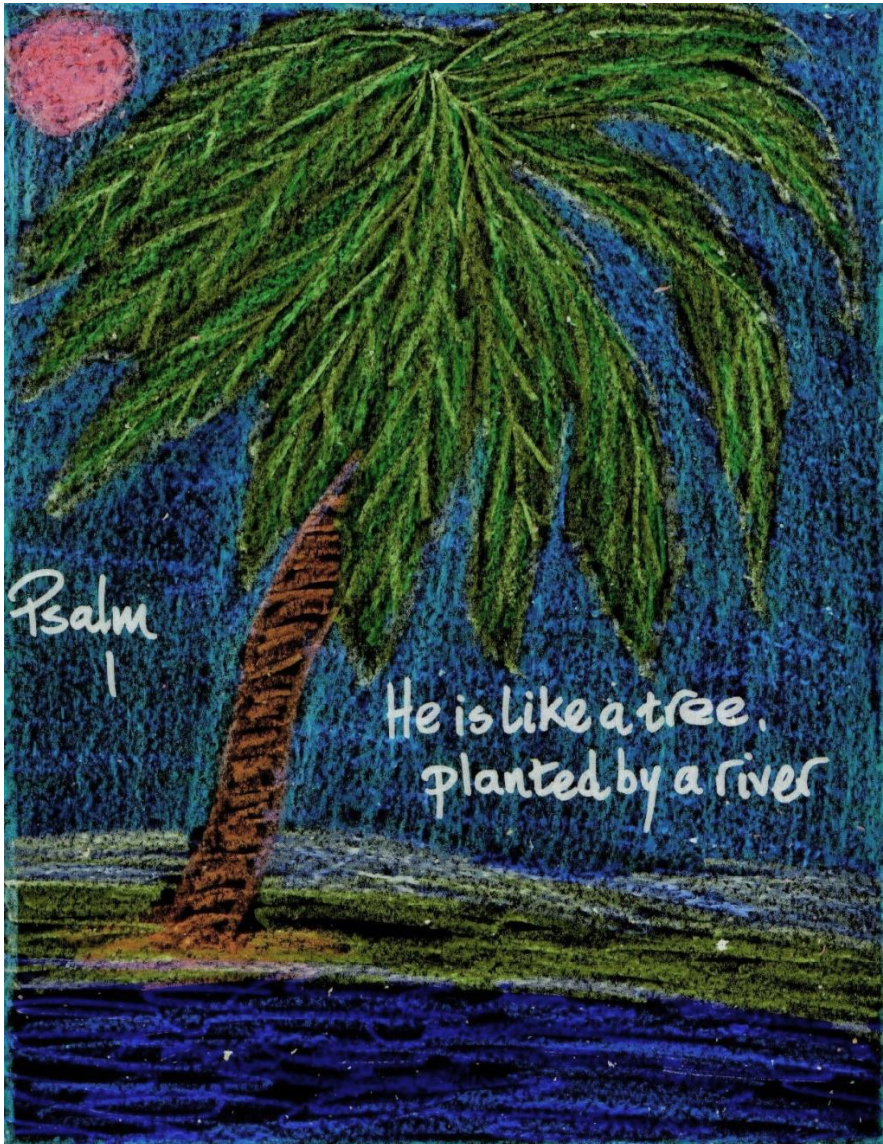


Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

February 16, 2025

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Prelude

“Tell Out, My Soul” arr. J. Wayne Kerr

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

***Call to Worship**

Deacon Diana Wild

One: Like trees planted by streams of water...

All: Let us trust in the Lord,

One: And meditate on God’s Word,

All: So we can yield good and bountiful fruit.

