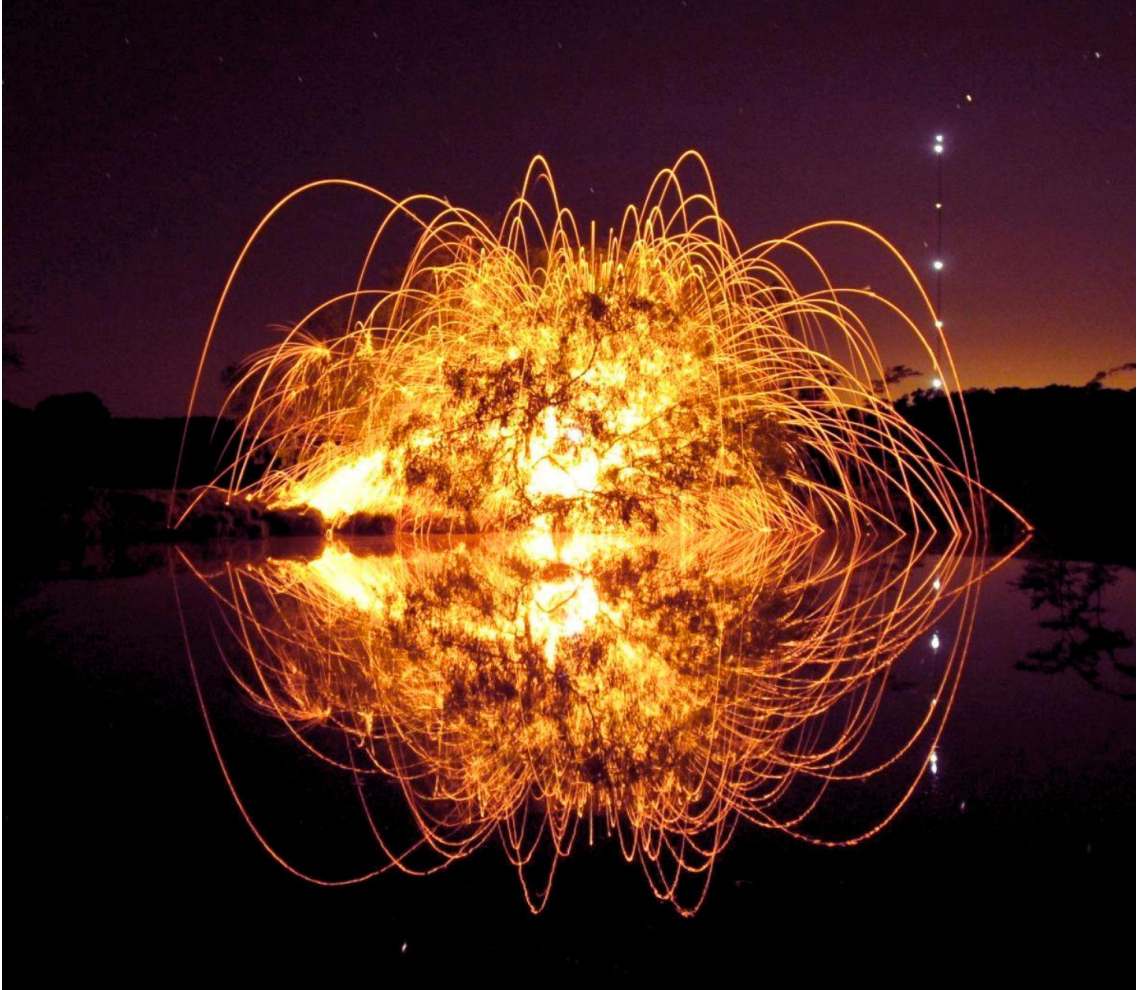


Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

August 30, 2026

14th Sunday after Pentecost



Burning Bush, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/55946> [retrieved August 27, 2026]. Original source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/earsaregood/3564534366/>.

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

“Prelude in form of a Minuet” by Charles Villiers Stanford

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

Session Update

Bob Leavitt

***Call to Worship** (inspired by Exodus 3:15 and Psalm 105:3, 45b)

Carolyn Harp

One: The God of our ancestors calls us to worship.

All: Praise the Lord!

One: Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

All: Let us worship God!

