

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

September 15, 2024

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



Everyday Faith

is Built

Brick-by-Brick

James 3:1-12

“Faith Filters”

Prelude

Bach Sarabande from Suite #4, Alec Doyle, cello

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

Special Announcement

Lincoln Hygiene Network
Pastor Chris + Video

***Call to Worship** (Inspired by scripture from Psalm 19, Proverbs 1, Isaiah 50) Deacon Claire Titus

One: The Psalmist teaches that all creation proclaims God's good works!

Many: *The rhythms of day and night speak to us of your wisdom!*

One: Proverbs speaks of wisdom, too, as a voice that speaks up in everyday life!

Many: *Wisdom cries out in the street; in public squares wisdom raises her voice!*

One: The prophet speaks of the power of our words to help others.

Many: *The Lord God helps us to know how to help the hurting with our words.*

One: Let us use our voices to worship God with hope and in singing...

***Hymn #664**

Morning Has Broken

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Time of Silent Confession**

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

You call out to us, Holy God, from city streets, town squares and cattle gates, but we refuse to listen. You have stretched out your hand, and we have not taken it. You have offered wisdom, yet we say words that hurt others rather than build them up. Forgive us, O Lord. Give us the insight we need to know your place in our lives so that our words and actions might show your love to others. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

***Response to Confession #466**

Come and Fill Our Hearts

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!

***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**

You Make Beautiful Things (Chorus x2)

*You make beautiful things, You make beautiful things out of the dust.
You make beautiful things, You make beautiful things out of us.*

***Passing of the Peace**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

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

Karen Hoffman

(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. Chris Peters

Scripture Readings

Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 50:4-9a

O.T. pg. 681

Epistle Reading

James 3:1-12

N.T. pg. 230

An "epistle" is a letter. In the New Testament there are 27 books total and 21 are letters/epistles by different authors to different communities.

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

Sermon

"Faith Filters"

Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #757**

Today We Are All Called to Be Disciples

Moment of Gratitude: Brick-by-Brick Prayers

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Anthem

"Come To Me" (Dan Forrest)
Westminster Choir & cello

Come to me

All you who labor

Come to me and I will give you rest

Come to me all who are weary and burdened

And you will find rest for your souls

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 #625**

How Great Thou Art

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

Bach Allamande from Suite #3, Alec Doyle, cello

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

Notes on Today's Words for Worship / Liturgy

A special thank you to Deacon Claire Titus for writing today's Prayers of the People. The Call to Worship was written by Pastor Chris using lectionary scriptures as inspiration. Today's Prayer of Confession is adapted by Pastor Chris from two sources: The Presbyterian Outlook Worship Resources (by Rev. Adam Quine, Pastor of First Presbyterian, Lincoln, Ill) and Feasting on the Word: Liturgies for Year B Vol. 2 (Rev. Dr. Kimberly Bracken Long, Editor). Our Call to Confession and Assurance of Pardon come from the cited Presbyterian Outlook resource.

Flowers are given in memory of husband and father Army Chaplain Lynn Davis and our son and brother 1st Sergeant Leigh Davis by the Davis family.

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: Carol & Jim Bishop

Ushers: Leslie Miner, Robyn Uebele, Barb Andersen, April Douglas

Dishwasher: Tom Pappas & Laurel Van Ham

Sanctuary Audio and Livestream: Stephan Biheng





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

The week of Sept. 15, 2024

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



September Sermon Series

This September join us in worship for “Everyday Faith,” a series exploring the practical side of our faith from the New Testament letter of James. Over the month we’ll be encouraged to be doers of God’s word, value people of all classes, speak well of our neighbor, and to pray thoughtfully. As we navigate community in an election season, our consideration of James will invite us to live well with others and to do justice as followers of Jesus. – Pastor Chris

Building Faith Brick by Brick Block Party

Join us today for our Building Faith Block Party. You are invited to enjoy the bounce house, giant yard games, and a series of LEGO activities, sponsored by our church committees. Porkcentric will be back with lunch available for purchase, and we will treat you to Kona Ice for dessert. Please join us in the parking lot after the regular worship service today.

On Sept. 18th, we will resume Wednesday activities. We are implementing a new schedule this year -- we will meet at 6:00 PM for dinner in Cole Hall. As always, families are invited to dine with us. Activities for Faith Village and Youth Group will begin at 6:30 PM and end at 8:00 PM. If you have children younger than elementary age, let me know if you are interested in having them join us on Wednesdays.

Landscaping Sign-Up

This is the link to sign-up to do a project that will beautify the church grounds— <https://t.ly/AF00->. Your help is needed and appreciated. Questions? Contact Gary Haller (817-757-2980) or Tom Pappas (402-202-4454).

The PW Barrel is Back!

