

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

April 7, 2024

Second Sunday of Easter

Wandering Heart

A Lenten Series



'Feed My Sheep' by Rev. Nicolette Peñaranda
Yarn and paper collage on canvas.

Prelude

"Clair de lune" by Louis Vierne

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

*Call to Worship

Elder Jaime Hemmerling

One: Jesus said,

All: "Follow me."

One: Jesus said,

All: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

One: Jesus said,

All: "Forgive seventy times seven."

One; Jesus said,

All: "Feed my sheep."

One: In response, we say,

All: "Here's my heart. Take and seal it. Seal it for thy courts above."

One: Let us worship God with all our hearts.

*Hymn #233

The Day of Resurrection!

*Call to Confession

Elder Jaime Hemmerling

*Time of Silent Confession

*Unison Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, like Peter, we crawl out of the boat only to sink. You tell us your truth and we push it away. We ask about forgiveness and are surprised by abundance. We profess our faith and deny it three times. We run to the empty tomb and leave in silence. Over and over again, we find ourselves wandering along the journey of faith. Tether us to your heart. Forgive our surprise, our denial, and our limited imagination. Call us out of the boat once more. We are eager to return to you. With humble hearts we pray, amen.

*Response of Praise #475 (verse 3)

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!

Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.

Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Elder Jaime Hemmerling

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 #232 (verse 1)

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

**Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. 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

Elder 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.)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Gospel Lesson

John 21:1-19

N.T. pg. 115

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

Sermon

“Here's My Heart”

Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #246**

Christ Is Alive!

Affirmation of Faith (Confession of 1967, Inclusive Language Version, 9.32)

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

One: What do we believe about the fullness of Christ's witness?

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to all people commits the church to work for every form of human well-being.

One: What do we believe about Christ's suffering?

His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering, so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice.

One: What do we believe about Christ's rising?

In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong.

Anthem

“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace” Ian Carnes, soloist

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

Blessing of the Elements

Music During Communion

“Think of Me and Remember” Reagan Hinze/Mary Young

Prayer After Communion

***Hymn #498**

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

"Hymne au soleil" by Louis Vierne

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

Today’s flowers are provided by Helen Hayes and Janet McCall.

Today’s liturgy, or words for worship, are adapted from “Wandering Heart Words for Worship: Second Sunday of Easter” 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 **Liturgist:** Elder Jaime Hemmerling

Greeters: Kelly Braswell-Burbach & Josh Whitfield **Ushers:** April Douglas, Diana Wild, David Anderson

Dishwashers: Kelly Braswell-Burbach and Dorrie Gage

Communion Servers: Dave Arunski, Ray Stevens, Katie Zulkoski, Sarah Baltensperger and Tom Welstead





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

The week of Apr. 7, 2024

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

Wandering Heart: “Here’s My Heart”

Our seven week Wandering Heart journey with Peter wraps up today, and we’ll hear a powerful story of Peter and other disciples encountering Jesus post-resurrection. It’s a story of more fishing, more miracles, breakfast on the beach, and a second call to the disciples.

In reflection, we’ll wonder, what does it look like to be ‘called again’ (and again and again) by Jesus today? What does it mean to have a dynamic and changing sense of call in our own lives? Join us Sunday in-person and on YouTube at 9:30am to engage these questions and more!

Second Sunday of Easter Bulletin Art Artist Statement

“Feed My Sheep” by Rev. Nicolette Peñaranda

As a mixed media artist, I wanted to try something I’ve never done before—perhaps the silliest decision someone with a deadline could make. This entire piece (with the exception of the three hearts) is made of yarn. For some reason, the feeling of sheep’s wool kept sticking out to me every time I read this text. We refer to Jesus as both *el Cordero de Dios* and the shepherd. So why not lean into sheep imagery? I thought the piece would be more vibrant for Easter in contrast to the pieces I created for Lent. This would really take viewers on a spiritual journey while studying Peter. Peter is asked three times if he loves Jesus, which to all he replies in the affirmative. In this piece, the two of them are portrayed as sheep, Peter being at the right hand of Jesus. The sheep are branded with *Agyinduwura* at the center of their chests. They carry with them a symbol of loyalty and faithfulness. They are loyal to Jesus, faithful to the promise of salvation, and accepting of their duty to carry the Good News with them to the people of Christ. The face of each sheep is the symbol *Kokuromotie* to represent cooperation and harmony. Jesus asking Peter to feed his sheep demonstrates the faith that Jesus has in Peter to do this work. This value of cooperation is also present in the *Mpatapo*-shaped flowers in the field. They are symbols of peace, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