***Hymn #475**

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Prayer of Confession**

God of Moses and Mary, we could live at peace with others, but we choose to do wrong to them. We could welcome those we do not know, but we choose to close our hearts. We could make outsiders our friends, but we choose the safety of our close circles. Forgive us, Lord. Hold onto our shaky lives, until we learn to clasp your goodness to our hearts, and then give it away to those around us. Meet us with Christ's mercy, and thus send us in love. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

***Time of Silent Confession**

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

***Declaration of Forgiveness**

Believe and share the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

***Response of Praise #551**

Lord, Have Mercy

Lord, have mercy;

Christ, have mercy;

Lord, have mercy upon us. (x2)

***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.***

The Sacrament of Baptism

Olivia Paz Earl

Confession of Faith: Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Question of the Congregation

Do you, the members of Westminster, promise to welcome Olive fully, to walk with her along the journey of faith and of questions, and to be a friend in her journey with the holy?

All: We do. Olive, we welcome you with joy and hope, energy and enthusiasm, laughter and communion, nurture and faith, love and acceptance.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Hebrew Scripture

Exodus 2:23-3:15

O.T. pg. 50

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

Sermon

"The Exodus Saga, Part II: Burning Bush"

Rev. Chris Peters

*Hymn #69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky (Here I am, Lord)

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer

Carolyn Harp

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.

Ministry Architects Implementation Update: Property Discernment Steve Hughes

Invitation to the Offering

Carolyn Harp

Offertory Special Music

"People Need the Lord" arranged by Mary McDonald
Westminster Summer Choir and Special Guests with Jon Jackson, Bass

Today's anthem, "People Need the Lord," serves as a musical echo to our reading from Psalm 105. Just as the Psalmist calls us to proclaim God's name and make God's deeds known among the nations, this piece reminds us of the quiet brokenness in our world and our shared calling to offer Christ's love and hope to all.

***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 #406**

We Are Standing on Holy Ground

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

“Postlude on an Old Irish Church Melody” by Stanford

Liturgy Notes and Sources

Today’s liturgy is adapted from the following sources:

Feasting on the Word: Words for Worship, Year A Vol 2. Proper 17 Semicontinuous Lectionary. Rev. Dr. Kimberly Bracken Long, Editor. (Call to Worship, Declaration of Forgiveness, Offering Sequence)

Playing Hopsotch in HeavenL Lectionary Readings for RCL Year A; Rev. Thom M. Schuman (Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession)

Ken and Kathryn Govaerts provided flowers in gratitude for their 65th wedding anniversary. Another arrangement is in celebration of **Elly Dawson’s** 100th birthday, which is today. Congratulations to all!

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: Carolyn Harp

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

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Greeters: Kelly Braswell, Kathy Phillip, Paul Korslund

Ushers: Dan Schafer, Erika Schafer, Gwen Thorpe, Joyce Douglas





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

The week of Aug. 30, 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

Aug. 30: "Vaccines: Beyond the Ouch!" Westminster's Martha Brown, Project Manager at Zoetis, will share her experience in vaccine development.

Sept. 6: No Adult Ed (Labor Day)

Sept. 13: "GA 227 - What the Heck Does it Mean and Why Does it Matter?" with Pastor Chris! Pastor Chris served at the PC(USA) General Assembly (or, "GA") this past June as a voting commissioner and also stood for the denominational-level position of Co-Moderator. Hear about his experience, overtures and decisions you should know, and ask questions!

Sept. 20: Creation Celebration: Tim Shaw and Phyllis, Bread for the World and the goal of Ending Hunger in our Lifetime

Sept. 27: Creation Celebration: John Hay, Data Center Water Use 101

Elly Dawson is 100 today!

Please stop by the Garden Room after church today for a piece of cake to celebrate her birthday.

This Sunday is a 5th Sunday of the Month

If you brought soup or SpaghettiOs to support the Westminster Food Pantry, place them in the wooden box by the office. Thank you.

Lunch Bunch will meet Tuesday, Sept. 1, 11:30 AM, at Big Red Restaurant, 8933 Andermatt Drive. That's the East location.

R.S.V.P. to jimkinkennon@gmail.com or text 402-290-5888.

Forks & Friends - Westminster Table Adventure

Forks & Friends has been in effect since May & it has been a fun & successful endeavor. Once a month 3 different groups have gathered around a table to connect & share food. It's

amazing how you get to really know someone when you are in a small group enjoying a meal or snack. The focus is to have this be an easy, flexible experience & share the planning & preparation with the host. After 4 months all names go in a basket & the hosts meet to draw new members. Rotating gives everyone an opportunity to connect with more people.

