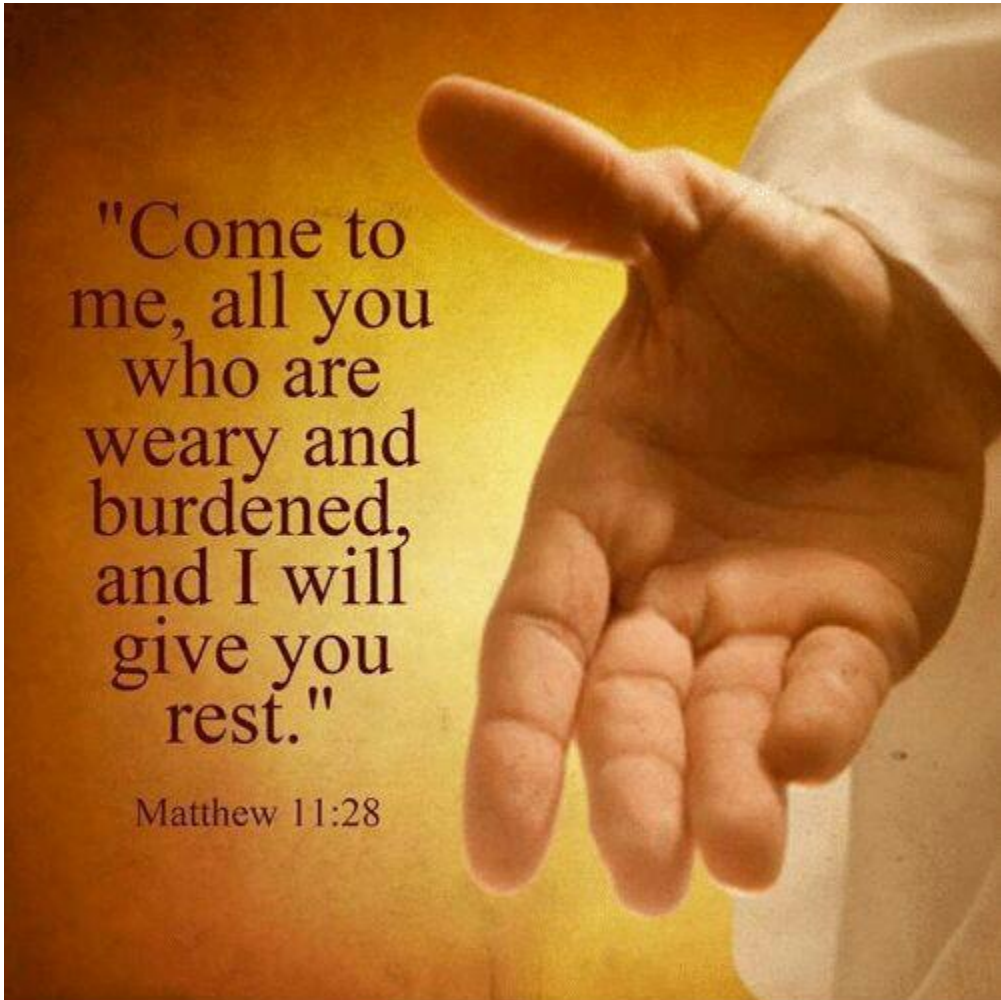


# Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

July 5, 2026

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



\*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

“Fanfare” by Robert Lind

## Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

### \*Call to Worship (based on Psalm 96)

Deacon Claire Titus

One: O sing to the Lord a new song;

**All: Sing to the Lord, all the earth.**

One: Declare God’s glory among the nations;

**All: Tell all the people of God’s marvelous works.**

One: Say among the nations: The Lord is sovereign!

