

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

January 19, 2025

Second Sunday after Epiphany



Prelude

“Give Me, Jesus” arr. Robert Billingham

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

***Call to Worship (based on Psalm 36:7-9)**

Deacon Claire Titus

One: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

All: May all people take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

One: We feast on the abundance of your house, and you give us drink from the river of your delights.

All: For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

***Hymn #12**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Prayer of Confession**

Holy God, you have blessed us with a variety of gifts, but we are reluctant to share. We hoard what is most valuable and make excuses for ourselves when called to share. The Spirit has blessed each of us uniquely, but we hide our light and fail to rise to our potential. God, forgive us and embolden us. Help us to claim our gifts and put them to good use. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

***Time of Silent Confession**

Lord, hear our prayer. *Amen.*

Response to Confession #649 *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound (v. 1)

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.*

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Believe and share the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

***Response of Praise #853**

We Are Marching in the Light of God

*We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God (repeat)
We are marching, we are marching ohhhh,
We are marching in the light of God.*

***Passing of the Peace**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Please share a sign of welcome and inclusion that is mutually comfortable (high five, handshake, fist/elbow bump) with your neighbors.

May the peace of Christ be with you. *And also with you.*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Hebrew Scripture

Psalms 36:5-10

O.T. pg. 510

Epistle

1 Corinthians 12:1-12

N.T. pg. 174

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

Sermon

“Spiritual Gifts”

Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #300**

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

***Litany Affirmation of Faith (PCUS 1977 Declaration of Faith)**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

One: People of hope, what do you believe?

All: We believe the Holy Spirit equips the Christian community.

One: The early Christians recognized a diversity of abilities and functions as gifts of the Spirit.

All: Some were tempted to use these gifts to serve their own needs and ambitions, to form elite groups who looked down on others.

One: But the gifts were given for the common good,

All: to build up the community in love and to equip it for its mission in the world.

One: We are convinced that the Holy Spirit still calls people to various offices in the church and gives diverse gifts to believers.

All: We are to use them to speak and embody plainly the gospel of Christ in the world.

Special Music

“Here I am, Lord” arr. Lloyd Larson
(Reagan Hinze and Mary Young)

Moment of Gratitude

***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 #339**

Lift Every Voice and Sing

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

“Do, Lord / Nobody Knows” arr. Michael Hassel

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

Today's words for worship are adapted from *The Presbyterian Outlook: Order for Worship: January 19, 2025* by Rev. Dr. Teri McDowell Ott, Editor and PC(USA) Minister.

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

Music Director: Dr. Mary Young

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Liturgist: Deacon Claire Titus

Greeters: Kathy & David Anderson

Ushers: Leslie Miner, Robyn Uebele, Barb Andersen, Marijane England

Dishwasher: Tom Pappas & Laurel Van Ham

Sanctuary Audio and Livestream: Dale Minter



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

The week of Jan. 19, 2025

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



We often hear “new year, new you,” but what would it look like for us to embrace the good gifts God has in our lives as we begin 2025? Join us in worship as we focus on The Spirit of Epiphany. This Sunday we’ll explore the nature and purpose of “Spiritual Gifts” in our lives as individuals and as a community! All are welcome to worship with us at 9:30am each Sunday!

Sunday Pretzel Bar Social | January 19

The Westminster Children and Youth Committee and the WPC Youth Group invite you to join us today in the Garden Room after the worship service for warm pretzels and a variety of dips.

Adult Ed | 10:45 AM | Lounge

January 19: Laurie McCubbin, Director, will speak about Westminster Preschool.

January 26: Malone Community Center speaker

Ladies' Night Out

Join us for LNO at Leighton's Pub on January 29 from 5 PM – 7 PM.

Lunch Bunch

We will meet at Toast, 570 Fallbrook Blvd, Tuesday, February 4, 11:30 AM. Please R.S.V.P. to Jim Kinkennon at 402-290-5888 or jimkinkennon@gmail.com.

California on a Plate: A Community Effort to Support Wildfire Relief

What is "California on a Plate"?

"California on a Plate" is an exciting potluck-style event inspired by the U.S. version of "World on a Plate." This is a chance to come together as a community and share dishes that represent California's vibrant culinary landscape, including favorites like fish tacos, avocado toast, California sushi rolls, and sourdough bread. The idea is to bring people together through food, celebrate the unique flavors of our state, and raise support for wildfire relief.

How can you participate? Simply start googling California-inspired recipes, make your dish, and bring it to share with others. The event will also provide an opportunity to learn more about the ongoing efforts of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and the work they're doing to support those affected by the fires. We'll have a "bread basket" available where attendees can make a monetary donation to support the PDA's wildfire relief efforts.

When is "California on a Plate"?

Friday, February 7 from 6 to 8:30 PM.

