

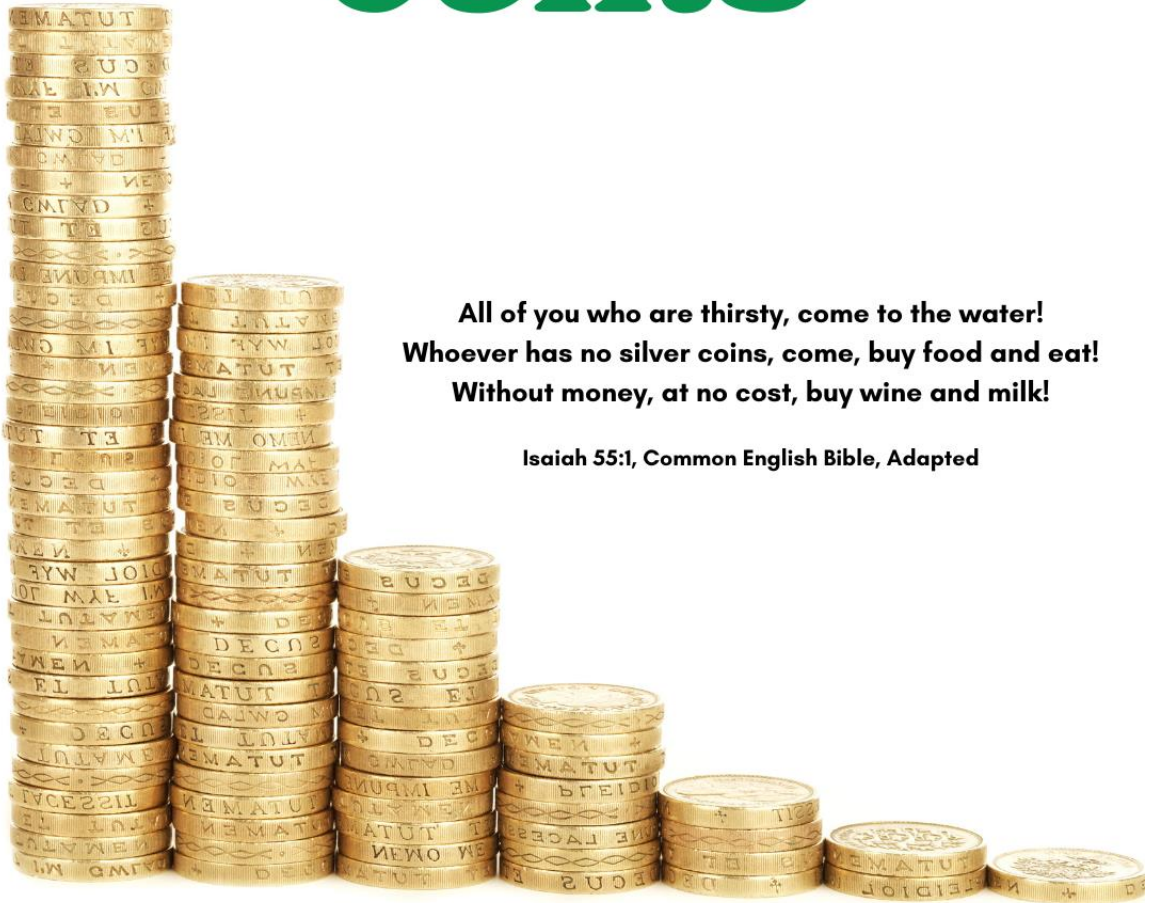
# Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

March 23, 2025

Third Sunday in Lent

## Coins



**All of you who are thirsty, come to the water!  
Whoever has no silver coins, come, buy food and eat!  
Without money, at no cost, buy wine and milk!**

**Isaiah 55:1, Common English Bible, Adapted**

\*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**

“Shout to the Lord” arr. Kim Collingsworth

## **Welcome**

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

## **\*Call to Worship** (Isaiah 55:1, 3, 6, 7; Matt. 5:6; Psalm 63:7)

Deacon Claire Titus

One: Everyone who thirsts:

