

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

May 12, 2024

Seventh Sunday of Easter



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN



Celebrating women in the life of the church and our 2024 graduates!
At Westminster we strive to be an inclusive faith family where all are welcome!

Prelude

“Sonata in G Major, K. 14” by Domenico Scarlatti
Anya Ahmed, piano

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

Moment for Mission: Pentecost Offering

Carolyn Harp

***Call to Worship** (Hosea 13:8, Deut. 32:11-12, Isa. 66:13, Ps. 131:2, Luke 13:34) Rev. Chris Peters

One: The prophet Hosea shares that God will defend the faithful like “a mother bear robbed of her cubs...”

All: Let us praise God with hope and celebration!

One: Deuteronomy names that God is like an eagle protecting her nest...

All: Let us praise God with hope and celebration!

One: The prophet Isaiah shares that God will comfort the faithful “as a mother comforts her child...”

All: Let us praise God with hope and celebration!

One: The Psalmist envisions God as “a mother” with her “weaned child...”

All: Let us praise God with hope and celebration!

One: Jesus compared his desire to gather the people as a “hen gathers her chicks under her wings.”

All: Let us praise God with hope and celebration!

***Hymn #645**

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Time of Silent Confession**

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

Savior God, we invite you into our lives for a season, only to forget and neglect you once again. You beckon us, calling for our attention, but we are distracted and busy taking care of other priorities. Remind us, Holy God, that you are the source of our flourishing. You are the living water by which we have been planted. Forgive our neglect. Forgive our unfaithfulness. Focus us on you, your Word, and all that your Spirit provides. Amen.

***Response to Confession #90**

Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

***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 #35 (verse 1)**

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;

join me in glad adoration!

***Passing of the Peace**

Rev. Chris Peters

Share a sign of welcome and inclusion (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.)

Moment of Gratitude

Celebration of Women in the Life of the Church

Linda Burchard

Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Dr. Val Putnam

Scripture

Hebrew Scripture

Genesis 16:1-16

O.T. pg. 12

Anthem:

Prayer of St. Francis

arr. by Allen Pote

Hebrew Scripture

Genesis 21:9-21

O.T. pg. 17

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

Sermon

"Call Me Hagar: A First-Person Encounter"

Rev. Dr. Val Putnam

***Hymn #43**

You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord

Graduate Celebration

Blessing of our Graduates and Prayers of the People

The 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 #19**

God of Great and God of Small

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Val Putnam

Postlude

“Op. 65 No. 6” by Edvard Grieg
Anya Ahmed, piano

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

Today's Call to Worship was written by Pastor Chris using a range of scriptures. The confessional liturgy is adapted from The Presbyterian Outlook: Order of Worship for May 12, 2024 by Rev. Dr. Teri McDowell Ott, Editor of the Presbyterian Outlook

The flowers are given in honor and memory of all mothers, by Martha Brown.

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

Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Val Putnam

Interim Music Director: Dr. Mary Young

Guest Organist: Willa Foster Jones

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Greeters: Stephan Biheng & Kathy Phillip

Dishwashers: Marijane England, Joan Roberts

Ushers: Kathy Anderson, Barbara Wright-Chollet, Marilyn Hood, Joyce Douglas





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

The week of May 12, 2024

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

Hostamania | Today from 9 – 11 AM

Come to the east parking lot and see the selection of plants available for purchase. For those looking for Michael and Freda’s marmalade, due to their trip to Ireland, we will take orders and they will make it when they get home. This is a fund-raiser for the Lohmen Group, so fill your basket! Thanks to all who brought plants.

Pastor Val Preaching at WPC

Today we welcome Rev. Dr. Val Putnam as our guest preacher. Many of us remember Val and her spouse, Wes, from the time she served as our interim pastor from 2018 – 2020. There will be a reception in Fellowship Hall after the worship service. Stop by to say hello and enjoy a piece of cake.

Open House for Pastor Val

In honor of Pastor Val Putnam's service in 2018-2020 as our interim Pastor, an Open House Reception will be held on Monday, May 13 in Fellowship Hall at Westminster from 5 to 7 pm. Appetizers will be served.

Mother’s Day

Today all women and girls will be presented with a carnation as they depart the worship service, as we honor all women on Mother's Day.

Prairie Readers Meet in May

Spring has come! Prairie Readers will meet on May 15. We will read ANY book by Louise Penny. Marijane England will lead the discussion of Penny's book *Still Life*.

