

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

August 18, 2024

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

“Romance, Op.36 No. 8” by Camille Saint-Saëns
Bradley Greathouse, French horn

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

***Call to Worship** (From Psalm 111)

Rev. Chris Peters

One: The works of the Lord are magnificent;

Many: They are treasured by all who desire them.

One: God’s deeds are majestic and glorious.

Many: God’s righteousness stands forever!

One: God gives food to those who honor the Lord;

Many: God’s praise lasts forever!

***Hymn #511**

Come, Behold! the Feast of Heaven

***Call to Confession**

Deacon Claire Titus

***Time of Silent Confession**

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life and sent his Spirit to be with us always. We confess that we have not trusted in the truth of that Spirit to enliven our hearts, to set us in the ways of justice, and to free us from fear. We have turned away from the gift of Christ’s presence. Forgive us, and turn our hearts back to you, that we may be your faithful and loving people, walking in the footsteps of the One who came to transform the world.

***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 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 #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.

Children's Chat

Ron Souliere

(Children in Grades 1 – 5 are invited to either come to Faith Village for a Bible lesson, friendship, and fun 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. Faith Village is located through the door to the right of the East entry steps.)

Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Scripture Readings

Epistle Reading

Philippians 2:4-11

N.T. pg. 197

Gospel Reading

John 6:51-58

N.T. pg. 98

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

Sermon

“Jesus Provides: Clarifying Controversy”

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Hymn #347**

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

***Affirmation of Faith (Apostles’ Creed, Modern Language)**

Rev. Chris Peters

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Moment of Gratitude

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Special Music

“Solace” by Sara Kalamaja

(This is an original composition by Sara, a UNL music student.)

Sara Kalamaja, Delaney Kigerl, Jenna Schweigert, Mary Young

Bryson Cole, John Heldridge, Jameson Margetts, Evan Mott

Prayers of the People

Deacon Claire Titus

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 #530**

One Bread, One Body

*Charge & Benediction

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Postlude

“Nocturne, Op. 35 No. 10” by Reinhold Gliere
Bradley Greathouse, French horn

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

Today’s words for worship are gathered and adapted by Pastor Jimmy and Pastor Chris from the following resources: Psalm 111 for our Call to Worship; and the Presbyterian Outlook Order of Worship for Sunday, August 18th, 2024 (by Rev. Barbara Chaapel, Parish Associate Pastor, First Presbyterian, Philadelphia, PA).

The flowers today are from Joyce Douglas to honor all the administrators, teachers and students returning to school or college.

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 Claire Titus

Interim Music Director: Dr. Mary Young

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Greeters: Kathy Phillip & Josh Whitfield

Ushers: Leslie Miner, Robyn Uebele, Joan Roberts

Dishwashers: Karen & Rachel Hoffman

Sanctuary Audio and Livestream: Dale Minter

Adapted from *The Book of Order*, F-2.03—F2.05

Essentials for Christians

- 1) One Triune God
- 2) Incarnation of the Word in Jesus of Nazareth
(God's Word made flesh)

Essential For Protestants

- 1) Our hope is by grace alone through faith
- 2) Authority of Scripture

Emphases for “Reformed” or “Presbyterians”

- 1) God is Lord and in charge, even when it does not look that way!
- 2) Election for service and salvation
- 3) Christian life is meant to be lived in communities of faith
- 4) Stewardship of creation and all our blessings
- 5) Sin as reality, especially idolatry (substituting something for God)



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

The week of Aug. 18, 2024

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

Security and Office Access “Town Hall”

Sunday, August 18, 10:45 AM in the Lounge Classroom

Join Pastor Chris and Westminster’s Administration and Planning (“A&P”) Committee for a Town Hall engaging questions about security and safety of and for our facilities at Westminster. This conversation ranges from Sunday morning worship planning and safety training to Mon-through-Fri building access to the future of our volunteer desk staffing. We want to hear from you as Session, A&P, Buildings and Grounds, Personnel and other committees work to value our call to welcome and inclusion along with our call to provide safety to the best of our ability as a church. Questions, comments, and even kudos are welcome at this session.

Video Link to Christine Pappas’s Presentation on Aug. 11

For those who missed Adult Ed last Sunday, August 11, "The Competitive Advantage of Tribal Governments" by Christine Pappas, this is the link to the YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/KIAGfvoaRr0> .

Youth Group: Kiddie Pool Kickball

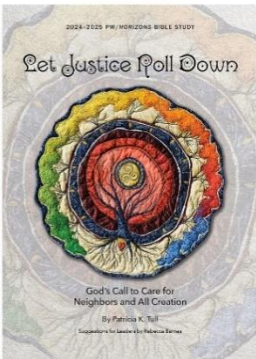
The Youth Group will be getting together with the kids from Good Shepherd at 11:30 AM on Sunday, August 18 for lunch and a wild game of Kiddie Pool Kickball. All current and incoming Youth Group kids are invited to the party and encouraged to bring along a friend or two. Please let Trish know if your youth will be attending so that we have enough food and can plan activities accordingly either by email at trish@westminsterlincoln.org or text 402-570-0163.

