

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

January 25, 2026

Third Sunday after the Epiphany



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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

“Improvisation on ABBOT’S LEIGH”

Welcome

Please sign and pass the connection pad.

*Call to Worship (Psalm 27:1 & 4, NRSV Updated Edition, 2021)

One: The Lord is my light and my salvation;

Many: whom shall I fear?

One: The Lord is the stronghold of my life;

Many: of whom shall I be afraid?

One: One thing I asked of the Lord;

Many: this I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,

One: to behold the beauty of the Lord,

Many: and to inquire in God’s temple.

One: Let us worship God with faith, joy, and an inquisitive spirit!

*Hymn #450

Be Thou My Vision

*Call to Confession

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

*Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, we confess that we have not been faithful to you in our thoughts and actions. We have been selfish in our desires and quarrelsome in our relationships. We have allowed fear to divide us from those who seem different, and have let distrust separate us from our siblings in faith. Shine your light into our darkened hearts. Save us from our divisive ways. Unite us in the same mind as Jesus Christ who dwells with you and the Holy Spirit in perfect harmony. 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 #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. 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-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

Gospel Reading

Matthew 4:12-23

N.T. pg. 3

Special Music

"Song of Hope" by Brenda Austin
Westminster Carillon

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

N.T. pg. 166

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

Sermon

"New Beginnings: A New Purpose"

Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #321**

The Church's One Foundation

Prayers of the People / 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.

Invitation to the Offering

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Offering & Choir Anthem

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

Maddy Stolcpart, Soprano Soloist

"In the Bleak Midwinter" reminds us that even in life's coldest or most uncertain moments, Christ brings light and renewal. This anthem points us toward an important purpose—offering our hearts and lives in response to God's love.

***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.***

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

*Hymn #346

For the Healing of the Nations

*Charge & Benediction

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

“Sleigh Ride” by Leroy Anderson, arr. Thomas Trotter

Liturgy Notes and Sources

Today's liturgy is adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A: Volume 1; Advent through Pentecost*, 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

Music Director: Wes Hansmeyer

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Greeters: Valery Wachter & Josh Whitfield

Ushers: Rohn Loyd, Bruce & Margaret Sheffield, Carol Shelbourn

Dishwashers: Lisa and Steve McConnell

Sanctuary Audio & Livestream: Dale Minter





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

The week of Jan. 25, 2026

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

Adult Ed | Community Conversations | 11:15 AM | Lounge

January 25: Anne Brandt, Executive Director of Lincoln Littles, "Elevating Early Childhood."

Infused Donut Holes

Join us after worship today in the Garden Room for infused donut holes.

Funeral for Martha Kingsbury will be held on Saturday, January 31 at 11 AM. There will be a reception following in Fellowship Hall.

Artist Deb Kubik Back in February

The Westminster Art Committee is pleased to welcome the return of glass artist, Deb Kubik, during the month of February. Our Inaugural Art Show was May 11, 2025 with Deb's garden art in our parking lot. We now have the opportunity to enjoy her "indoor" art pieces.

Deb is a full time contemporary warm glass kiln artist. Warm glass can replicate the delicacies of watercolor by using the tiniest pieces of glass frit to "paint" a landscape or a friendly bunny. It can be bold using colors to compliment any décor. Collect pieces for holidays or for year-round enjoyment. Each piece is a "one of a kind" piece of art to be treasured in your home.

Her unique art will be in the cabinets near the parking lot entrance as well as in the Gallery Hall. A Representative will be present on Sundays if you wish to purchase her beautiful art for your home.

Joy Offering

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Joy Offering in December. The total donated amount was \$1,323.

January Tips from Green@Heart

Winter is a season of gathering and joyous celebrations, but it can also be a season of energy waste. Did you know 61-86% of home energy use is wasted, with the winter months being the worst? Small changes can make a big difference for the planet (and your utility bill)! Look here for a few easy, eco-friendly tips each week in January:

Choose public transportation: Leaving the car at home when possible helps cut greenhouse gas emissions all winter long.

Small steps can create a big impact on our environment. Join us this winter in caring for creation.

Lunch Bunch at The Eatery

Lunch Bunch will meet Tuesday, February 3, 11:30 AM, at The Eatery, 2548 S. 48th St. RSVP to jimkennon@gmail.com or text to 402-290-5888. We look forward to seeing you.

