

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

July 12, 2026

Seventh 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

"Amazing Grace" and "All Things Bright and Beautiful"
Two settings for organ by Dale Wood

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

Hymn Rehearsal

Special Announcement: Nominating Committee

Joyce Douglas

***Call to Worship** (Psalm 65:1-13 excerpts)

Jaime Hemmerling

One: God's creation delights and astonishes.

Many: Let the people pause and wonder!

One: God, the Creator, has made it all.

Many: Let all creation shout and sing! Alleluia!

***Hymn #32**

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

***Call to Confession**

Jaime Hemmerling

***Prayer of Confession**

Faithful God, your word falls on hardened ground when our worldly anxiety and attachment to wealth crowd out your place in our lives. Forgive our frail and human ways and cultivate in us a spirit of trust and faithfulness, for you are our hope for deliverance. 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 #240**

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks (refrain)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Give praise to Christ's name

***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.

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

Commissioning of Leaders for Vacation Bible School

Juleigha Bennett, Skyler Bennett, Logan Childs, Jeanne Cuda, Susie Hughes, Susan Jackson, Jackson Johnson, Jim Kinkennon, Rita Kinkennon, Nancy Leavitt, Max Bower, Revan McCune, Zane Rehfeld, Alex Souliere, Ron Souliere, Brenna Stephen, Katelyn Tschetter, Mallory Witt, Megan Witt, Saige Witt

Pastor: God is with us on the journey.

VBS Leaders: **God who has called us, teach us to know your presence with us everywhere!**

Congregation: ***We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and direct your steps. We pray that the Travelers who attend VBS sense the presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives and will be endowed with gifts that God supplies.***

Closing Prayer

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Hebrew Prophets

Isaiah 55:10-13

O.T. pg. 686

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

N.T. pg. 13

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

Sermon "The Work of Jesus: Planting"

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Hymn #714**

God of the Fertile Fields

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer

Jaime Hemmerling

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.

Moment of Gratitude / Invitation to the Offering

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Offertory Special Music

"Blessed Be Your Name" with "It Is Well with My Soul"

arr. Camp Kirkland and Richard Kingsmore

Summer Choir; Jon Jackson, Bass Guitar

Kent Hemmerling, Drums; and Willa Foster Jones, piano

***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 #171**

A Sower Came from Ancient Hills

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Postlude

“A Festive Trumpet Tune” by Gilbert Martin

Liturgy Notes and Sources

Today’s liturgy is adapted from *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion, Year A: Vol. 2, Proper 10*. 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: Jaime Hemmerling

Music Director: Wes Hansmeyer

Organist: John Ross

Guest Organist: Willa Foster Jones

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Greeters: Marilyn Smith, Kathy Phillip, Josh Swanson

Ushers: Joyce Douglas, Kathy Anderson, Joan Roberts, Marilyn Hood

Dishwashers: Stephen Odenore

Sanctuary Audio and Livestream: Dale Minter





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

The week of July 12, 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 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.

• **July 26:** *The Butterfly* is back by popular demand! Westminster's version of *The Moth* where our Christian friends tell stories from their lives that have impacted their life of faith. On this Sunday the Butterfly will make a reappearance via engaging stories from some of our own.

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 in July

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>.

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@qovf.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 (402) 303-2363.

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 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!

Splashtacular Fun: Join Us for our End-of-Summer Pool Party!

As the summer sun begins to set on another incredible season, there is only one right way to celebrate: a massive community pool party! Grab your towels, flip-flops, and favorite swimsuits because it's time to make a splash before the school year kicks into gear.

Whether you are a toddler dipping your toes in the water for the first time, a teenager eyeing the high dive, or an adult looking to relax and catch up with neighbors, this night is for everyone. All ages are welcome and encouraged to join the fun!

New Venue Alert! Take note: we are switching things up this year! While we usually host this event at Star City Shores, we are moving the party to a fantastic new spot.

Join us at **Eden Pool** (4400 Antelope Creek Rd) for a fresh change of scenery and just as much excitement!

Mark Your Calendars

- Date: Wed., Aug. 5
- Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Location: Eden Pool, 4400 Antelope Creek Rd

What to Expect

Eden Pool has something for absolutely everyone in the family to enjoy:

- The Thrill-Seekers: Race down the twists and turns of the water slide!
- The Daredevils: Show off your best cannonball or dive off the diving board.
- The Little Ones: A dedicated wading and baby pool perfect for safe, shallow splashing.
- The Loungers: Plenty of space to hang out on the deck, chat, and cheer on the swimmers.

There is no better way to wrap up the summer than surrounded by great music, refreshing water, and even better company. We can't wait to see you all on deck!

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.

Staff Schedules

Pastor Chris will be back in the office on Tuesday, July 14.

Week Beginning July 12

<u>Sun. (July 12)</u> 10 AM Worship, Sanctuary 11:15 AM Adult Ed, Lounge 12 PM Sudanese Worship, Chapel 2 & 6 PM YAAL Performances, FH <u>Mon. – Fri. (July 13-July 17)</u> 9 AM-3 PM Youth Actors Academy of Lincoln (YAAL) <u>Mon. (July 13)</u> 9 AM VBS 7 PM Recovery Group, Library <u>Tues. (July 14)</u> 9 AM VBS 9 AM Parlor Reserved 10:30 AM City Library Summer Reading Program	5 PM Bldg. & Grounds, Lounge 5:30 PM Worship, Music & Fine Arts, FH-C 6:15 PM A&P, Conference Room <u>Wed. (July 15)</u> 9 AM VBS 1 PM Hearts & Hands, Library 1 PM Prairie Readers, Lounge <u>Thurs. (July 16)</u> 9 AM VBS 7 PM Camera Club, Lounge <u>Fri. (July 17)</u> 9 AM VBS <u>Sun. (July 19)</u> 10 AM Worship, Sanctuary 11:15 AM Adult Ed, Lounge 11:15 AM Property Discernment Team Meeting with Scott 12 PM Sudanese Worship
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Worship services are available on-line at this link:

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