Please bring your own tableware (plates, utensils, etc.) to help make the event as environmentally friendly as possible. This is a great way to show that we are all part of the mission to help those affected by the fires while enjoying fellowship and good food.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day Observance

The church office will be closed on Monday, January 20 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day observance. Pastor Chris shares this quote from Dr. King's Letter from a Birmingham Jail for reflection and a call to consider how we might work to be good neighbors as a

church, “In a real sense all life is inter-related. All men are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be, and you can never be what you ought to be until I am what I ought to be... This is the inter-related structure of reality.”

Prairie Readers

Prairie Readers will meet on February 19 at 1 PM in the Lounge. Marijane England will lead the discussion of Hernan Diaz's novel *Trust*. Everyone is welcome.

Recycle Styrofoam and Christmas Lights

Plastilite provides giant bags to return EPS #6 (packing styrofoam). They are the factory that makes it and very responsibly collects it for recycling. So far we have filled two bags; last year we delivered four to Omaha.

If you utilize orange Hefty bags with your collections service, that's where egg cartons, food containers and packing peanuts can go.

When can you bring foam for recycling?

- Whenever the church is open for worship or scheduled activities.
- Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9AM-1PM.
- If you call in advance and are told you will be let in. 402- 475-6702.

The collection bag is inside the east doors.

Don't forget about those Christmas lights!

Environmental Justice Action for January

Take a good breath. That's what our January environmental justice action is about. Did you travel over the holidays? Are you planning a trip in 2025? Transportation accounts for over a quarter of America's carbon emissions—trashing the very air we breathe. Trees play an important role in cleaning up our polluted atmosphere and can help us offset the damage done by our travel. See the [Westminster website](#) for an easy way to do your part. If you are making carbon offsets to the Presbyterian Tree Fund, please note that this address is more user friendly than one provided in the Messenger: <https://www.pcusa.org/donate/e865715-restoring-creation-ecology-justice>

Week Beginning Jan. 19

<p><u>Sun. (Jan. 19)</u> 9:30 AM Worship, Faith Village 10:30 AM Pretzel Bar, Garden Rm 10:45 AM Adult Ed, Lounge 10:45 AM Confirmation Class, Youth Cafe 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p> <p><u>Mon. (Jan. 20)</u> Building is closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day</p> <p><u>Tues. (Jan. 21)</u> 9:45 AM Staff meeting 7 PM Faith and Cancer Support Group, Library</p> <p><u>Wed. (Jan. 22)</u> 1:30 PM Hearts & Hands, Library 6 PM Wednesday Night Children & Youth, Youth Areas 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><u>Thurs. (Jan. 23)</u> 7 PM Lincoln Continentals, Sanctuary</p> <p><u>Fri. (Jan. 24)</u> 6 PM Elder Retreat—Dinner</p> <p><u>Sat. (Jan. 25)</u> 9 AM Elder and Deacon Retreat, Fellowship Hall</p> <p><u>Sun. (Jan. 26)</u> 9:30 AM Worship, Faith Village, Ordination/Installation of Officers 10:45 AM Adult Ed, Lounge 10:45 AM Confirmation Class, Youth Cafe 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p>
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Worship services are available on-line at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/@WestminsterLincoln/streams>

IT IS TIME TO BUILD WPC'S TEAM OF EXPERTS!

WPC is excited to announce a newly formed committee....

Communication and Outreach Committee!



**Why do we
need this new
committee,
you ask?**



- Ensures clear, consistent messaging across all platforms.
- Helps build and keep your church's identity with cohesive branding.
- Keep members engaged and informed throughout the week.
- Prevents last-minute scrambles by planning and delivering key messages on time.
- Supports outreach and community growth with strategic communication and/or marketing.

*** Do you have
gifts and/or a
passion in the
following areas?**

- Communication and marketing strategy
- Design
- Social media management
- Writing
- Project management
- Videography/
photography
- Web development



Communications and Outreach Committee exist to support WPC's mission: "Welcome, Equip, and Encourage Discipleship"



Take this opportunity to serve WPC and our community by saying "YES" to serving on the committee.

Contact Elder Kathy Rohwedder to ask questions or even better to say "YES!" at kathrohwa@yahoo.com or call (402) 202-9889.

Sudan/South Sudan Mission Network



Online Meeting

Tuesday, January 28, 2025
11 am CST

*Updates from the Lincoln, Nebraska Sudanese/South Sudanese Community

*Information on potential locations for our next in-person gatherings, including the feasibility of Juba, late spring 2026

*An update on the current situation in Sudan, including time spent in prayer for our siblings in Sudan



ALL ARE WELCOME!

Join the meeting [HERE](#)

OR via the Zoom app:
Meeting ID: 850 4793 7506
Passcode: SMNBOARD

OR Dial by your location
• +1 253 205 0468 US
Passcode: SMNBOARD

