

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

August 3, 2025

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost



When MORE Is Never Enough

Luke 12:16-21

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

“Amazing Grace” arr. Jack Schroder

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

Moment of Gratitude for Dr. Mary Young

***Call to Worship (Based on Hosea 11:3)**

Deacon Tami Wellmann

One: We are children of God, learning to walk.

Many: Day by day, we are learning to be the church.

One: God is a loving parent, teaching us to walk.

Many: God loves us, leads us, and feeds us.

***Hymn #694**

Great God of Every Blessing

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Nurturing God, you continue to lead us in upright ways on account of your love for us. Yet we do not always follow your call; we turn away from you and go our own way. Forgive us, and return us to our rightful home in you, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

***Time of Silent Confession**

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

***Response to Confession #473**

Shepherd Me, O God (Refrain)

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
Beyond my fears, from death into life.***

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

... Believe and share the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

***Response of Praise #591**

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (Refrain)

***Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!***

***Passing of the Peace**

Rev. Chris Peters

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

Psalms 133

O.T. pg. 575

Epistle Reading

Colossians 3:1-5

N.T. pg. 201

Gospel Reading

Luke 12:13-21

N.T. pg. 74

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

Sermon

“A Certain Warning”

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

*Hymn #697

Take My Life

Invitation to the Offering

Rev. Chris Peters

Offering & Special Music

Nobody Knows arr. Jay Althouse
(Nicole Solberg, solo, John Ross, alto sax)

*Hymn #606

Doxology

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Supper

Invitation

Rev. Chris Peters

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. ***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

Blessing and Sharing of the Elements

Prayer After Communion

***Hymn #702**

Christ Be Beside Me

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Postlude

“Postlude on an old Irish church melody” by C.V. Stanford

Today's Words for Worship, or “liturgy” come from *Feasting on the Word: Year C Vol. 2*, Rev. Dr. Kimberly Bracken Long, Editor.

The Worship, Music, and Fine Arts Committee provided the flowers today in appreciation of Dr. Mary Young.

Westminster welcomes and values children in worship. All kids and their families are welcome to pick up a Children's Worship bag or blue Infant Bag in the Narthex (Sheridan Blvd. foyer). A nursery is available for kids under 5. 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: We have resumed giving through an offering in our worship service, leaning on the theology of offering as a response of gratitude to God's word in worship. Checks may be made out to Westminster Presbyterian. General donations go to support the annual budget of the church, which includes Children/Youth support, staffing, building use, worship, and mission. You may also place an offering in our Giving Baskets following the service. These are located near the exits. 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 Tami Wellmann

Music Director: Dr. Mary Young

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Greeters: Joyce Douglas, Marilyn Hood

Ushers: Diana Wild, Debra Schleining, David Anderson, April Douglas

Dishwashers: Kelly Braswell-Burbach, Dorrie Gage

Sanctuary Audio & Livestream: Stephan Biheng, Dale Minter

Communion Servers: Marybell Avery, Dave Arunski, Sarah Baltensperger, Stephan Biheng and Susie Hughes



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

The week of August 3, 2025

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

Worship at Westminster has moved to 10 AM. Along with this change, Adult Education will also be adjusting their schedule. **Starting today, Adult Education will be in the Lounge from 11:15 AM to noon.** Our Kick-Off event is still planned for Sunday, August 10 following worship in the East parking lot, weather permitting. The livestream will shift to 10 AM as well.

**Adult Ed in August | 11:15 AM | Lounge
Reading the Gospels Through Jewish Eyes**

John Shelby Spong demonstrates in his book *Liberating the Gospels* how the thematic selections of passages in the Synoptics (Mark, Matthew, & Luke) correspond with what we know about the ancient lectionary used in 1st century C.E. synagogues. Because the earliest Christians were Jews, this perspective is vital to opening for us a Jewish understanding of these gospels. Pastor Jimmy will explore these in Adult Education sessions for **August 3, 17 & 24** in the Lounge at 11:15 AM.

Adult Ed will not meet on August 10 due to Blessing of the Backpacks + Community Celebration, or on August 31 which is Labor Day weekend.

Reception for Dr. Mary Young | Today | Garden Room

Dr. Mary Young has accepted a new position at St. Paul's UMC, and we want to celebrate her today on her last Sunday with us. You are invited to join us after service for a reception hosted by the Worship, Music, and Fine Arts Committee in the Garden Room. We are so grateful for Mary's joyful and skilled leadership with us for nearly two years! Representatives from Personnel and the W, M & FA committee are in-process for interviews and hope to have good news for the congregation soon!



Mission/Outreach is pleased to bring Equal Exchange Coffee and Equal Exchange Organic Chocolate to Westminster friends. The coffee you enjoy during the fellowship hour is also Equal Exchange. By choosing the Equal Exchange brand, we are making a strong statement about our values as a community. **Available for Purchase:** We give the opportunity to purchase Equal Exchange products during Fellowship Hour after services on the first Sunday of each month. Thank you for supporting our ongoing

commitment to making these products available.

Lunch Bunch | Tues., Aug. 5 | 11:30 AM

Join us at Zipline, Fallbrook location.

