

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

July 21, 2024

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

**Prelude** “Amazing Grace” arr. Jack Schrader

**Welcome** Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

**Choral Introit** “Lead With Love” Star City Sound + Congregation

**\*Call to Worship** Deacon Kathy Phillip  
(Psalm 23, inspired from Common English Bible)

One: The Lord is my shepherd. I lack nothing.

**All: God lets me rest in grassy meadows, leads me to restful waters, and keeps me alive.**

One: God guides me in proper paths for the sake of God’s good name.

**All: Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no danger because you are with me.**

One: Your rod and your staff— they protect me.

**All: You set a table for me right in front of my enemies.**

One: You bathe my head in oil; my cup is so full it spills over!

**All: Yes, goodness and faithful love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the Lord’s house as long as I live.**

**\*Hymn #645** *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

**\*Call to Confession** Deacon Kathy Phillip

**\*Time of Silent Confession**

**\*Unison Prayer of Confession**

***Eternal God, your steadfast love endures forever. We confess that we act as if we are in control. We act as if you will bless whatever we say or do. If we think of others at all, it is with an eye toward their usefulness to us. If we consider your creation, it is to ponder what benefits us. We have failed to show your love or to do justice in obedience to you. Have mercy on us,***

***God of grace. Forgive our sins, we humbly pray.  
Equip us to do your will, giving you glory, honor,  
and praise, together with the Son and the Holy  
Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.***

**\*Response to Confession #471**

**O Lord, Hear My Prayer**

***O Lord, hear my prayer.***

***O Lord, hear my prayer.***

***When I call, answer me.***

***O Lord, hear my prayer.***

***O Lord, hear my prayer.***

***Come and listen to me.***

**\*Assurance of Forgiveness**

Deacon Kathy Phillip

*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 #581**

**Glory be to the Father**

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;***

***as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.***

**\*Passing of the Peace**

Rev. Chris Peters

*Share a sign of welcome and inclusion (high five, handshake, fist/elbow bump) with your neighbors. We pass Christ's peace to one another and to those viewing on live stream.*

May the peace of Christ be with you.

***And also with you.***

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture**

Old Testament Prophets

Jeremiah 23:1-6

O.T. pg. 725

Gospel Reading

Mark 6:30-34

N.T. pg. 41

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

**Sermon** “Visions of Justice: Shepherds”

Rev. Chris Peters

**\*Hymn #756**

***O God of Every Nation*** (vv. 1,2,4)

**Affirmation of Faith** (PCUS Declaration of Faith, 1977 with inclusive language emphasis for people)

Rev. Chris Peters

One: How does God send us to exercise compassion in the world?

***All: In concern for justice in the social order, God has never forgotten the needs of individuals. In the end the Lord will judge all persons by the simple, unremembered acts of kindness they did or failed to do for the least of their human siblings.***

One: We acknowledge God is at work here and now when people show personal concern for each other and work to make helping agencies, including the church itself, more compassionate.

***All: We believe God sends us to risk our own peace and comfort in compassion for our neighbors. We are to give to them and receive from them, accepting everyone we meet as a person; to be sensitive to those who suffer in body or mind; to help and accept help in ways that affirm dignity and responsibility. We must not limit our compassion to those we judge deserving, for we ourselves do not deserve the compassion of God.***

**Anthem**

“Poor Wayfaring Stranger” Star City Sound

**Prayers of the People**

Deacon Kathy Phillip

**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 #803**

***My Shepherd Will Supply My Need***

**\*Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

## Postlude

“Nearer My God to Thee”  
Star City Sound small group

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

Today's words for worship are curated and adapted by Pastor Chris from the following resources: Feasting on the Word: Liturgies for Year B, Vol 2 (Rev. Dr. Kimberly Bracken Long, Editor), Where the Broken Ones Gather: Lectionary Liturgies for RCL Year B (Thom M. Schuman), and the PCUSA Book of Common Worship, 2018. Today's Affirmation of Faith comes from the PCUS Declaration of Faith, which the 197<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the PCUSA (1985) adopted as “a contemporary statement of faith, a reliable aid for Christian study, liturgy, and inspiration” with the understanding that only the Book of Confessions has constitutional standing in the church. (from [presbyterianmission.org/resource/declaration-faith/](http://presbyterianmission.org/resource/declaration-faith/))

**Flowers in the sanctuary** today are given by Stan Campbell and Marybell Avery in loving memory of Stan's mother, Charlotte Campbell, who passed away June 23<sup>rd</sup> three weeks before her 105th birthday.

**Westminster welcomes and values children in worship.** All kids and their families are welcome to pick up a blue Children's Worship Bag in the narthex (Sheridan Blvd. foyer). If a parent feels a break is needed for their child during the service, our **Infant Room** is available. This is at the north end of the Narthex.

### **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 Kathy Phillip

**Interim Music Director:** Dr. Mary Young

**Organist:** John Ross

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

**Greeters:** Stephanie & Scott Rogers

**Dishwashers:** Tom Pappas & Laurel Van Ham

**Ushers:** Leslie Miner, Barb Andersen, Marybell Avery



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

**The week of July 21, 2024**

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

**Visions of Justice**

**A two-week dive into prophetic images for community-oriented justice in the Old Testament.**

<b>July 14</b> <b>A Plumb Line</b> Amos 7:7-15	<b>July 21</b> <b>Shepherds</b> Jeremiah 23:1-6
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Westminster Presbyterian Church (USA)  
2110 Sheridan Blvd., Lincoln, NE  
westminsterlincoln.org

\*The object above is a plumb line.  
Learn more about it in worship!