***Many: Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return so that you may live.***

One: All who are hungry for righteousness:

***Many: Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return so that you may live.***

One: All who need the help of God:

***Many: Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return so that you may live.***

## **\*Hymn #667**

**When Morning Gilds the Skies**

## **\*Call to Confession**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

## **\*Prayer of Confession** (ref. Isa. 55:1-2, 8; Luke 13:8)

***Holy God, we confess that we have grown self-satisfied in our response to you. You set before us a rich feast of blessing, but we are drawn to lesser things that cannot satisfy. Forgive us when we fall short of your claim upon our lives. Disturb our smugness and tend in us a desire for a more fruitful life. Be patient, we pray, as we amend who we are, in the hope of becoming who you intend us to be. We ask this in the name of our Savior, your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.***

## **\*Time of Silent Confession**

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

## ***Response to Confession: Kyrie Eleison (see bulletin insert)***

## **\*Assurance of Forgiveness** (ref. Is. 55:3; 1 Cor. 10:3, 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 Scriptures

Isaiah 55:1-13

O.T. pg. 685

Gospel Reading

Luke 13:1-9

N.T. pg. 76

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

**Sermon**

“Coins”

Rev. Chris Peters

**\*Hymn #427**

***Jesus Knows the Inmost Heart***

**\*Affirmation of Faith (Apostles' Creed – Traditional Language Version)**

***I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.***

**Moment of Gratitude**

Rev. Chris Peters

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Special Music**

Poor Wayfaring Stranger  
(Faith Polivinov, soloist)

**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 #372**

***O for a World***

**\*Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chis Peters

**Postlude**

“O Blessed Spring” by Robert Buckley Farlee

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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.

**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

**Music Director:** Dr. Mary Young

**Organist:** John Ross

**Director of Children & Youth:** Trish Souliere

**Greeters:** Paul Korslund & Stephan Biheng

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

**Dishwashers:** Lisa & Steve McConnell

**Sanctuary Audio and Livestream:** Stephan Biheng and Dale Minter





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

**The week of Mar. 23, 2025**

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

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

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### Coins



Coins – a symbol of exchange, purchase, and commerce familiar to us all. (Though, if you’re like me, you’re less and less likely to carry coins in your pocket day-to-day). In Isaiah 55, the prophet views the holy invitation as one to enjoy a feast of abundance without the use of money. *This* is the abundance of the kingdom of God – grace underserved, filling of emptiness, restoration to wholeness!

As renowned preacher Tom Long writes, “The first word of Lent is not that we have sinned but that we are loved.”\* Friends, when we know we are loved and that God’s grace is abundant, then our repentance (turning toward God and away from sin), can be most fully understood and more fully lived-out. Through that lens, we can see the call of Jesus in Luke 13 to repent and be changed with a clearer view. Join us Sunday as we hear of God’s abundant grace and the light that calls us to repentance in the season of Lent.

*\*Journal for Preachers, Volume XLVIII #2, Lent 2025*

## **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 23—Isaiah 55:1-9, The Abundant Life: What Truly Satisfies** (John 4, Phil. 4:10-13)

## **Gratitude Card Shower & Reception for Julie Fowler**

Please join us in Fellowship Hall for a cake reception after church today to recognize and thank Julie for her many years of loving care for Westminster's "little ones" in the nursery on Sundays and during many special events.

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

**March 23, 5 - 7:30 PM**

Chopped, Feeding of the Five(ish) Judges IV is tonight! Get your aprons, mixing bowls, and best creative ideas ready and come at 5 PM tonight to whip up a masterpiece out of an array of secret ingredients.

## **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.

## **Eggstravaganza Children and Youth Egg Hunt | Wed., April 16**

Our annual Easter egg hunt will take place on Wed, April 16. Children of all ages are invited to come for an evening of fun. The evening begins with dinner at 5:45 PM, followed by the hunt and games at 6:15 PM.