**All: God will judge the peoples with equity.**

### \*Hymn #625

**O Lord My God (How Great Thou Art)**

### \*Call to Confession

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

### \*Prayer of Confession

***Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.***

### \*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 #471

**The Lord is My Song**

***The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.***

***The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.***

### \*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

Gospel Reading                      Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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## Sermon and Discussion

“The Work of Jesus and the Work of the Church: Relief”  
Rev. Chris Peters with Pat Leach, host of *All About Books* on  
Nebraska Public Media, and Former Director of Lincoln City Libraries

*\*Today's sermon time will be in a Q&A format, with Chris answering questions about his time at the 227<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A).*

## \*Hymn #183

**Come to Me, O Weary Traveler**

## Invitation to the Offering

Deacon Claire Titus

## Offertory Special Music

“There is Power in the Blood” arr. by Bryce Inman  
John Ross and Wes Hansmeyer, piano duet

*Today's special music pairs an American classic with a hymn of faith, reminding us to give thanks for our freedoms and for the freedom we find in Christ through God's grace.*

## \*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 Claire Titus

## 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

Rev. Chris Peters

## Communion Music

## Prayer After Communion

\*Hymn #340

**This Is My Song**

\*Charge & Benediction

Rev. Chris Peters

## Postlude

“Praise Him, Praise Him!” arranged by Bryce Inman  
John Ross and Wes Hansmeyer, piano duet

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### Liturgy Notes and Sources

Today's liturgy is adapted from *Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching, and the Arts: Worship Resources for July 5, 2026* and *Feasting on the Word Words for Worship Year A, Vol 2., Proper 9, Complementary Lectionary*

**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 Claire Titus

**Music Director:** Wes Hansmeyer **Organist:** John Ross

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

**Greeters:** Thom & Jack Johnson, Josh Whitfield

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

**Dishwashers:** Paul Korslund

**Sanctuary Audio and Livestream:** Dale Minter

**Communion Servers:** Paul Korslund, Stephanie Laux, Bob Leavitt, Louisa McConnell, Ron Souliere





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

**The week of July 5, 2026**

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

**Adult Ed | Sundays | 11:15 AM | Lounge**

• **July 5:** Independence Day weekend, no Adult Ed.

• **July 12:** “Back Pew Farmer: A Walk in the Garden”

Tom Pappas and Gary Haller, representing Building and Grounds, will give an overview of Westminster’s many garden spaces and the peculiarities of our vast grounds. A brief visit to 3-4 highlights (all accessible from inside the building) is included. Feedback on our horticultural priorities and accomplishments will be welcome.

• **July 19:** *Positive Psychology - the HERO in You* with Dr. Marijane England, UNL Associate Professor of Practice Emeritus in Management.

**Pastoral Care Cell Phone: 531-510-4929**

If you are a member and have a need for pastoral care, such as a bereavement or hospitalization, call 531-510-4929. One of the pastors will answer or get back to you.

**Prairie Readers on July 15**

Dan Brown does not disappoint with his 2025 book, *Secret of Secrets*. Set in the beautiful city of Prague, the complex mystery is bound to lead to a spirited discussion. Come join us on July 15 at 1 pm in the Lounge.

**WPC YG: Service at Matt Talbot | July 19**

WPC Youth Group and their families will be serving dinner at Matt Talbot this summer on July 19. If you are willing and able to help with this activity, sign-up at

<https://forms.gle/DWFwEJLbHND5oJ4D7>.



**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.

**Quilts of Valor Display in July**

For the month of July the Westminster Art Committee has invited the Quilts of Valor Foundation to display several quilts in the gallery space. This foundation began in 2003 when founder Catherine Roberts' son Nat was deployed in Iraq. Since then Quilts of Valor members have made and awarded over 400,000 quilts to service members and veterans across the country.

To become involved with the Quilts of Valor Foundation you can:

- Join. Become a member – individual, quilt business, or start your own group.
- Nominate. Submit a service member or veteran to receive a quilt.
- Donate. Make a gift to support supplies and shipping.

Quilts of Valor Foundation, PO Box 191, Winterset, IA 50273. 515-619-6556. [info@govf.org](mailto:info@govf.org)

**Caring Amid Normal Concerns, Experiences, and Relationships**

These are some of the feelings and emotions expressed each month at our Faith & Cancer meetings in the church library on the third Tuesday at 10 AM. Come join us. Contact Bruce Sheffield at (402).303.2363.