Lincoln Children's Museum

From treetops to airplane runways, to lunar landscapes, there is no destination too high or too far that can't be reached through the power of play! The Lincoln Children's Museum provides limitless possibilities to create, explore, and learn to children of all ages. The Westminster Children and Youth Committee and the Westminster Preschool invite you to join your friends for a night of fun at the Lincoln Children's Museum on April 25, 5:30 PM -7:30 PM; we will have the whole facility reserved just for us. Space is limited so if you plan to attend, please RSVP to Trish at trish@westminsterlincoln.org or sarah@westminsterlincoln.org.

Used Sneaker/Sock Collection Continues Through April

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. Check your closets and bring them in!

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.

Prairie Readers

Prairie Readers will meet at 1 PM in the Lounge on April 17. Kathy Anderson will lead the discussion of *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins.

VBS 2024: Hero Hotline

Called together to serve God

June 3-7, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM, Ages 4 years to Grade 5

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-goodshepherd.mycokesburyvbs.com/>

VBS 2024 Volunteers

Westminster and Good Shepherd had a wonderful, co-hosted Vacation Bible School last year with volunteers from both churches working together to create a fabulous faith-filled week. We are combining forces again for 2024 and are in need of volunteers to step up. We would like to invite you to consider sharing your faith in Jesus at VBS by volunteering to work with children and guiding them on their faith path.

There are many rewarding ways to be a part of this opportunity to share your faith with children. Whatever your interest or gift is, we have a place for you! Sign up to volunteer here by <https://westminster-goodshepherd.mycokesburyvbs.com/> If you have any questions, please contact Trish Souliere at trish@westminsterlincoln.org or Dee Hughes gspcyouthne@gmail.com to explore the options.

Wednesday Night LiNK

Join us on Wednesday nights at 5:30 PM for an evening of food, fun, and friends. We gather at 5:30 PM and invite families to join us for dinner at 5:45. At 6:15, children and youth from nursery age through high school will meet to explore the Bible, engage in discussions, and have fun.

Pastor Chris Continuing Education

Pastor Chris will be out of the office for a Continuing Education worship planning retreat Tuesday, April 9th through Sunday, April 14th. He will return to the office Monday, April 15th. Due to limited communication time while away, Chris will return what emails and messages he can upon his return. If there is a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Jimmy or the church office.

Week Beginning April 7

<p><u>Sun. (Apr. 7)</u> 9:30 AM Worship/Communion/ Faith Village 10:45 AM Adult Ed., Lounge 10:45 AM Confirmation, FH 12 Noon Sudanese Worship 6 PM Youth Group</p> <p><u>Mon. (Apr. 8)</u> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Library</p> <p><u>Tues (Apr. 9)</u> 10 AM PW Circle #5, Lounge 5 PM Church Life, Library 5 PM Building & Grounds, Lounge 5:30 PM Worship & Music, FH 6 PM A & P, Conference Room 6 PM Welcoming Task Force, Library 6 PM Mission & Outreach, Lounge</p> <p><u>Wed. (Apr. 10)</u> 1:30 PM Hearts & Hands, Library</p>	<p>4:30 PM Foundation Marketing, Library 4:30 PM Foundation Finance, Lounge 5 PM Foundation Board Meeting, Lounge 5:30 PM WestminsterLink, Cole Hall 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><u>Thurs. (Apr. 11)</u> 6 PM Lohman Group, Tom Pappas & Laurel VanHam Home</p> <p><u>Sat. (Apr. 13)</u> 8:30 AM Preschool Training, FH 9 AM History Buffs, Lounge</p> <p><u>Sun. (Apr. 14)</u> 9:30 AM Worship/Faith Village 10:45 AM Adult Ed., Lounge 10:45 AM Confirmation, 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>

joanne@westminsterlincoln.org

402-475-6702