***Hymn (Insert)**

The Righteous Path
(to the tune of Amazing Grace)

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Chris Peters

***Prayer of Confession**

Gracious God, Giver of life and of all the blessing of this life: We confess that we have sought happiness through the satisfaction of appetites and the embrace of material things. We have so often forgotten that Jesus taught us a different way: to forsake selfish pursuits and seek generosity for our neighbors. Forgive our waywardness. Teach us to live in the path of true blessing, following Jesus our Savior. Amen.

***Time of Silent Confession**

Lord, hear our prayer. **Amen.**

***Response to Confession #437**

You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

You are the Christ, giver of mercy!

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Rev. Chris Peters

Believe and share the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

***Response of Praise #468**

In My Life (v. 1)

In my life, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.

In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

***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

Rev. Chris Peters

Scripture

Prophets	Jeremiah 17:5-8	O.T. pg. 719
Hebrew Scripture	Psalm 1 (read responsively, by verse)	O.T. pg. 489
Gospel Reading	Luke 6:17-26	N.T. pg. 64

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

Sermon

“Like a Tree Planted By the Water”

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Hymn #457**

How Happy Are the Saints of God

Moment of Gratitude

Rev. Chris Peters

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Anthem

“Longing for Light We Wait in Darkness” (arr. Joel Raney)
Congregation is invited to join us on choruses. It’s hymn #314.
Westminster Choir

Prayers of the People

Deacon Diana Wild

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 #815**

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Postlude

“Improvisation on FESTAL SONG”

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

Parts of today’s worship service come from *The Presbyterian Outlook: Order for Worship: February 2, 2025* by Rev. Dr. Teri McDowell Ott, Editor of the Presbyterian Outlook.

Flowers are provided by Earlene & Art Knox in celebration of their wedding anniversary. They were married at Westminster 70 years ago!

Psalm 1 by John Stuart, Knoxville, TN

(Today's bulletin cover image was created as part of a series of paintings inspired by the Psalms. The artist has designated free usage rights for churches as part of the project.)

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 Diana Wild

Music Director: Dr. Mary Young

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Greeters: Kathy & David Anderson

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

Dishwashers: Barbara and David Arunski

Sanctuary Audio and Livestream: Stephan Biheng and Dale Minter



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

The week of Feb. 16, 2025

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

Adult Ed | 10:45 AM | Lounge

February 16 – No regular Adult Ed. class.

February 23—Rhonda Obermeier will tell us about "Sleep in Heavenly Peace," an organization that builds and delivers beds to children in need of a bed and a safe place to sleep. Rhonda is Co-chairman of the Lincoln Chapter.

March 2—You are invited to a Shrove Sunday pancake brunch after the service, provided by Westminster Youth. No Adult Ed class will be held.

Meeting of the Congregation

The Annual Stated Meeting of the Congregation will be held today following the worship service. The agenda includes the presentation of the 2024 annual reports, presentation from Foundation, the election of Nominating Committee At-Large members, the presentation of the 2025 budget and the approval of the pastor's terms of call for 2025. The February Messenger, which contains annual reports from the committees at Westminster as well as other information, is available on the church's website—westminsterlincoln.org.

Youth Group Murder Mystery | February 23, 5 PM-8 PM

The Youth Group will meet on Sunday, February 23 from 5-8 PM for a murder mystery party. Contact Trish for character options at trish@westminsterlincoln.org.

Food Pantry

We think of February as a month of love because of Valentine's Day. One way you could show love is by helping with our food pantry. Since Covid we have been unable to have groceries delivered to the church that were used for the pantry. Approximately 270 items are packed each week and delivered to the Peoples' City Mission. Consequently, we do lots of shopping and buying of food. We are so appreciative of your monetary gifts. There is a list of items that we send to the Mission on the side of the large wooden box that is located in the church office. It would be so helpful if you could bring a few items and place them in the box. We realize canned goods are very heavy, but any amount would help us with our long shopping lists. Thanks to all of you who have helped unload our trunks and carry the food to the pantry after church. Soon there will be an article about your wonderful Food Pantry in the Messenger. Thanks so much to all of you who have helped with this wonderful mission of our church.