World on a Plate – Texas Floods Relief Dinner

August 8 | Potluck Style | 6 PM | Winsome Manor, Home of Laurel VanHam and Tom Pappas at 4150 South Street

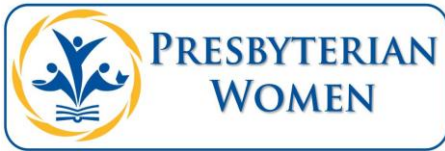
Join us for a special *World on a Plate* evening on Friday, August 8, as we turn our hearts and our stomachs toward Texas. This dinner supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) efforts for those impacted by recent flooding in Texas.

Bring a dish that represents Texas flavors—think BBQ brisket, chili, cornbread, pecan pie, Tex-Mex favorites, or anything inspired by the Lone Star State. Whether it's smoky, spicy, or sweet, your potluck contribution helps us experience the spirit of Texas while raising awareness and support for communities in need.

All are welcome—invite a friend, bring a dish, and be part of this delicious way to make a difference. As always, we will take up a collection for PDA Texas Floods Relief. Please RSVP to Kathrohw@yahoo.com or (402) 202-9889. Y'all come hungry!

Prairie Readers August Meeting

Prairie Readers will meet on August 20 at 1 PM in the Lounge. Dr. Marijane England will lead the discussion of the novel, "Trust" by H. Diaz. Please join us for a lively conversation.



Presbyterian Women Invite you to: *A TEA PARTY*

Thursday, August 21 | 2 PM | Cole Hall

All women of Westminster are welcome to a "Gathering In" where we will hear about the 2025/26 Horizon Bible study, talk about (and collect items for) the Lincoln Hygiene Network, and enjoy each other's company.

Please RSVP to:

Linda Burchard 402-477-5572 lindaJBurchard@gmail.com

Pat Hackley 402-423-2909, chipathome@windstream.net

or Susie Hughes 402-440-9165, skh@eskays.com.

Artist Spotlight: John Nollendorfs, Photographer

John has traveled around the country and Europe taking photos. He now has a Studio at the Burkholder Project in the HayMarket. Look in the July Messenger for more information about John and his path to photography. John's work will continue to be on display at Westminster during August. Thank you to the WPC Art Committee for arranging this exhibit.



Attention Westminster Youth and Young Adults: Mark your calendars for the 7th annual Nebraska Youth Climate Summit, free and open to people ages 15-25. This event brings together young people from across the state to learn about the impacts of climate change and positive actions to respond to them. Friday, September 26th, 9:00 to 3:00, in the UNL East Union. Lunch and snacks are provided. Last year over 200 people attended this popular event. Check out highlights of previous summits at nebraskaipl.org/nebraska-youth-climate, and invite a friend to go with you!

Faith and Cancer Support Group

Author and cancer survivor, Lynn Eib, describes the feeling of hearing the diagnosis of cancer like "driving down the road and hitting a patch of 'black ice.' I am out of control--scary!" The Westminster Cancer Support group is an informal place of safety from 'black ice' where we share laughter, burdens and blessings. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday each month at 10 AM in the Church Library. All are welcome. Bruce Sheffield 402-303-2363.

Reminders from Presbyterians for Earth Care and Green@Heart:

Water is in the news. Some areas of our country have too much water, and we have seen the terrible, devastating, and deadly flooding that results. Some areas of our country have too little water, and we bear witness to drought and fires sparked by lightning, like the fires decimating the Grand Canyon's North Rim.

Water is also a part of our theology. Water is at our beginnings as people of faith, out of the watery chaos, God formed all of creation, and "a wind from God swept over the face of the waters" (Gen. 1:2). At the very beginning of our scriptures, water takes on beautiful and significant parts of our understanding of God, creation, and our role as stewards of our world.

How can I reduce my water usage?

Bathroom: Turn off the tap – Don't let the water run while brushing your teeth, shaving or washing your hands.

Kitchens: Wash dishes efficiently – Fill a basin of water for rinsing instead of letting the tap run continuously.

Outdoors: Water lawns and gardens efficiently – Water during the cooler parts of the day to minimize evaporation.

Week Beginning August 3

<p><u>Sun. (Aug. 3)</u> Equal Exchange Coffee and Chocolate for Purchase 10 AM Worship with Communion 11 AM Farewell Reception for Dr. Mary Young, Garden Room 11:15 AM Adult Ed., Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p> <p><u>Mon. (Aug. 4)</u> 6:30 PM Children, Youth & Family, Zoom 7 PM Recovery Group</p> <p><u>Tues. (Aug. 5)</u> 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch 5 PM Adult Ed, Conference Room</p>	<p><u>Wed. (Aug. 6)</u> 1 PM Hearts & Hands, Library 6:30 PM Churchwide Star City Shores Pool Party</p> <p><u>Fri. (Aug. 8)</u> 6 PM World on a Plate--Texas</p> <p><u>Sat. (Aug. 9)</u> 9 AM Preschool Open House, Fellowship Hall</p> <p><u>Sun. (Aug. 10)</u> 10 AM Worship, Blessing of the Backpacks, Sanctuary 11:15 AM Fall Kick-Off Sunday Activities, Parking Lot 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p>
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Worship services are available on-line at this link:

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