Presbyterian Women at Westminster will partner again with the Lincoln Hygiene Network to collect hygiene products for over 20 nonprofit groups in the Lincoln area. We're not just distributing products; we're restoring health, hope, and well-being one bar of soap, one toothbrush, one deodorant at a time. Please help us fill the colorful barrel at the east entrance steps at Westminster with NEW products. Pick up a list of needed items and return them during September and October. Monetary donations are welcome at lincolnhygienenetwork.org.

Do Everything in Love by helping our neighbors.



Bible Study on Environmental Justice

Did you notice the Environmental Justice action in last week's Vine? This is Westminster's church-wide collaboration with Presbyterian Women's nationwide Bible study. So icymi (in case you missed it) the action is just a quick way to get started: Read a definition of Environmental Justice in Wikipedia and compare that to the message in Ezekiel 3:17-19. Easy, huh?!

WPC is Hosting Mural Painting

The South Branch City Library is getting a new mural, and it's going to be painted in Fellowship Hall at WPC during Sept. Stop by and see what Chloe, the artist, is working on. There will be a Community Painting Event in the parking lot on Sept. 22 beginning at 1 pm, if you'd like to do some painting on the mural. This is a project of the Lux Center for the Arts.

Prairie Readers

Prairie Readers will meet at 1 PM in the lounge on Wed., Sept. 18. Susie Hughes will lead the discussion of *The Art Thief* by Michael Finkel.

Game Night

Mark your calendars! Sept. 20 is Game Night at Westminster for all ages! Bring your favorite game and snacks to share, join in the fun, and fellowship, while watching the Husker game on TV. Doors open at 6 PM.

Call for Candy

Fall has arrived and that means Spooktacular is coming soon! In order to host the best trunk or treat/fall festival party, we need your help! We are seeking bags of candy, crackers, packaged snacks, and/or any small handouts for our stations to distribute to the children. Look for collection buckets at the top of the steps by the East entrance.

The upcoming Sunday Adult Ed schedule:

Sept. 22: Rev. Chris Peters will be presenting "Westminster Welcome" for anyone interested in knowing more about WPC with the possibility of joining. Please email Pastor Chris at chris@westminsterlincoln.org to attend this session.

Sept. 29: Lincoln Lutheran Family Services will present "Our Mission."

Oct. 6: Rachel Gibson from the Nebraska League of Women Voters will explain the upcoming Nebraska ballot initiatives. On Nov. 5, Nebraskans will have the opportunity to vote on several important Ballot Initiatives. Three initiatives have been certified for the ballot, a paid sick leave program and two competing abortion initiatives. There is also the potential of three more, two on marijuana legalization and regulation and one on publicly funded private school scholarships. Rachel Gibson, current Vice President of Action for the League of Women Voters Nebraska, will present a non-partisan review of the Ballot Initiatives – what they state, what they are meant to do, and potential implications. Rachel has served as the Director of Education Policy in addition to working on the Fair Maps Redistricting Committee and the Social Policy Action Team. She spent 10 years as an advisor, educator, and program coordinator in higher education at the University of Kansas, Wichita State University, and Creighton University. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Master of Science in Higher Education Administration, both from the University of Kansas.

Westminster Cabaret for a Cause, Sun., Oct. 6 at 2 PM

Join us for a night of powerful songs filled with hope and new beginnings as we celebrate local Lincoln talent and give back to the community. Bring a nonperishable food item for the pantry at WPC for admission.

Week Beginning Sept. 15

<p><u>Sun. (Sept. 15)</u> 9:30 AM Worship, Faith Village 10:45 AM Building Faith Brick-by- Brick Activities/Food/Games, Parking Lot 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p> <p><u>Mon. (Sept. 16)</u> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Library 6:30 PM Green@Heart</p> <p><u>Tues. (Sept. 17)</u> 9:45 AM Staff Meeting 10:45 AM Preschool Parents' Day, Fellowship Hall 7 PM Faith and Cancer Support Group, Library</p> <p><u>Wed. (Sept. 18)</u> 10:45 AM Preschool Parents' Day, Fellowship Hall 1 PM Prairie Readers, Lounge</p>	<p>1:30 PM Hearts and Hands, Library 6 PM Faith Village & Youth Group 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><u>Thurs. (Sept. 19)</u> 9 AM Friendship Home, Fellowship Hall 7 PM Lincoln Continentals Rehearsal, Sanctuary 7 PM Camera Club, Lounge</p> <p><u>Fri. (Sept. 20)</u> 6 PM Game Night, Fellowship Hall</p> <p><u>Sun. (Sept. 22)</u> 9:30 AM Worship, Faith Village 10:45 AM Adult Ed, Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship 1 PM to 3 PM Community Mural Painting Event, Parking Lot</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