Nora Hinrichs and Marilyn Smith

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.

Join Prairie Readers Wednesday **March 19** at 1 PM in the lounge to learn what secrets *The Secret Keeper of Main Street* is keeping. The author, Tricia Thomas, writes about a small but wealthy oil boom town in Oklahoma. Dale Minter will lead the discussion.

Ladies' Night Out

Join us this month at Billy's Restaurant, 1301 H St., Thursday, February 27 from 5 – 7 PM. As always, it promises to be a fun time of catching up. Feel free to bring a friend!

The church will be closed Monday, Feb. 17 for Presidents' Day.

Opportunities for Study and Fellowship During Lent

Marijane England will lead a study during Lent using the book, "Lent in Plain Sight" by Jill J. Duffield. The class will meet on Thursdays at noon in the Lounge, beginning on March 6, meeting weekly throughout Lent.

Jumping Off from Hebrew Scriptures into Lent is the topic of the Adult Ed sessions during Lent. They will be taught by Pastor Jimmy and will meet in the Lounge at 10:40 AM on Sundays, beginning on March 9. Watch for more information as we get closer.

Schedule of Worship Services for Lent and Easter

Ash Wed., March 5	6 pm
Maundy Thursday, April 17	5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
Good Friday, April 18	6 pm
Palm Sunday, April 13	9:30 am
Easter Sunday, April 20	8 am & 10 am

Landscape Upkeep Invitation

While the reality of snow is on our minds and finally on the ground, let's plan ahead for spring. There is a lot of last year's foliage that can be taken down any time. As we have all heard, the insects and birds depend on leaving leaf litter and the like in place over the winter months. It's time to transition and here's what to do - chop and drop. On some warm enough day an ambitious person could take hand clippers or a battery hedge clipper and cut down the top 4" of the Russian sage between the parking bays. Let the stems fall and cut down the next 4". Keep going until you reach the crown. Experts say it's respectable mulch.

Concerned about Climate Change? Say So!

The vast majority of U.S. citizens are worried about the threats of climate change, but such an enormous problem requires enormous solutions. How do we as individual Christians respond to God's call to care for creation? Our environmental justice action for February is to Speak Up! Your phone calls, emails, or letters can help important decision makers understand our concern.

"I Believe" Choral Concert at First Plymouth Church

Sun., Feb. 23 | 7 PM

Honoring Black History Month, our Westminster Choir joins The Plymouth Choir, Nebraska Wesleyan University Choir, and St. Paul's United Methodist Church Choir with guest conductor Anton Armstrong in Robert Ray's Gospel Mass, Margaret Bonds' Credo, and a collection of spirituals. Can't attend in person? Watch the livestream at <https://www.abendmusik.org/livestream>

Week Beginning Feb. 16

Sun. (Feb. 16)

9:30 AM Worship, Faith Village
10:30 Congregational Meeting
10:45 AM Confirmation Class,
Youth Cafe
12 Noon Sudanese Worship

Mon. (Feb. 17)

Presidents' Day—Building closed
for the holiday.

Tues. (Feb. 18)

9:45 AM Staff Meeting
10 AM Faith and Cancer Support
Group, Library
3 PM Preschool Training for
Emergency Response, FH
6 PM Communications &
Outreach, Lounge

Wed. (Feb. 19)

1 PM Prairie Readers, Lounge
1:30 PM Hearts & Hands, Library
6 PM Wednesday Night Children
& Youth, Youth Areas
6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thurs. (Feb. 20)

6 PM Lincoln Continentals
Rehearsal, Sanctuary
7 PM Camera Club, Lounge

Sun. (Feb. 23)

9:30 AM Worship, Faith Village
10:45 Adult Ed., Lounge
10:45 AM Confirmation Class,
Youth Cafe
12 Noon Sudanese Worship

Worship services are available on-line at this link:

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