

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

March 9, 2025

First Sunday in Lent



“Bread”

Image is of a hill outside a city in the holy land.
Used with permission via Canva Pro.

Please rise in body or spirit for the parts of worship with an asterisk () before the title.
Parts of worship that are *bolded and italicized* are for all worshippers to read together aloud.

Prelude “Adagio in c minor” by Miriam Reveley

Welcome Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

Special Announcement: Camp Calvin Crest Elder Karen Hoffman

Choral Introit (Kyrie Eleison – Choir and Teaching)

***Call to Worship (Luke 4:1; Romans 10:8b)** Elder Jaime Hemmerling

One: The season of Lent sets us on a journey.

Many: The journey begins in the wilderness.

One: We follow the way of Jesus, who faced trials, trouble, temptation, and testing.

Many: Like Jesus, we are not alone. The Holy Spirit is with us. God’s Word is on our lips.

One: Our call is to trust in God alone, to do God’s will in all things.

Many: For God leads us not only into the wilderness, but also through the wilderness.

***Hymn #450** *Be Thou My Vision*

***Call to Confession** Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Prayer of Confession** (ref. Psalm 91:2; Luke 4:4, 10; Romans 10:10-11)

O God, our refuge and fortress, forgive us when we fail to trust in you. We fall to temptation; we are swayed by false words; we speak false words of our own. We choose our ease and comfort over your demanding claims upon us and upon the world. In turning from you, we settle for less than the abundant generosity you intend. Forgive us, we pray. Do not let us be put to shame, O God. Hear us as we call to you; and show us your salvation. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

***Time of Silent Confession**

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

Response to Confession: Kyrie Eleison (see bulletin insert)

***Assurance of Forgiveness** (ref. Romans 10:12,13) Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Believe and share the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

***Response of Praise #205**

Live in Charity

*Live in charity and steadfast love.
Live in charity; God will dwell with you.*

***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

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

O.T. pg. 548

Gospel Reading

Luke 4:1-13

N.T. pg. 61

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

Video: “What Kids Say About Lent”

Sermon

“Bread”

Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #783**

When We Are Tested

Affirmation of Faith (PC(USA) Brief Statement of Faith; lines 7-26)

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

One: Christians, in whom do we trust?

Many: We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

Prayers of the People

Elder Jaime Hemmerling

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 #166

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

*Charge & Benediction

Rev. Chis Peters

Postlude

“Attende Domine” by Jeanne Demessieux

Bob & Stanley Rediger provided flowers today in celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Today’s Prelude and Postlude are offered in celebration of Woman Composer Sunday, an annual event inaugurated in 2021 by the Society of Woman Organists and Royal College of Organists.

Today’s words for worship, or “liturgy,” are adapted from the resource *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1.*, Rev. Dr. Kimberly Bracken Long, editor. Dr. Long is currently the editor of *Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching, and the Arts*, the PCUSA’s liturgy journal. She is an ordained PC(USA) minister and served as professor of sacramental and liturgical worship at Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, GA. (A Fun Fact since you’ve read this far:, Pastor Chris took an elective course on Occasional Services in our tradition taught by Dr. Long while a student at Columbia.) Scripture references in our liturgy are from Feasting on the Word and from the day’s Common Revised Lectionary readings.

The video “What Kids Say about Lent” is from Cat Chat Productions and is referenced as an additional resource in the Digital Resources Bundle for Lent in Plain Sight, Westminster John Knox Press, 2019.

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: Elder Jaime Hemmerling

Music Director: Dr. Mary Young **Organist:** John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Greeters: Kelly Braswell-Burbach & Josh Whitfield

Ushers: Joan Roberts, Marybell Avery, Barbara Wright-Chollet, Marilyn Hood

Dishwashers: Gary and Glenna Haller

Sanctuary Audio and Livestream: Stephan Biheng and Dale Minter





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

The week of Mar. 9, 2025

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Bread



God is often at work through the ordinary: ordinary people, ordinary objects, ordinary grace. Through the ordinary, God communicates epiphanies, salvation, revelation, and reconciliation. It is through the mundane that we hear God’s quiet voice.

This Lent at Westminster, we will explore God in ordinary objects found in scripture, both in worship and through the reading of *Lent in Plain Sight* by Rev. Dr. Jill Duffield.

