

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

**November 2, 2025**

**All Saints' Sunday**



## All Saints' Sunday

\*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

“Cortège et Litanie” by Marcel Dupré, arr. Farnam

## Welcome

Please sign and pass the connection pad.

## Stewardship Moment

### \*Call to Worship (Psalm 149:1a, 304: NRSVUE)

Deacon Gary Haller

One: Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song,

***Many: Let them praise God's name with dancing,***

One: making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.

***Many: For the Lord takes pleasure in the people; God adorns the humble with victory.***

### \*Hymn #326

**For All the Saints (verses 1-3 & 5)**

### \*Call to Confession

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

### \*Prayer of Confession

***God of the covenant, who calls all people to reconciliation, you have made us members of the very body of Christ; yet we persist in wounding that body with our divisions, our suspicions, and our neglect. Forgive us and teach us to nurture unity and peace. For the sake of Jesus Christ and the world he came to save; Amen.***

### \*Time of Silent Confession

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

### \*Assurance of Forgiveness

... Believe and share the good news!

***In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!***

### \*Response of Praise #643

**Now Thank We All Our God (verse 1)**

***Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;  
who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours 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. At this time, children in K-5<sup>th</sup> 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

Epistle Lesson

Ephesians 1:15-23

N.T. pg. 192

Gospel Reading

Luke 6:20-31

N.T. pg. 64

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

**What's an epistle?** Simply, an epistle is a letter. The term comes from ancient languages, including Greek *epistole*, “message, letter, command, or commission.” It is similar to the word “apostle,” meaning a “messenger.” (etymonline/word/epistle)

### Sermon

“Those Who Have Gone Before Us”

Rev. Chris Peters

### \*Hymn #825

**Swing Low, Sweet Chariot**

### Invitation to the Offering

Deacon Gary Haller

### Offering & Anthem

“Saints Bound for Heaven” arr. Mack Wilberg

Brenda Wristen and John Ross, Piano Four-Hands

*“Saints Bound for Heaven” beautifully echoes the spirit of All Saints’ Sunday, celebrating the faithful who have gone before us and the hope of eternal life in God’s presence.*

### \*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

Deacon Gary Haller

### The Lord’s Supper

#### Invitation

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

#### 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 #509**

**All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly**

**\*Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

## **Postlude**

“In Paradisum” from *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré, arr. Brunet

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### Liturgy Notes and Sources

Today's Call to Worship is adapted from the lectionary Psalm for All Saints Day, New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition.

Today's liturgy is adapted from *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion: Year C, All Saints Sunday*, Rev. Dr. Kimberly Bracken Long, Editor.

**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 Gary Haller

**Music Director:** Wes Hansmeyer

**Organist:** John Ross

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

**Greeters:** Stephanie & Scott Rogers

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

**Dishwashers:** Paul Korslund

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

**Communion Servers:** Bob Leavitt, Kathy Rohwedder, Ron Souliere, Tom Welstead, Dave Arunski





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

**The week of Nov. 2, 2025**

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

### **All Saints' Sunday**

We remember those who have died since All Saints' Day, Nov. 1, 2024: Bonnie Rice, Phyllis Pauley, Jo Harrington, Gordon Kissel, Jean Carol Murphy, Steve Titus, Sandra Bunz, Larry Peach, Betty Beam, Maxine Johnson, Steve Timmons, Mary Lou Fredrickson, Nancy Dawson, Helen Hayes and Mary-Ann Clinton.

### **Westminster Adult Education--Today at 11:15 a.m., Lounge**

Adult Education this Sunday will be an opportunity to respond to that question you ponder every Sunday after worship: What did today's sermon say to me? Or perhaps you simply need an opportunity to discuss what you heard in both the scripture lesson and the sermon. Here's your chance to express your thoughts, ask questions, or simply reflect on the sermon. We can't guarantee we have the answers but in a welcoming community facilitated by retired Pastor Ellen Davis, we promise you will meet others ready to reflect on this week's sermon.



**Mission/Outreach is pleased to bring Equal Exchange Coffee and Equal Exchange Organic Chocolate to Westminster friends.** We give the opportunity to purchase Equal Exchange products during Fellowship Hour on the first Sunday of each month. Thank you for supporting our ongoing commitment to making these products available.

**Lunch Bunch** will meet on Tuesday, November 4, 11:30 A.M., at Old Chicago, 27th & Pine Lake, in the Southpointe shopping area. RSVP to Jim Kinkennon at 402-290-5888 or [jimkinkennon@gmail.com](mailto:jimkinkennon@gmail.com).

### **Fall Stated Congregational Meeting | Sunday, Nov. 16, 2025**

The Fall Stated Congregational Meeting will be held following the worship service on Sunday, Nov. 16. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect 2026 Officers of the Church (Ruling Elders and Deacons), and to vote on changes to the WPC Bylaws.

