

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

July 19, 2026

Eighth 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

“Siyahamba” (We are Marching in the Light of God)
Setting by John A. Behnke

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

***Call to Worship (Psalm 139)**

Elder Karen Hoffman

One: Lord, you have examined me.

Many: You know me.

One: You know when I sit down and when I stand up.

Many: Even from far away, you comprehend my plans.

One: You study my traveling and resting.

Many: You are thoroughly familiar with all my ways. Let us praise God with joy!

***Hymn #366**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

***Call to Confession**

Elder Karen Hoffman

***Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, your creatures cry—creation groans—but we turn away; we surround ourselves with noise. We are quick to excuse ourselves from responsibility: we are young; we are old; we are tired; we are busy. It is hard to imagine that we might make a difference. Life-giving God, restore our imaginations and our hearts. Let your courage and compassion flow through us until we love with abandon and our hands reach out in blessing, 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. 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

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

O.T. pg. 577

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

N.T. pg. 14

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

Sermon

"The Work of Jesus: Collecting"

Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #346**

For the Healing of the Nations

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer

Elder Karen Hoffman

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. Chris Peters

Offertory Special Music "If With All Your Hearts" from *Elijah* by Felix Mendelssohn
Ryan Roberts, Tenor

***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. Chris Peters

***Hymn #544**

Bless the Lord (x4)

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

"Psalm XIX" (The Heavens Declare the Glory of God)
Benedetto Marcello/arr. W. E. Buszin

Liturgy Notes and Sources

Today's liturgy is adapted from *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion, Year A: Vol. 2, Proper 11*. 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: Elder Karen Hoffman

Music Director: Wes Hansmeyer

Organist: John Ross

Guest Organist: Willa Foster Jones

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Greeters: Brooke & Matt Larson, Daniel Dunlap

Ushers: Leslie Miner, Robyn Uebele, April Douglas, Marijane England

Dishwashers: Tom Pappas & Laurel Van Ham

Sanctuary Audio and Livestream: Dale Minter





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

The week of July 19, 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 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.

Lunch Bunch

Join us for Lunch Bunch on Tues., Aug. 4, 11:30 AM, at Early Bird, 1900 K Street. R.S.V.P. to jimkinkennon@gmail.com or text 402-290-5888.

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.

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

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.

Back Pew Gardeners – Volunteers Needed

Many hands make light work! Please consider joining us as we work together to keep our church grounds looking their best. No gardening experience is necessary.

This week's to do list (July 11–19):

South Street:

- weed along South Street
- cut the euonymus back to about one foot.

Ryons Street (near the church):

- weed the planting areas
- cut back the milkweed vine
- trim the tree
- remove sucker trees.

Along Ryons Street:

- clean up the fallen linden seeds.

If you have gardening gloves or hand tools, feel free to bring them. For questions, contact Tom Pappas. Thank you for helping to keep our church grounds beautiful!

Prairie Readers in August

Prairie Readers will meet on August 19 at 1 PM in the lounge. Linda Burchard will lead the discussion of *The Emperor of Gladness* by Ocean Vuong. The book is a story of unexpected friendships and the gift of a second chance. Everyone is welcome to join the group.

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 on **Wed. Aug. 5, 6:30 PM to 8 PM, at Eden Pool** (4400 Antelope Creek Rd) for a fresh change of scenery and just as much excitement!

Eden Pool has something for absolutely everyone in the family:

- 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!

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!

Power Down!

Protect our landfill and water table and recycle valuable materials. Bring your used batteries to Westminster's reception area and put them in the giant battery container for recycling. Be sure to follow the directions provided on the lid about which types of batteries need their terminals covered with masking tape (also provided). One more opportunity to be a good steward of creation!

Staff Schedules

Pastor Jimmy is on loan today for pulpit supply at the Beatrice Presbyterian Church.



Week Beginning July 19

<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 <u>Mon. – Fri. (July 20-July 24)</u> 9 AM-3 PM Youth Actors Academy of Lincoln (YAAL) <u>Mon. (July 20)</u> 9:45 AM Staff Meeting 7 PM Recovery Group, Library	<u>Tues. (July 21)</u> 10 AM Faith & Cancer Support Group, Library 10:30 AM City Library Summer Reading Program 5 PM Ladies' Night Out, Catalyst <u>Wed. (July 22)</u> 1 PM Hearts & Hands, Library 6 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary <u>Sun. (July 26)</u> 10 AM Worship, Sanctuary 11:15 AM Adult Ed, Lounge 12 PM Sudanese Worship
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Worship services are available on-line at this link:

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