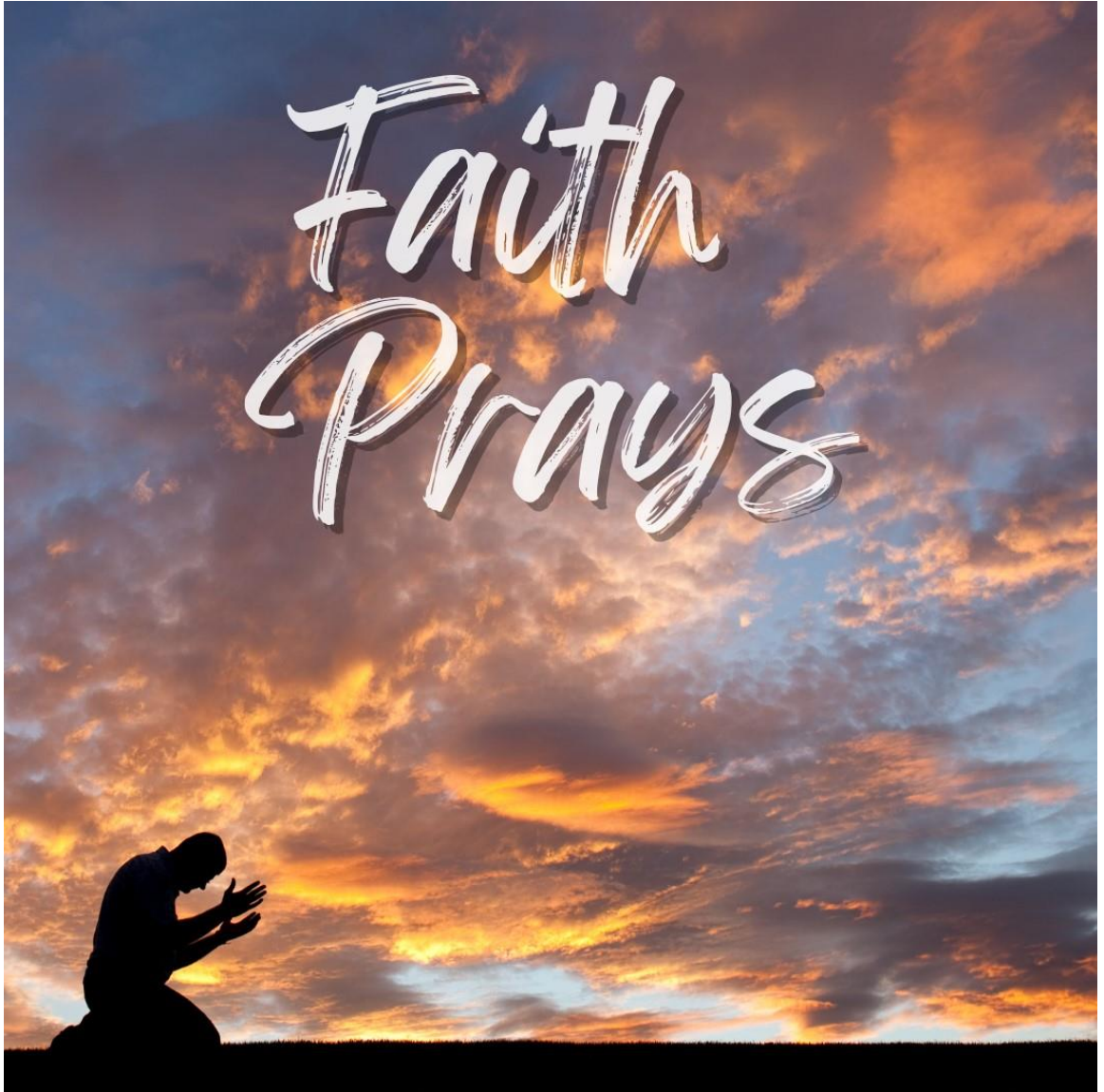


# Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

**September 29, 2024**

**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**



**Prelude**

“My Life Flows On” arr. John Carter (John and Mary duet)

**Welcome**

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

**Special Announcement: Peace and Global Witness Offering**

Carolyn Harp

**\*Call to Worship** (adapted from Psalm 124:8)

Deacon Claire Titus

One: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

***Many: In speaking, in silence, in movement, in stillness, God is with us.***

One: God alone saves us. God alone helps us.

***Many: God alone sets us on the path of peace. Let us worship our God, our Sustainer!***

**\*Hymn #543**

**God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me**

**\*Call to Confession**

Deacon Claire Titus

**\*Time of Silent Confession**

**\*Unison Prayer of Confession**

***Prayer of Confession***

***Loving God, you welcome our prayers with joy and a listening spirit. Still, we pray for petty wants rather than giving thanks when our needs are met. We claim the good in our lives is of our own doing, forgetting to give thanks for your grace. We speak words that harm rather than speaking prayers of healing and peace. Lord, forgive us. Let our prayers of confession, prayers of hope, and even prayers of crying out, all come from a place of faithfulness and thankfulness. Lord, make us new, once again. Send us to do good work that reflects the good prayers we say. In the name of Christ, we ask. 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**

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**

**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. 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**

Elder Jaime Hemmerling

*(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

1 Kings 18:41-45a

O.T. pg. 326

Epistle Reading

James 5:13-20

N.T. pg. 231

*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 Prays"

Rev. Chris Peters

**Response—Dissolving Water Prayers**

*Please write a prayer of any sort on the paper square included in your bulletin. As the music plays, you may bring your prayer up to the water basin where it will dissolve – a reminder that we lift prayers to God in the variety of circumstances of life, and God receives them wholly as they are.*

