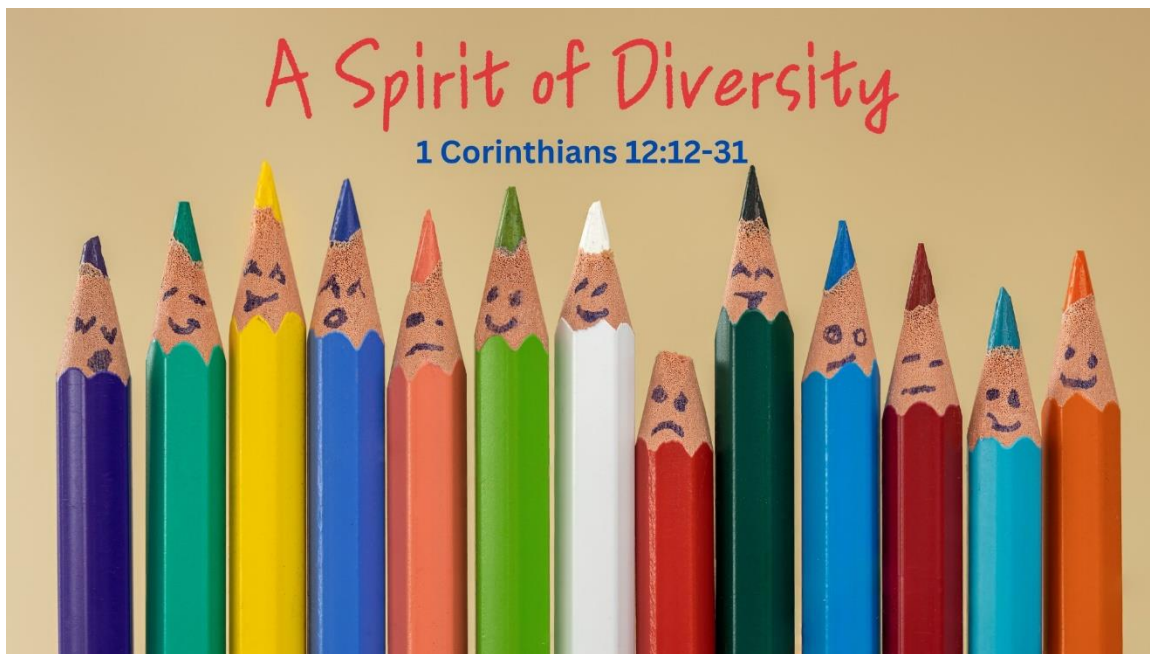


Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

January 26, 2025

Third Sunday after Epiphany



Prelude

“Spirit of God, Descend” arr. Lani Smith

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

Mission Message: California on a Plate

Glenna Haller

***Call to Worship (based on Psalm 19:1-2, 7-9 Common English Bible)**

One: Heaven is declaring God’s glory;

Many: the sky is proclaiming his handiwork.

One: One day gushes the news to the next,

Many: and one night informs another what needs to be known.

One: The Lord’s Instruction is perfect, reviving one’s very being.

Many: The Lord’s laws are faithful, making naive people wise.

One: The Lord’s regulations are right, gladdening the heart.

Many: The Lord’s commands are pure, giving light to the eyes.

***Hymn #821**

My Life Flows On (How Can I Keep from Singing?)

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Prayer of Confession**

Merciful and loving God, you have called us to be your people and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not lived up to our calling to proclaim the good news in word and deed. We are quick to speak when we ought to listen and remain silent when it is time to speak. We put too much faith in our own actions and fail to trust the strength of your Spirit. O God, forgive our foolish and sinful ways. Strengthen us anew to follow Christ's way in the world. By your Holy Spirit, give us the grace we need to be faithful disciples and fulfill our common calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

***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 #288

Spirit of the Living God (x2)

***Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.***

Scripture

Hebrew Scriptures

Psalms 19

O.T. pg. 498

Epistle

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

N.T. pg. 174

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

Sermon

“A Spirit of Diversity”

Rev. Chris Peters

Anthem

“Be the Change” by Laura Farnell

Based on texts by Ghandi, MLK and Matthew 5

Be the change you want to see--Darkness cannot drive out darkness--This Little Light of Mine

Service of Ordination and Installation of Church Officers

Sentences of Scripture *1 Cor. 12:4-7, 27*

One: There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

All: There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

One: God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God’s purpose that is accomplished.

