

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

October 19, 2025

19th Sunday after Pentecost



“Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always
and not to lose heart. ” (Luke 18:1)

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

“Voluntary in G” by John Stanley

Welcome

Please sign and pass the connection pad.

Stewardship Moment

***Call to Worship** (Psalm 121 and 2 Timothy 4)

Deacon Diana Wild

One: We lift up our eyes to the hills — from where will our help come?

Many: Our help comes not from the hills, but from the Lord who made heaven and earth.

One: I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable;

Many: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

One: With endurance, expectation, and joy, let us worship the living God!

***Hymn #610**

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Prayer of Confession**

God of the covenant, you promise to write your law in our hearts, that we might be faithful people who know you and your will for us. Still we stray from your ways, we fail to tell the truth, we mirror the world around us more than the good news of the gospel, and we fail to acknowledge that you are our God. Forgive us, and by your Spirit renew us. Engrave your covenant in our hearts once more. Grant us courage and faith that we might begin again to live what it is we say we believe. Amen.

***Time of Silent Confession**

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

***Assurance of Forgiveness** (Jeremiah 31:34)

... Believe and share the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

***Response of Praise #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!

***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. At this time, children in K-5th Grade are invited to be dismissed to Faith Village, our children's education time.

May the peace of Christ be with you. ***And also with you.***

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Hebrew Prophets

Jeremiah 31:31-34

O.T. pg. 735

Anthem

"God is Our Refuge" – Allen Pote
Barrett Stueven and Kaden Kunze

Perseverance is possible because our strength comes from God, our constant refuge, whose presence in every trial gives us the courage to press on in faith.

Gospel Reading

Luke 18:1-8

N.T. pg. 81

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

Sermon

"Those Who Persevere"

Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #469**

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Prayers of the People / Lord's Prayer

Deacon Diana Wild

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.

Invitation to the Offering

Offering

***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**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Hymn #442**

Just as I Am, without One Plea

*Charge & Benediction

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

“Trumpet Tune” by John Stanley

Liturgy Notes and Sources

Today's liturgy is adapted from, *The Presbyterian Outlook: Worship Liturgy for Sunday, October 12th, 2025* by Rev. Matthew A. Rich, Pastor / Head of Staff, Unity Presbyterian Church, Fort Mill, South Carolina

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 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 Diana Wild

Music Director: Wes Hansmeyer

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Greeters: Kathy & David Anderson

Ushers: Leslie Miner, David Anderson, Joan Roberts, Greg Hershberger

Dishwashers: Barbara & David Arunski

Sanctuary Audio & Livestream: Dale Minter & Stephan Biheng





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

The week of Oct. 19, 2025

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

A Little Goes a Long Way: A Sermon Series Focused on Jesus

Journey with Jesus. Live and Give Well. Value Your Neighbors. When we join the church as members, we say we *trust in Jesus Christ*. But what can trust look like in our lives 2,000 years after he walked the Earth? What did Jesus really have to say about being a follower in this one life we get to live? Explore these questions and more in this eight-week sermon series that's all about Jesus!

Church History Series for Westminster Adult Education

Sundays at 11:15 a.m., Lounge

October 19 The Adult Education program will focus on the Reformation in Switzerland with a look at the work of Ulrich Zwingli and John Calvin.

Filling the Barrel for our Neighbors

I am the church, you are the church, we are the church TOGETHER.

TOGETHER we can provide the personal care items for the LINCOLN HYGIENE NETWORK that serves over 30 nonprofits in our area. We give the deodorant so a high school boy can join a team. We give the bar of soap and the toothpaste so a grade schooler can have friends. We give razors and shaving cream so a man can interview for a job. Let's be the helpers in our community by filling the green barrel by the East Entrance for the third time before the end of October. Why? God calls us to be the church TOGETHER. (Presbyterian Women at Westminster are coordinating this project.)

WPC Youth Group Service at Matt Talbot | October 19 | 3:30 PM-7 PM On October 19, the WPC Youth Group and their families are invited to help serve at Matt Talbot. We will need volunteers to assist with cooking, serving, and cleanup for dinner for 130-150 people. Cooks should arrive around 3:30 p.m., those who are serving arrive around 4:45 p.m. After dinner, volunteers clean the kitchen, wash dishes, and sweep the floor, usually finishing around 7 p.m. Please watch the eVine for more information on how to help.

Pet Picture Contest

Which pet is the cutest, funniest or has the best costume?