Adult Education | 10:45 AM | Lounge

August 25: "Global Kinship: Religions cooperating around the World" by Rev. Lauren Van Ham, Climate Action Coordinator for United Religions Initiative.

Raised in the Midwest, (including WPC) Lauren Van Ham's professional life began as a performing artist in NYC before attending interfaith seminary in California. After ordination (1999), Lauren served as chaplain in both healthcare and corporate settings, and seminary Dean at The Chaplaincy Institute. Her passion for spirituality, art and Earth's teachings construct her focus in eco-ministry, grief & loss, and sacred activism. She is a guest writer for "Progressing Spirit," an online publication exploring theology, spirituality and public events. She holds degrees from Carnegie Mellon University and Naropa University. Lauren is a spiritual director and serves as guest faculty for several schools in the Bay Area.

Presbyterian Women's Annual Kick-off Saturday, August 24, 10 AM in Cole Hall



All women of Westminster are invited to gather for fellowship and information about the year ahead. We center on fellowship that leads to friendships, a Bible study on social justice and eco-justice "Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation" by Patricia K. Tull that leads to deeper understanding of scripture, and mission opportunities that lead to caring for our neighbors. Study books will be available, also coffee and treats.

Questions? Contact Linda Burchard.

(402) 477-5572, lindajburchard@gmail.com

Children and Youth Worship Leader Form

Please use the link below to indicate your interest to Pastor Chris about being a children / youth liturgist. This includes the option of writing and/or reading a part of worship for the second Sunday of the month this Fall. Instructions are included in the linked Google Form. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Chris at chris@westminsterlincoln.org
<https://forms.gle/AzeLQrsnmLeNeib76>

August 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*.

We're Seeking: A/V Volunteers to Share Our Worship with the World!

Each week, Westminster's worship service is streamed live on YouTube, engaging a view audience anywhere between 50 and 100, on average. This is an important calling in our church, as we know folks watch our services from Lincoln to Florida to France! We are currently looking for 2-4 additional volunteers to help us have a more robust rotation for A/V, with the goal of having two people in our booth each Sunday. This task does include monitoring our sound board for in-house and online levels. We are offering a "come and see" session after worship on Sunday, August 25. If you are interested or wish to RSVP, please contact Dale Minter at dminter911@gmail.com.

Disability Inclusion Sunday, August 25

Within Westminster, we all have a vital role to play in extending welcome. We work hard to welcome children, to welcome newcomers and visitors, and to welcome people from diverse backgrounds. As we work to embrace the fullness of God's amazing creation, we also get to embrace the work of welcoming people with disabilities into our communities. People with disabilities are often creative problem-solvers who know how to advocate, find solutions, and get things done. All of us are learning the value and strength of diverse faith communities. Disability inclusion is a part of what it means to build the diverse church that answers the invitation of being a Matthew 25 Church that is equitable and just.

As a Welcoming Church, Westminster will affirm, support and advocate for the gifts, the rights and the responsibilities of persons with disabilities in the total life of the church...from Inclusion to Belonging.

"Belonging is rooted in relationships. Having people in our lives who know us, like us, accept us, need us, miss us, and love us is at the heart of well-being." Eric W. Carter

Guest Preacher will be The Rev. Dr. Karen Moritz, PCUSA Disability Concerns Consultant

As a woman who's been blind since birth, Moritz is sensitive to the issues that people with conditions that affect their vision face in church and community settings. "It's kind of a thing close to my heart because I think the church still struggles to know how to include people with disabilities," said Moritz, a former mission co-Worker and retired Nebraska pastor. "I know all of us want to be there to help make that process easier and less frightening for people."

"The PCUSA's Disability Concerns Consultants help people overcome barriers to full participation in church." Presbyterian Mission Article

Week Beginning Aug. 18

<p><u>Sun. (Aug. 18)</u> 9:30 AM Worship, Faith Village 10:45 AM Adult Ed, Lounge 11:30 AM Youth Group: Lunch & Kiddie Pool Kickball, Good Shepherd 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p> <p><u>Mon. (Aug. 19)</u> 6:30 PM Green @ Heart</p> <p><u>Tues. (Aug. 20)</u> 9:45 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Children & Youth, Zoom 7 PM Faith and Cancer Support Group, Library</p> <p><u>Wed. (Aug. 21)</u> 1 PM Prairie Readers, Lounge</p>	<p>1:30 PM Hearts and Hands, Library 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><u>Sat. (Aug. 24)</u> 10 AM Presbyterian Women Fall Kick-Off, Cole Hall 10 AM Family Fun Day, Calvin Crest Camp 5 PM Instadium, Calvin Crest</p> <p><u>Sun. (Aug. 25)</u> Disability Inclusion Sunday 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Adult Ed, Lounge 10:45 AM <i>Come and See</i> A/V Volunteer Session, Balcony 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

402-475-6702