### **A Message from Pastor Chris and your Stewardship Committee:**

I think there's a pretty simple truth we can all agree upon: we give because we are grateful. We give our time packing boxes in the Westminster Food Pantry. We give our input in listening sessions with Ministry Architects. We give our money to support the wide-ranging work of Westminster as a church family. This year our Giving Season's focus is simply, "Grateful!" a word and a feeling that emphasizes our response to God's grace and goodness – with gratitude! If you are a member, you will receive a small packet of information about how to give in 2026. If you are not a member, you may request information from the church office or on our website after November 5. In 2025, our Finance Committee has been clear about the need for increased giving to support and grow our budget. And you have responded! Our staff and leadership are "Grateful!" for your increased support. Bring your completed Pledge Card to worship on November 16, and place it in the basket during worship. You may also return it to the church office via mail. This act is both symbolic and practical. Pledging before the end of the year allows us to plan well for a faithful, impactful, and growth-focused 2026! Westminster, let's give because we are grateful toward our faith life together in 2026!

### **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.

### **Communion Schedule Note**

Communion will be held one more time in 2025, on Sunday, November 23, in celebration of Reign of Christ / Christ the King Sunday. This scheduling was approved by Session in accordance with Book of Order guidelines. Did you know... the PC(USA) Book of Order requires a minimum of quarterly communion celebrations for our congregations, though many are like Westminster and celebrate roughly once-a-month?

### **Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service**

**Sunday, November 23, 3:00 p.m.**

**Westminster Presbyterian Church, Lincoln**

This service of gratitude is open to everyone, and all faiths are welcome and encouraged to attend. In a world that serves up daily reminders of what divides us, this service brings together people of all faiths, and reminds us of what binds us together in our shared expressions of gratitude and thanksgiving.

Clergy from many different faiths will participate, with this year's featured speaker being Rev. Thomas Dummermuth from Eastridge Presbyterian Church in Lincoln. A native of Switzerland, Thomas moved to Lincoln in 2013 by way of West Virginia. Thomas holds a Master of Theology from the University of Bern, Switzerland.

### **Art Show Featuring Gwen Hlava**

We're delighted to feature the beautiful basket artistry of Gwen Hlava, a lifelong member of Westminster. After a fifty-year career as Professor and Chair of the Department of Dental Hygiene at UNMC, Gwen retired and continues to pursue her passion for basket weaving. Her work focuses on traditional Nantucket baskets, known for their solid wood molds, durability, and timeless design. Gwen often adorns her baskets with materials such as ivory, Sanskrit, and lapis lazuli, creating pieces that are both elegant and unique. Though she has been weaving for decades, Gwen has never sold a basket—each one is a labor of love, reflecting her creativity and the friendships she's formed along the way.



View Gwen's work at Westminster from October 30 – November 23.

### **Call for Plant-Based Recipes!**

Presbyterians for Earth Care and Green@Heart are planning to feature a different plant-based recipe each week in The Vine and eVine throughout November, and we're looking for contributions! Short, simple recipes work best! By submitting a recipe, you'll be giving permission for us to publish it, along with your name. We'd love your help in gathering some recipes to share! Please send them to Nancy Leavitt at [nbleavitt@gmail.com](mailto:nbleavitt@gmail.com).

### **Hearts, Hands & Hugs**

Hearts and Hands got a name upgrade! Say hello to *Hearts, Hands & Hugs*—because they never leave a Wednesday gathering without sharing a hug. Hearts, Hands & Hugs is a fun-loving group that meets every Wed. from 1:30 – 3 PM, in the church library. Our mission is to knit and crochet items for the People's City Mission—hats, scarves, baby items, toys, etc. We donate finished items in the fall before the holidays. All needle work folks are welcome to come visit and see what you're missing! Laughter is free. All yarn donations are welcome! Questions? Call Dorrie Gage, 402-730-9676.

### **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.

## Week Beginning November 2

<b><u>Sun. (Nov. 2) All Saints' Sunday</u></b> Equal Exchange Coffee Available 10 AM Worship with Communion; Faith Village 11:15 AM Adult Ed., Lounge 11:15 AM Farmhouse Fraternity Initiation, Sanctuary 12 Noon Sudanese Worship	<b><u>Wed. (Nov. 5)</u></b> 10 AM Circle 3, Lounge 1 PM Hearts, Hands & Hugs, Lib. 5:30 PM W3 Wednesday Activities, Youth Areas 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
<b><u>Mon. (Nov. 3)</u></b> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Lib. 6:30 PM Den Meeting—Pack 61, Cole Hall, Youth Café 6:30 PM Circle 4, Parlor 7 PM Recovery Group, Library	<b><u>Thurs. (Nov. 6)</u></b> 6 PM Lincoln Continentals Rehearsal, Sanctuary
<b><u>Tues. (Nov. 4)</u></b> 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch 5 PM Adult Ed, Conference Room 6:30 PM Camera Club, Lounge	<b><u>Sat. (Nov. 8)</u></b> 8 AM Private Group, Cole Hall, Kitchen
	<b><u>Sun. (Nov. 9)</u></b> 10 AM Worship; Faith Village 11:15 AM Adult Ed., Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship

**Worship services are available on-line at this link:**

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