Photo entries in the pet contest are displayed on the walls. They are numbered to avoid favoritism. Vote for the best dressed cat and dog and other animals available in the Garden Room. Only one ballot per person, please! Drop it in the Paw Box in the Garden Room. Voting closes Wed., Oct. 22, 2025. Treats for people and prizes for winners will be awarded on Oct. 26 after the church service in Fellowship Hall. Photos can be picked up afterwards.



of the art gallery. cutest, funniest and in the show. Ballots one ballot per person,

Spooktacular | October 29 | 5:30 PM-7:30 PM

We are moving Spooktacular inside! On Wednesday, October 29 from 5:30-7:00, put on your best costume and come to Fellowship Hall at WPC to play games, trick or treat, and have a frightfully fun evening. See the October Messenger for more information.

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.

October tips from Presbyterians for Earth Care and Green@Heart:

Eco-friendly Celebrations and Traditions in a Season of Giving

We are a consumer-driven society and oftentimes, in our attempts to celebrate with decorations, parties, and gifts, we damage, even desecrate, creation. As we conscientiously work to conserve natural resources by using eco-friendly products, sustainable and local foods, we use less water, impose less on our land, and use fewer minerals. Remember the three Rs, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle that contribute to treading more gently? The first of these is reduce, which is to make less, so we want to make less our impact on creation in all that we do, less in our consuming, especially throughout our upcoming holidays of Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

How can we start?

When it comes to gift giving, here are some alternatives to big box stores and online shopping. Give gifts of experience or gifts of time. Consider the Presbyterian Giving Catalog for unique ideas that help others around the world. Share plants, consumables, or give something you've made yourself. Consider giving alternative gifts, contributing to a charity, or supporting Presbyterians for Earth Care. There are a couple of companies that are good at

supporting small businesses and treading gently such as Uncommon Goods and Ten Thousand Villages. Consider alternatives to Amazon ordering. Pick and choose carefully from among those gifts that say they are green. Explore what can be done with seed paper, or make your own seed bombs.

These pillars of creation care begin with making less, making less stuff, imposing fewer demands on the earth, spending less time buying things, while creating thoughtful, welcoming hospitality for friends and family.

Let us know what you do to entertain while treading gently on the earth.



Presbyterian Advocacy Hour Join the monthly online gatherings each fourth Wed. of the month - hosted by the Presbyterian Church (USA)! We meet together in the lounge at 11am. Topic for October is LGBTQIA+. Join us on October 22 in the Lounge from 11am to 12:20pm.

November Prairie Readers

Prairie Readers will meet November 19 at 1 PM in the lounge. This is a chance to hear what friends are reading and to create the 2026 reading list. Everyone's contribution is important! See you there.

Ladies' Night Out

This is your invitation to our next Westminster PC Ladies Night Out! We will be gathering on Thursday, October 30th 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM; at Billy's Restaurant, 1301 H Street. For those who have never attended Ladies Night Out, please know this is a group of women of varying ages and fluid attendance (in other words, come when you can 😊) solely for fellowship and casual gathering. We have a prearranged price of \$17/per person (not including drink cost, tip, and taxes). Nader will have an assortment of family-style offerings. If you require a special dietary dish, please coordinate with Nader, or feel free to order off their menu to suit your needs.

Please RSVP by Tuesday, October 28th to Robyn Uebele at robynu2@hotmail.com (937) 935-6858. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Robyn.

Week Beginning October 19

<u>Sun. (Oct. 19)</u> 10 AM Worship; Faith Village 11:15 AM Adult Ed., Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship 1 PM WPC Kids, Pumpkin Patch 3:30 PM Youth, Matt Talbot <u>Mon. (Oct. 20)</u> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Library 7 PM Recovery Group <u>Tues. (Oct. 21)</u> 10 AM Faith and Cancer Support Group, Library 6 PM Communications & Outreach, Lounge	<u>Wed. (Oct. 22)</u> 11 AM Presbyterian Advocacy Hour, Lounge 1 PM Hearts, Hands & Hugs, Library 5:30 PM W3 Wednesday Activities, Youth Areas 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary <u>Thurs. (Oct. 23)</u> 6 PM Lincoln Continentals Rehearsal, Sanctuary <u>Sun. (Oct. 26)</u> 10 AM Worship; Faith Village 11:10 AM Pet Contest, Garden Room and FH 11:15 AM Adult Ed., Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship
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Worship services are available on-line at this link:

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