## **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.

**Pastor Chris** will be away for Continuing Education and annual worship planning April 2 – 9.

## **Spring Gathering of Homestead Presbyterian Women**

**Saturday, April 5, 9:30 AM to 2 PM**

**Registration and Coffee-9:30 to 10 AM**

**North Bend Presbyterian Church**

**940 Chestnut St., North Bend**

For registration contact Joan Berglund, [joanlberglund@gmail.com](mailto:joanlberglund@gmail.com), 402-440-5478.

## **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.

## **Ladies' Night Out | Mon., Mar. 31 | 5 – 7 PM**

Join us this month at Salty's Lodge, 1339 West O Street (formerly the West O Red Fox business location).

### **Upcoming LNO Dates**

April 29<sup>th</sup> (5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday) Billy's

May 29<sup>th</sup> (5<sup>th</sup> Thursday) Los Cabos *(8901 Andermatt. Same side of street as Big Red Keno; close to Southeast Sam's Club and Wal-Mart)*

## **Lunch Bunch**

Lunch Bunch will meet Tuesday, April 1, 11:30 A.M., at Olive Garden, Gateway Mall. This location is a favorite of our group.

R.S.V.P. to [jimkinkennon@gmail.com](mailto:jimkinkennon@gmail.com) or text 402-290-5888.

## **VBS Egypt: Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace | July 14-18**

It's time to register for VBS! Join us in exploring Egypt through the story of Joseph. All through family drama, lies and subterfuge, a faked death, palace intrigue, natural disaster, and more, see how God's plan unfolds. We will meet at Good Shepherd, 8300 E Pointe Road, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM. Children and volunteers can both register here

<https://vbspro.events/p/gspcwpc25>. Questions? Contact Trish by email at [trish@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:trish@westminsterlincoln.org) or by phone or text at 402-570-0163.

## **Westminster's Swanson Scholarship**

Established in 1999 by the Swanson Family, this scholarship provides \$500 financial support per recipient for one academic school year. Full-time undergraduate students and high school senior members of Westminster are encouraged to apply. Renewal of the scholarship for subsequent years is not automatic but will be considered by the selection committee. Applications are available on the church website (<https://westminsterlincoln.org>) under the GIVE tab or in the church office. The scholarship is open to individuals in all courses of study; however, preference will be given to applicants demonstrating an interest in Education and Community Service. Application deadline has been extended to April 15, 2025.

## Schedule of Activities for Lent and Easter

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|--|--------------------------|
| April 13 Palm Sunday                                   | 9:30 am                  |
| April 16 Eggstravaganza<br>Children and Youth Egg Hunt | 5:30 PM                  |
| April 17 Maundy Thursday                               | 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall |
| April 18 Good Friday                                   | 6 pm                     |
| April 30 Easter Sunday                                 | 8 am & 10 am             |

## Week Beginning March 23

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| <p><b><u>Sun. (Mar. 23)</u></b><br/>9:30 AM Worship, Faith Village<br/>10:35 AM Cake Reception for Julie Fowler, FH<br/>10:45 AM Confirmation Class, Youth Cafe<br/>10:45 AM Adult Ed., Lounge<br/>12 Noon Sudanese Worship<br/>5 PM Chopped, Feeding of the Five(ish) Judges</p> <p><b><u>Mon. (Mar. 24)</u></b><br/>11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Lib.<br/>6 PM Session, Lounge<br/>7 PM Recovery Group, Palor</p> <p><b><u>Tues. (Mar. 25)</u></b><br/>5:30 PM Deacons, Lounge</p> | <p><b><u>Wed. (Mar. 26)</u></b><br/>11 AM Presbyterian Advocacy Hour, Lounge<br/>1:30 PM Hearts &amp; Hands, Library<br/>6 PM Children &amp; Youth<br/>6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><b><u>Thurs. (Mar. 27)</u></b><br/>6 PM Lincoln Continentals Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><b><u>Sun. (Mar. 30)</u></b><br/>9:30 AM Worship, Faith Village<br/>10:45 AM Confirmation Class, Youth Cafe<br/>10:45 AM Adult Ed., Lounge<br/>12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p> |
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**Worship services are available on-line at this link:**

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