From the Publisher:

In this devotional for the season of Lent, Jill J. Duffield draws readers’ attention to ten ordinary objects that Jesus would have encountered on his way to Jerusalem: dust, bread, the cross, coins, shoes, oil, coats, towels, thorns, and stones. In each object, readers will find meaning in the biblical account of Jesus’ final days. Each week, readers encounter a new object to consider

through Scripture, prayer, and reflection. From Ash Wednesday to Easter, *Lent in Plain Sight* reminds Christians to open ourselves to the kingdom of God.

Book Study

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

Adult Ed During 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.

March 9--An exploration how this early faith statement in Deuteronomy is a precursor to faith statements in the New Testament.

Schedule of Worship Services for Lent and Easter

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

For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat. (Matt. 25:35)

You are invited to join the Westminster Mission team as we live the gospel of Matthew. A team of volunteers cook, serve, and clean up for Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach the first Friday on even numbered months. We arrive around 5 PM and are ready to leave by 7 PM. If you have questions or would like to be part of the team, please contact Gary Haller or the church office.

"Sleep in Heavenly Peace" Follow-Up Opportunity

At Adult Education on Feb. 23, Rhonda Obermeier spoke 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. Many in attendance voiced interest in participating in this rewarding good work. If you would like to join them at the next build on March 15 (9 to Noon), this is the sign-up link:

<https://x.gldn.io/e/2SDr2gOoeRb>

You can also go to their website: shpbeds.org/chapter/ne-lincoln

UNL Choir Concert Today at WPC

You are invited to attend the UNL Concert at WPC today at 3 PM.

Prairie Readers

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.

Youth Group: Chopped, Feeding of the Five(ish) Judges

March 23, 5 - 7:30 PM

Get ready for the return of Chopped, Feeding of the Five(ish) Judges! We invite you to save the date and get your aprons, mixing bowls, and best creative ideas ready!

Chopped: The Feeding of the Five(ish) Judges IV is almost here! Brush up on your kitchen skills and get ready to whip up a masterpiece out of an array of secret ingredients on Sunday, March 23, at 5 PM.

Preschool Art Gallery Exhibition

Sunday
March 16
9 – 11 AM



Westminster Advocacy Hour

Join us for the next Westminster Advocacy Hour from 11 AM to 12:15 PM on Wed., March 26 in the Lounge. The Presbyterian Office of Public Witness (OPW) Zoom will be on immigration. We'll watch the one-hour Zoom and follow up with 15 minutes of group discussion.

Economic Climate Justice

Seems it would be fair if the greenhouse gases Americans generate—almost three times the global average— just stayed within our country's borders. But climate change doesn't work that way. So the next best way to be fair is to reduce our reliance on combustion of fossil fuels.

Starting at home, we can switch to solar panels, heat pumps, electric vehicles, even induction cooktops. On a larger scale, we can urge government and industry to face up to climate change. As people of faith, our collective voices and actions make a difference.

Week Beginning March 9

<p><u>Sun. (Mar. 9)</u> 9:30 AM Worship, Faith Village 10:45 AM Adult Ed., Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship 3 PM UNL Concert, Sanctuary</p> <p><u>Mon. (Mar. 10)</u> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Library 6:30 PM Children, Youth & Family, Zoom</p> <p><u>Tues. (Mar. 11)</u> 10 AM PW Circle 5, Lounge 4 PM Stewardship & Finance, Lib 5 PM Building & Grounds, Lounge 5 PM Church Life, Conference Rm 5 PM Personnel, Zoom 5:30 PM Worship & Music, FH 6 PM Mission & Social Witness, Lounge 6 PM A & P, Conference Room</p>	<p><u>Wed. (Mar. 12)</u> 1:30 PM Hearts & Hands, Library 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><u>Thurs. (Mar. 13)</u> 12 PM “Lent in Plain Sight” Study, Lounge 6 PM Lincoln Continentals Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><u>Sun. (Mar. 16)</u> 9 - 11 AM Preschool Art Gallery Exhibition, FH 9:30 AM Worship, Faith Village 10:45 AM Confirmation Class, Youth Cafe 10:45 AM Adult Ed., Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p>
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Worship services are available on-line at this link:

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