned by either attending worship on Sunday or by visiting our Wandering Heart Spirituality Stations in Fellowship Hall. A new station will be added each week. By stamping six of seven stops, you will be able to enter a drawing for either a prime parking spot at the 8:00 or 10:00am Easter service, or for a faithful fun family Easter basket with activities, candy, and more surprises!

This Lent, our Westminster family is challenged to Join the Journey in a meaningful way. This is the season to re-tune our hearts on God in faith. We hope you will ‘Join the Journey’ of Lent 2024!

### **Adult Education During Lent | Sundays in 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. Note that the Adult Ed roundtable “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” will take a one-week hiatus for a presentation by Habitat for Humanity on March 3 (which was cancelled due to weather in January).

## “Wandering Hearts and Seeking Souls: A Spirituality Experience for Busy People.”

Weds. In Lent from 5:40 to 6:25 PM, Lounge or Zoom

This Lent Pastor Chris will host a second Adult Education opportunity. This will be a hybrid class: you may meet in-person in the Lounge Classroom at WPC or on Zoom! This experience will focus on personal and community growth as disciples, looking at the scripture for the following Sunday in our Wandering Heart series through the lens of art, music, real-world events, and our own stories as companions on the journey. If you have questions, please reach out to Rev. Chris Peters ([chris@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:chris@westminsterlincoln.org)). Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87321343956?pwd=TUpvQmRvTDRZUkxZMmVNRTUrK0M3Zz09>

### Bulletin Art Artist Statement

#### *Lift Off* by Rev. Nicolette Peñaranda

In *Lift Off*, the elements are like main characters, inspiring whimsical fantasy. Cut-out layered clouds build into the horizon of the sea. The forceful wind tunnel blows over the sinking foot of a probably panicking Peter. This is a moving piece that is meant to tell a story in any direction it is turned. Like the theme of this series, the viewer should feel like they are on a journey with Peter. *Lift Off* is intentionally dark with beautiful highlights of color and sparkle. It is because of the darkness that the colors shine bright. These two things are complimentary, not contrasting. The fear that entered Peter with the wind was most likely heightened because it was dark out. Without knowing exactly what was around him, Peter became vulnerable, thus causing him to reach out. The wonder of darkness exposes us and invites us to seek connection. We see that in the reaching hand gently entering the dark sky. - Rev. Nicolette Peñaranda

### Used Sneaker/Sock Collection

Green at Heart has discovered two separate programs which collect used sneakers and used socks to keep these out of landfills. The sneaker program re-sells. The sock program recycles. There is a collection box for both of these in the east entry, north alcove where Styrofoam was collected the past few months. Check your closets and bring them in!

### First Nations Choral Festival: Music by Indigenous Composers

#### St. Paul United Methodist Church, March 5, 7:30 PM



You are invited to the first-ever Native American choral festival celebrating the rich heritage of Indigenous composers and artists. The event will feature performances by students from Standing Bear High School and Lincoln North Star High School, as well as multiple University of Nebraska-Lincoln choirs, and two local church choirs, **including our own Westminster Choir**. "We are thrilled to bring together such a diverse and talented group of artists and performers for the First Nations Festival," said **Mary Young, Festival Coordinator**. "This event not only celebrates First Nation composers of choral music but also provides a cross-curricular

event that combines legend, music, poetry, and storytelling.” The event is free, open to the public, and will be live-streamed. For more information, please contact Mary Young at [maryruthyoung95@gmail.com](mailto:maryruthyoung95@gmail.com) or 585-545-9852.

### **Faith and Cancer Support Group**

Finding Comfort and Peace after the diagnosis of cancer is often very difficult to say the least. However, sharing that uneasy feeling with others who have been on that journey can be a surprising and helpful new dimension. Here at Westminster Presbyterian Church our support group is based on three specific features: sharing laughter, sharing burdens, and sharing blessings. We meet in the library at 7 PM on the third Tuesday of each month. All are welcome. Contact Bruce Sheffield at (402) 783-0394.

### **Lent Family Activity Bags**

The Children and Youth Committee have been working on delivering Lent activity bags to all our families with children or youth. The bags include supplies to help your family experience a meaningful Lent. If you would like a bag and have not received one by Friday, please contact Trish at [trish@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:trish@westminsterlincoln.org).

### **History Buffs: COLUMBUS MEETS THE NATIVES, Sat., March 9**

Title: “Momma don’t make me learn that awful history.” A short lesson in the history of America’s indigenous people, presented by Dr. Ken Govaerts. Meet in the Lounge at 9 AM.

### **Welcome Baby Donations**

To celebrate new babies in the Westminster family, the Children and Youth Committee is seeking donations of useful baby items to stock a Welcome Baby Closet. Items from the closet will be used to create baskets for new parents. We are looking for donations of diapers, baby shampoo, baby wash, bottles, pacifiers, baby toys, baby clothes (newborn-6 mos.), knit/crochet/quilted blankets, gift card for restaurant or retail store, any baby item you might have found useful with your own children. Please drop off any donations in the tote behind the reception desk. If you have any questions, contact Trish at [trish@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:trish@westminsterlincoln.org).

## Week Beginning February 25

<p><b><u>Sun. (Feb. 25)</u></b> 9:30 AM Worship/Faith Village 10:45 AM Adult Ed., Lounge 10:45 AM Confirmation Class, FH 12 Noon Sudanese Worship 6 PM Youth Group</p> <p><b><u>Mon. (Feb. 26)</u></b> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Library 6 PM Scouts Pack Meeting, FH 6 PM Session, Lounge</p> <p><b><u>Tues (Feb. 27)</u></b> 9:45 AM Staff Meeting, Conference Room 4:30 PM Recital Rehearsal, Sanctuary 5:30 PM Deacons, Lounge</p>	<p><b><u>Wed. (Feb. 28)</u></b> 1:30 PM Hearts &amp; Hands, Library 5:30 PM WestminsterLiNK 5:40 PM Wandering Hearts and Seeking Souls, Lounge 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><b><u>Thurs. (Feb. 29)</u></b> 9 AM Friendship Homes, FH 5 PM Ladies' Night Out, Billy's</p> <p><b><u>Sun. (Mar. 3) Habitat Sunday</u></b> 9:30 AM Worship with Communion/Faith Village 10:45 AM Habitat, 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](mailto:joanne@westminsterlincoln.org)

402-475-6702