Celebrating Human Creativity

Take a few minutes after worship for a closer look at these masterpieces. You are welcome to step up into the chancel and linger in the Garden Room and Gallery Hall. This is the last Sunday they will be displayed.

- In the Chancel: *6th Day*—nature hanging, originally created by Mark and Vicky Davis for Creation Celebration 2022
- In the Chancel: *Filled with Awe*—paintings by Westminster Youth about what they love in the natural world
- In the Garden Room: *Things that Grow*— Westminster Preschool students picture growing vegetables and decorate their own faces with flowers
- In the South Hall Gallery: *Intimate Views of Nature*—close up

Men's Retreat, Calvin Crest Camp, Freemont, Neb.

May 17-18, 2024

Join others at the beautiful and restful Calvin Crest for an overnight event designed to bring you closer to God and refresh your spiritual experience. Go to calvincrest.org/men to register.

The event will feature:

- Fellowship with other Christians
- Worship and music by nationally known artist Bob Bennett
- Motivating Speaker—Rev. J.D. Georlett
- Great food and fun in a relaxing environment

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. 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 Wish List/Prayer Calendar/Volunteers



VBS is coming soon and we could use your help! If you are interested in donating supplies, we now have a list of the supplies we will need on an Amazon wish list here <https://rb.gy/eybqil>. You are welcome to either buy something from the list or donate anything similar you might have at home. If you have any questions, please contact Trish at

trish@westminsterlincoln.org or 402-570-0163. In addition to the items on the wish list, we could use snack and drink donations for our volunteers.

You can also help out by praying for our children and volunteers. We have created a 31-day calendar with daily scriptures and ideas of what to pray for. You can find that calendar here <https://shorturl.at/cmrDV>.

If you are looking for a more hands-on way of helping and are able to arrange your schedule to free up your mornings for the week of June 3-7, we have all kinds of rewarding ways to be a part of this opportunity to share your faith with children. If you do not feel qualified, we promise you will not be alone in your assignment. You are welcome to invite a friend to volunteer with you or we will pair you with other volunteers. If you remember how much fun VBS was when you were child, it's even more fun as a volunteer.

Please sign up here by <https://westminster-goodshepherd.mycokesburyvbs.com/> and if you have any questions, please contact Trish Souliere at trish@westminsterlincoln.org or Dee Hughes gspcyouthne@gmail.com to explore the options.

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. Please drop off any donations in the tote behind the reception desk. If you have any questions, contact Trish at trish@westminsterlincoln.org.

Week Beginning May 12

<p><u>Sun. (May 12)</u> 9 AM Hostamania/Mother's Day 9:30 AM Worship/Guest Preacher Rev. Dr. Val Putnam/Faith Village 10:45 AM Cake Reception with Pastor Val & Wes 12 Noon Sudanese Worship 6 PM Youth Group</p> <p><u>Mon. (May 13)</u> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Library 5 PM Open House for Pastor Val & Wes Putnam, Fellowship Hall</p> <p><u>Tues (May 14)</u> 8 AM Primary Election, Fellowship Hall 9:45 AM Staff Meeting, Conference Room 10 AM PW Circle #5, Lounge 5 PM Church Life, Library 5 PM Personnel, Zoom 5 PM Bldg. and Grounds, Lounge 5:30 PM Worship & Music, Cole Hall 5:30 PM Stewardship & Finance, Senior Pastor's Office 6 PM A&P, Conference Room 6 PM Welcoming Task Force, Library</p>	<p>6 PM Mission & Outreach, Lounge 6 PM Children & Youth, Zoom</p> <p><u>Wed. (May 15)</u> 9 AM Friendship Home, Fellowship Hall 1 PM Prairie Readers, Lounge 1:30 PM Hearts & Hands, Library 5:30 PM WestminsterLink, Cole Hall 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><u>Thurs. (May 16)</u> 10 AM Homestead Presbytery Stated Meeting, Fairbury 7 PM Camera Club, Lounge</p> <p><u>Fri. (May 17)</u> 6:30 PM Graduation Family Gathering, Mary Young, FH</p> <p><u>Sat. (May 18)</u> 2:30 PM Sudanese use kitchen</p> <p><u>Sun. (May 19) Pentecost</u> 9:30 AM Worship/Faith Village 10:45 AM Decorate Pentecost Cookies, Fellowship Hall 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

2024 High School Graduates



William McConnell—East High School



Mallory Witt—Southwest High School



Barrett Jex—Southeast High School



Sydney Laux—Southwest High School



Isabel Frana—Southwest High School