**\*Hymn #66**

**Every Time I Feel the Spirit**

**Moment of Gratitude**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Anthem**

"A Thousand Storms" (Heather Sorenson)  
Westminster Choir

Bring the rain of a thousand storms  
It cannot wash away my worth  
Nor drown the praise for You in my heart  
Holy are you, Lord of heaven and earth

## Prayers of the People The Lord's Prayer

Deacon Claire Titus

***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 #702

## Christ Be Beside Me

## \*Charge & Benediction

Rev. Chris Peters

## Postlude

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness” arr. John Carter (John and Mary duet)

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

Today's words for worship are adapted by Pastor Chris from the Presbyterian Outlook's Order of Worship: 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (by Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche (she/her), pastor of Emmanuel Presbyterian Church in Bedford, Texas). The Prayer of Confession has been written by Pastor Chris with reflection on today's passage from James.

**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 & David Anderson

**Ushers:** Erika Schafer Family

**Dishwasher:** Lisa & Steve McConnell

**Sanctuary Audio and Livestream:** Stephan Biheng





*"I am the vine,  
you are the branches . . ."*

**The week of Sept. 29, 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

### **The upcoming Sunday Adult Ed schedule:**

**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.

### **October Lunch Bunch**

Lunch Bunch will meet at Mazatlan, 211 N 70th St., on Tues., Oct. 1, at 11:30 a.m. R.S.V.P. to Jim Kinkennon at 402-290-5888 or [jimkinkennon@gmail.com](mailto:jimkinkennon@gmail.com). We look forward to seeing you there!

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

Join us for an afternoon of music and entertainment featuring some of Lincoln's brightest musical stars! Admission is **FREE** and open to the public. In lieu of a ticket charge, we kindly suggest donations to our Westminster Food Pantry. Help us support our community by bringing food items that can make a difference! Let's come together for an afternoon of music, community, and giving back. We can't wait to see you there!

### **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).

### **W3 (Welcome to Westminster on Wednesdays)**

We have resumed Wednesday activities! We meet at 6 PM for dinner in Cole Hall, though the gym is available at 5:30 PM for anyone who would like to come earlier. Activities in Faith Village and Youth Group begin at 6:30 PM and end at 8:00 PM.

### **Presbyterian Women (PW) is on the MOVE with LOVE**

- Continue to fill the Lincoln Hygiene Network barrel by the east entrance stairs.
- All hands on deck for the Service of Service on October 20.
- PW Presbytery Hybrid FALL GATHERING--Lincoln First Presbyterian on Saturday, Oct. 5, 10:00-Noon
- Contribute to the THANK OFFERING for national and global health-related projects and initiatives that help families.

135 years of giving for over 1,600 projects

8 projects funded this year including one in our Synod

Do EVERYTHING in LOVE



### **WPC is Hosting Mural Painting**

Chloe continues to work on the mural in Fellowship Hall. Stop by and see how the project is coming. The mural is for the South Branch City Library. This is a project of the Lux Center for the Arts.

## **Need for Volunteers**

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.

## **Bible Study on Environmental Justice**

Here's proof that there's nothing new under the sun! Just check out this two-minute introduction to Environmental Justice: First read a short present-day definition of Environmental Justice in Wikipedia. Then read what a prophet had to say about it as far back as 586 BCE, Ezekiel 34:17-19.

## **Spooktacular | October 30**

Spooktacular is coming soon, and we need your help! There are two main ways you can contribute.

1. First, we are looking for donation bags of candy, crackers, packaged snacks, and/or any small handouts for our stations to distribute to the children.
2. Or, if you are feeling more adventurous and creative, consider hosting a trunk of your own. What does that mean? It involves decorating your car trunk with a fun theme and *maybe* even dressing up in a costume. On October 30, you will bring your trunk to Westminster and pass out treats to the children. As a thank you, we will provide one meal for each trunk.

Please note: plan to arrive by 4:30-5 pm to find a spot and put the finishing touches on your decorations.

If you can host a trunk or have questions, contact Sarah Baltensperger at [sarah.baltensperger@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.baltensperger@gmail.com) or Stacy Graham at [babyruth19@hotmail.com](mailto:babyruth19@hotmail.com).

## **Youth Group: Mini Golf Excursion | September 29**

The Youth Group will meet at Adventure Golf Center to play a round of mini golf at 5 PM on Sunday, Sept. 29. Admission is \$9 per golfer; scholarships are available.

**Week Beginning Sept. 29**

<p><b><u>Sun. (Sept. 29)</u></b> 9:30 AM Worship, Faith Village 10:45 AM Adult Ed, Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship 5 PM Mini Golf for Youth</p> <p><b><u>Mon. (Sept. 30)</u></b> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Library 6 :30 PM Den Meeting, Scouts</p> <p><b><u>Tues. (Oct. 1)</u></b> 9:45 AM Staff Meeting 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch 5 PM Adult Education, Conference Room</p> <p><b><u>Wed. (Oct. 2)</u></b> 10 AM PW Circle #3, Lounge 1:30 PM Hearts and Hands 6 PM W3 (Welcome to Westminster on Wednesdays), Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><b><u>Thurs. (Oct. 3)</u></b> 6 PM Stroll Magazine Activities for Kids, Parking Lot 7 PM Lincoln Continentals Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><b><u>Sat., (Oct. 5)</u></b> 1 PM Rehearsal for Cabaret</p> <p><b><u>Sun. (Oct. 6)</u></b> 9:30 AM Worship, Communion, Faith Village 10:45 AM Adult Ed, Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship 2 PM Music Theatre Cabaret, Sanctuary</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