Church Life is extending an invitation to you to join Forks & Friends - A Westminster Table Adventure. Groups will be kept small, 5-8 people, to be able to fit around a table. Please contact Marilyn Hood by phone or text at 402-499-9045 or email at mhood0529@gmail.com to let us know you would like to join.

Study of Romans

Ready to explore the New Testament letter of Paul to the Christians in Rome? We meet Mondays, beginning Sept. 14 at 11 AM in the library. You are invited. Please let us know if you would like more information or plan to join us by emailing edavis3655@gmail.com.

The Green Barrel Returns for the LINCOLN HYGIENE NETWORK

Presbyterian Women at Westminster are again partnering in September and October with the Lincoln Hygiene Network to provide basic hygiene necessities through over 20 community groups who help people in the Lincoln-Lancaster County area. Hygiene and period products are NOT covered by SNAP or WIC. Hygiene items are essential to provide health and dignity for our neighbors. The most needed products are deodorant, bar soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes, period products, hair care products, and laundry items. If you wish to give a money donation a QR Code is available by the barrel or contact www.lincolnhygienetwork.org for how to donate online or by check with **PW Westminster** on the memo line. Look for the **Green Barrel** near the east entrance off the parking lot for all of **September and October. Give with a generous heart.**

Prairie Readers in September

Prairie Readers meets September 16 at 1 PM in the Lounge. Diana Wild will lead the discussion of *The Marriage Portrait* by Maggie O'Ferrell. The author describes the world of Renaissance Italy through the life of a young woman thrust into an unfamiliar and unwelcoming court. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Travels with Tami

Westminster member, Tami Wellmann, has found God in all her travels. Her photos will take you to many of the 60 countries she has visited. Travel with Tami to Morocco, Greece, Russia, Canada, Scotland and many more. The countries she has visited are comprised of people just like what we find in the United States. People who are looking for their place in this world. She was moved by Pastor Jimmy's sermon on July 12th and the parable of sowing

seeds. It made her think about God not just sowing for us...but for lands far and wide—The World in which We Live. You will enjoy her photos on display as our Artist of the Month for August.

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 list can be found in the tote with lawn bags.)

This week's to-do list (Aug. 30 to Sept. 5):

South Street

- Preschool - Cut Euonymus down to 6 inches
- Playground - Remove weeds

Ryons Street

- R2 - Rake up the Linden Seeds - remove sucker trees - basic cleanup
- Profit Path - both sides need sucker trees & weeds removed.

HELP!!:

- Parking lot 4 - Strips 4u and 4L are being taken over by weeds.

If you have gardening gloves or hand tools, feel free to bring them. For questions, contact Tom Pappas (402)202-4454 or Gary Haller (817)757-2980. Keep track of your time and send your total volunteer time, along with what you worked on, to Gary at garyhaller70@att.net. Thank you for helping to keep our church grounds beautiful!

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 or text 531-510-4929. One of the pastors will answer or get back to you.

Staff Schedule

Pastor Chris will be taking some personal time off from Sept. 3 through Sept. 8.

Hunter will be out of the office on Monday, Aug. 31.

Joanne will be taking Thursday, Sept. 3 as a personal day off and returning to the office on Sept. 8.

Week Beginning Aug. 30

<u>Sun. (Aug. 30)</u> 10 AM Worship, Sanctuary 11:15 AM Adult Ed., Lounge 12 PM Sudanese Worship	1 PM Hearts & Hands, Library 5:30 PM W3 Wed. Activities, Youth Areas 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
<u>Tues. (Sept. 1)</u> 9:34 AM Staff Meeting, Conference Room 5 PM Adult Ed, Conference Room 5:30 PM Discipleship Task Force, Lounge	<u>Sun. (Sept. 6)</u> 9:30 AM Equal Exchange Coffee Available to Purchase 10 AM Worship, Sanctuary 11:15 AM Adult Ed., Lounge 12 PM Sudanese Worship, Chapel
<u>Wed. (Sept. 2)</u> 10 AM Circle 3, Lounge	<u>Mon. (Sept. 7)</u> Church offices will be closed for Labor Day.

Worship services are available on-line at this link:

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