Fork & Friends – A Westminster Table Adventure

Are you ready for a new way to connect with our Westminster family? A way to gather in small groups and truly get to know someone who may sit in another pew—or on the other side of the sanctuary?

What could be better than gathering around a table to enjoy a meal and meaningful conversation? Whether it's in a welcoming kitchen at a table for four, a formal dining room that seats ten, or even a quiet corner of a favorite restaurant, a shared table sets the tone for connection and deeper friendships.

Church Life has a goal not only to expand our lives in faith, but also to connect people deeply. We would love to have you join us for Fork & Friends – A Westminster Table Adventure. If you're interested in being part of this new adventure, please contact Marilyn Hood by phone or text at 402-499-9045, or by email at mhood0529@gmail.com, and let her know you'd like to participate.

Westminster Members – Pastor Chris has a new 402-area code cell phone #! Please either reach out to Pastor Chris or the church office for that number. It will also be updated into Realm and Realm Connect apps under his contact information. As always, if you have any questions or concern about a contact you receive from someone claiming to be a church staff member, please verify with the staff person or church office.

Snippets from 12-10-25 WPC Foundation meeting—

The following are highlights from the Westminster Presbyterian Church Foundation meeting held 12-10-25.

Loy Olson, financial advisor, noted that since 2012, approximately \$1.95 million has been given to the church through foundation funds.

The November Investment summary shows Foundation funds totaling \$3,952,057.29.

The Foundation anticipates a request from session for support of the next annual budget.

The Marketing Committee is updating Legacy Society records and revising the birthday letter.

The Foundation is supporting the work on the west stained-glass windows. Trustee Jim White, who is completing his time on the board, was thanked for his substantial work supporting the repair of stained glass throughout our sanctuary.

David Anderson resigned from the board.

Officers were elected for 2026: Erika Schafer, President; Steve Hughes, Vice President; Pat Leach, Secretary; Stacey Graham, treasurer.

Respectfully submitted by Pat Leach, WPCF Secretary

Usher and Greeter Training | Sunday, February 1 | 11:15 AM - 1:30 PM

A reminder to those who are currently greeters and ushers, although all who are interested are welcome to join the training.

This is a friendly reminder about the upcoming Usher & Greeter Training at Westminster Presbyterian Church.



Date: Sunday, February 1



Time: 11:15 AM – approximately 1:30 PM



Location: Westminster Presbyterian Church



Includes: Potato bar lunch

If you have not yet RSVP'd, please take a moment to do so. This helps us plan seating and food.

This training is designed to:

1. Support new and returning ushers and greeters
2. Build confidence and clarity in roles
3. Strengthen our welcoming, inclusive worship experience

If you have questions or need to RSVP, contact:

1. Janice - janicerohw@yahoo.com or
2. April Douglas - ajdouglas7929@gmail.com

Thank you for serving in this important ministry. We truly appreciate your time and care, and we look forward to seeing you on February 1.

Week Beginning January 25

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| <u>Sun. (Jan. 25)</u> 10 AM Worship, Faith Village; Sanctuary 11:15 AM Adult Ed., Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship, Chapel | <u>Thurs. (Jan. 29)</u> 5 PM Bell Ringers Rehearsal, First Plymouth 6 PM Lincoln Continental Rehearsal, Sanctuary |
| <u>Mon. (Jan. 26)</u> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study— Pastor Ellen, Library 6:30 PM Scouts Den Meeting, Cole Hall, Youth Cafe | <u>Sat. (Jan. 31)</u> 11 AM Funeral for Martha Kingsbury, Sanctuary 11:40 AM Funeral Reception, Fellowship Hall |
| <u>Wed. (Jan. 28)</u> 11 AM Advocacy Hour, Lounge 1 PM Hearts, Hands & Hugs, Library 5 PM Ladies' Night Out 5:30 PM W3 Wednesday Activities Youth Areas – All 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary | <u>Sun. (Feb. 1)</u> 10 AM Worship, Faith Village; Sanctuary 11:15 AM Adult Ed., Lounge 11:15 AM Usher and Greeter Training, Fellowship Hall 12 Noon Sudanese Worship, Chapel |

Worship services are available on-line at this link:

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