**Summer VBS: Roadtrip! | July 13-17 | 9:00 AM-12:30 PM**

**Children 4 years – 5<sup>th</sup> grade | \$15 per child, maximum \$45 per family**

Register here <https://westminster-goodshepherd.mycokesburyvbs.com/register-child>.

## **Join Us for Vacation Bible School as a Volunteer!**

VBS is approaching, and there are many rewarding ways for you to get involved and share your faith with our children.

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

If you can clear your mornings from Jul 13 to Jul 17, we would love your hands-on help. We are specifically searching for a section leader and an assistant to coordinate our music sessions.

Don't worry about experience—you won't be working alone! You can volunteer alongside a friend, or we can pair you with other team members. VBS is even more fun as a volunteer than it was as a child.

### **Support Through Prayer**

We also ask for your prayers for our youth and our volunteers. To help guide you, we have provided a 31-day prayer calendar featuring daily scriptures and specific prayer intentions.

### **Next Steps**

- Access the prayer calendar: <https://bit.ly/4v6aSOS>
- Register to volunteer: <https://westminster-goodshepherd.mycokesburyvbs.com/>

For any questions, please reach out to Trish at [trish@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:trish@westminsterlincoln.org).

## **Share Your Gratitude with Us!**

As we will regularly have a Moment of Gratitude in church in worship going forward, and we would love to have your suggestions for those moments. Is there a church volunteer, team, initiative, or staff person you would like to lift up? Would you like to share a moment reflecting on how your church family has impacted your life recently? Please email [office@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:office@westminsterlincoln.org) with the subject “Gratitude Submission” only, at any time. You may give a simple suggestion for Chris or Jimmy to share, a scripted note (max 400 words) to be read aloud, or you may request to do one on your own (max 4mins, must be pre-written and practiced beforehand). If we receive a number of submissions, we may pair yours with a future theme, so please be patient. Thank you, and as always, remember – a Presbyterian’s response to God’s grace is gratitude!

## **Calling Westminster’s Book Lovers**

Do you miss the annual Westminster Book Drive, where you could donate books that were spilling off their shelves? Do you miss the annual Westminster Book Sale, where you could find something new and interesting at a great price? Here’s an alternative you might want to explore! July 8 through August 18, Linked2Literacy will be collecting books for Wordstock, an annual community-wide free book swap. The festival itself will be on Saturday, August

22, 10:00-1:00 at the Auld Pavilion and Bandshell. Find out all about it at <https://www.linked2literacy.org/programs-outreach/2025-wordstock> and get ready to celebrate the joy of reading.

### **Pastor Chris's Upcoming Schedule**

Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup> – Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup> – Vacation Time-Off

#### **Week Beginning July 5**

<p><b><u>Sun. (July 5)</u></b> 9 AM Equal Exchange Coffee and Chocolate Available to Purchase 10 AM Worship, Sanctuary, Communion 12 PM Sudanese Worship, Chapel</p> <p><b><u>Mon. – Fri. (July 6-July 10)</u></b> 9 AM-3 PM Youth Actors Academy of Lincoln (YAAL)</p> <p><b><u>Mon. (July 6)</u></b> 7 PM Recovery Group, Library</p>	<p><b><u>Tues. (July 7)</u></b> 10:30 AM City Library Summer Reading Program 5 PM Adult Ed, Conference Rm.</p> <p><b><u>Wed. (July 8)</u></b> 1 PM Hearts &amp; Hands, Library</p> <p><b><u>Sat. (July 11)</u></b> 2 &amp; 6 PM YAAL Performances, FH</p> <p><b><u>Sun. (July 12)</u></b> 10 AM Worship, Sanctuary 11:15 AM Adult Ed, Lounge 12 PM Sudanese Worship 2 &amp; 6 PM YAAL Performances, FH</p>
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**Worship services are available on-line at this link:**

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