“For the next two weeks we shift in worship to a focus on two prophetic images for community-oriented justice in our lives as people of God. We’ll hear from the prophets Amos and Jeremiah, who both use imagery to help the people understand how God hopes for them to be changed and to make change. Through those words, we’ll be inspired to change and make change in our daily lives as well!” – Pastor Chris

### **Adult Education in July**

The following weeks in July, we will have an opportunity to hear from a couple of members of the congregation, who will share their faith stories.

July 21 – Karen Hoffman

July 28 – Claire Titus

## **Star City Sound Show at WPC July 27**

Join us for an unforgettable concert with Star City Sound, an all-new mixed acapella group formed and directed by Logan Langholdt and Dr. Mary Young! The chorus performs all things acapella including barbershop, vocal jazz, pop, Disney, and folk songs. They are performing on Saturday, July 27 at 7 pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church. The Lincoln Continentals sponsor this exciting show that is free and open to the public!

## **Need for Volunteers**

Due to a smaller number of folks who are available to sit at the front desk from 10 am to 2 pm, we are scheduling things a little differently this month. There will not be a volunteer at the desk on Thursdays or Fridays. Therefore, we will need some help collating the bulletin and any inserts for the week. We're looking for one or two people to come on Friday morning after 10 AM. The task takes 30 minutes to an hour. You can add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Garden Room on the day you are available. If you have questions, direct them to Joanne Gabriel, Office Manager, at [joanne@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:joanne@westminsterlincoln.org) or call the church office.

Along with this change, for the time being, we ask that you call ahead or contact a staff member if you need to stop by the church on Thursday or Friday. We would be glad to provide access if needs are known in advance.

## **Dishwashers Needed**

A huge thank you to all the volunteers that helped with dishwashing this past year! Westminster made a commitment in the fall of 2007 to stop using disposable cups during our Sunday morning coffee hour. We've honored that commitment for almost 17 years now, thanks to lots of people each doing a little. With that in mind, we are in need of dishwashers to fill a few open shifts for the next year (July-June). Please contact Lisa McConnell at [lpeach\\_2001@yahoo.com](mailto:lpeach_2001@yahoo.com) if you are interested in helping out.

## **Ladies' Night Out**

**Tuesday, July 30, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at LaPaz!**

You are invited to join us this month at La Paz, located at 321 N Corner Blvd. \*Please RSVP to Robyn Uebele at [robynu2@hotmail.com](mailto:robynu2@hotmail.com) / (937) 935-6858. We hope you can join us.

## **Thank You from Josh Whitfield**

I wish to thank the many Westminster members that came to my Individual Support Plan (Party). I hope while enjoying cheeseburgers and everything else that started with a "C" you were able to learn a little more about me, my life, how I make the decisions and how you are important in my life as natural supports. Thank you for taking time out of your day to be with me.

After sharing my goals for the next year, several members asked how they could better support me. I said by just being a friend, talking to me and being patient with me.

But then my friend Amy Taft, a State of Nebraska HHS service Coordinator, told you about the Enable Savings Account Gifting Program. I have had an Enable account for a long time and you can gift to my account.

If you remember, my goals are:

1. Buying that Shiny Blue Truck by April 2025 for PooPatrol so my support staff won't have to drive me all over Lancaster County scooping yards in their cars. My goal is \$35,000. I have saved in my PASS Plan for the last 2 1/2 years \$26,000.
2. Albert Noah Pooper and I are going the 5 modules of Service Dog Training. Albert and I are in the middle of Module 1 right now. Each module costs \$1500.

Here is the new website (<https://givetoenable.com/>) with instructions how to give. Click on find a member and you will see my picture with Albert. Givers who file Nebraska income taxes can also deduct up to 10,000 for contributions to Enable accounts. Thank you and blessings to all my church people.

Josh Whitfield

## Save the Date! Blessing of the Backpacks

Our annual Blessing of the Backpacks, a time to celebrate and pray for our children and youth as they begin a new year of school, will take place on Sunday, August 11 during our Children's Chat time in worship. We hope you'll plan to bring your backpack and join us! All kids are welcome – backpack or none!

## Prairie Readers

Prairie Readers will meet in the Lounge on Wed., Aug. 21 at 1 PM. Kathryn Govaerts will facilitate the discussion of Ann Patchett's book *Tom Lake*.

**Pastor Jimmy** is "on loan" today for pulpit supply at the Hickman Presbyterian Church.

## Week Beginning July 21

<p><b><u>Sun. (July 21)</u></b> 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Adult Ed, Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p> <p><b><u>Mon. (July 22)</u></b> Synod School (Mon. – Fri.), Storm Lake, Iowa 6 PM Session</p> <p><b><u>Tues. (July 23)</u></b> 9:45 AM Staff Meeting 3 PM <i>Steering the Ship</i> Homestead Meeting, Lounge</p>	<p><b><u>Wed. (July 24)</u></b> 1:30 PM Heart &amp; Hands, Library</p> <p><b><u>Thurs. (July 25)</u></b> 6:30 PM Summer Star City Sound Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><b><u>Sat. (July 27)</u></b> 7 PM Star City Sound Show, Sanctuary</p> <p><b><u>Sun. (July 28)</u></b> 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Adult Ed, Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</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