All: To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

One: Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

Statement of Ordination and Names of Officers

Profession of Faith (PCUSA Brief Statement of Faith: Lines 52-76)

One: Christians in whom do you trust?

All: We trust in God the Holy Spirit everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Constitutional Questions

***Prayers of Ordination, Installation, and of the People**

***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.

Declaration of Ordination and Installation

***Hymn #319**

Shout to the North

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

“Rise Up and Serve the Lord” arr. Patricia Lou Harris

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

Today's Prayer of Confession comes from the Service for Ordination and Installation in the PCUSA Book of Common Worship (2018). Other words for worship are adapted from *The Presbyterian Outlook: Order for Worship: Jan. 26, 2025* by Rev. Dr. Tara Bulger, Senior Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Huntsville, AL.

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

Greeters: Joyce Douglas & Marilyn Hood

Ushers: Martha Kingsbury, Becky Bockrath, Bruce & Margaret Sheffield

Dishwasher: Lisa and Steve McConnell **Sanctuary Audio and Livestream:** Dale Minter



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

The week of Jan. 26, 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? This Sunday we’ll explore the diversity and variety of spiritual gifts. We’ll affirm our own unique gifts while engaging *how* sharing our varied gifts in faith together makes a greater difference in the world. All are welcome to worship with us at 9:30 am each Sunday!

Adult Ed | 10:45 AM | Lounge

January 26: Malone Community Center speaker

February 2, 2025

Thinking Ahead—Reflections on Memorial Services

Pastor Chris will discuss aspects of memorial services from theological and practical points of view, intended to prepare attendees to reflect on preferences for their own service, or to consider aspects of planning for loved ones.

February 9, 2025

Thinking Ahead—“The Top Ten Mistakes Made in Estate Planning and how you can avoid them,” presented by Andrew Loudon. Mr. Loudon is well known in our community for advocating wise consideration on pre-planning for one’s estate. Expect an enlightening session packed with practical advice based on extensive experience.

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.

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.

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.

VBS: Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace

June 2-6, 2025, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

8300 E Pointe Rd.

Family drama. Lies and subterfuge. A faked death.

Palace intrigue. Natural disaster. A national hero.

These aren't plot elements in the latest binge-worthy show. These large-than-life events are just part of the amazing life of Joseph, son of Jacob. You can read about Joseph's journey from the prison to the palace in Genesis 37-50, or you can bring them to life at this year's Egypt: Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace VBS! At Egypt, everyone gets to explore first-hand the culture of Joseph's world. Alongside Joseph, kids will experience the heartbreaking trials, joyous victories, and tear-filled celebrations of this unique Bible hero.

Register now! <https://vbspro.events/p/gspcwpc25>

Styrofoam Update and Thanks

The collection site for Styrofoam will stay in place through Sunday, February 9. We are on our fourth giant bag and expect to fill a fifth bag by then.

Kudos Westminsterites! Plastilite can only receive clean EPS. Eight years ago it took extra time to sort and remove egg cartons, bags of packing peanuts, and food containers. Lots of the foam had tape and stickers. Not this time. You all are getting it right. Green@Heart applauds a job well done!

Keep it Clean!

This year's Presbyterian Women's Bible study concerns Environmental Justice. We, as a congregation, are participating by taking a new action to complement each month's theme. Air Quality, the January theme, is directly and significantly impacted by the

combustion of fossil fuels. Think transportation. We can offset some of the damage we cause with our travel and daily errands by planting more of nature’s air purifiers—trees. See the Westminster website (<https://westminsterlincoln.org/environmental-justice/>) for an easy way to do your fair share.

Week Beginning Jan. 26

<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> <p><u>Mon. (Jan. 27)</u> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Library 6:30 PM Den Meetings, Youth Areas</p>	<p><u>Wed. (Jan. 29)</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. 30)</u> 7 PM Lincoln Continentals, Sanctuary</p> <p><u>Sun. (Feb. 2)</u> 9:30 AM Worship, Faith Village 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>