

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

September 6, 2026

15th Sunday after Pentecost



“The Israelites are eating the Passover Lamb,” Mark Chagall, 1931.

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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 "Sing Out with Joy to God Our Strength"

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

***Call to Worship** (based on Psalm 149:1, 4, 5)

Deacon Claire Titus

One: Praise the Lord!

All: Sing God's praise in the assembly of the faithful, for the Lord takes pleasure in the people.

One: Let the faithful sing for joy.

***Hymn #63**

The Lord Is God

***Call to Confession**

Deacon Claire Titus

***Prayer of Confession**

Lord God, while we were still slaves to sin, you died for our salvation. Yet we still worship the false gods of the world, forgetting that you are Lord. Loving worldly wealth, we have not loved you with our whole heart nor loved our neighbors as ourselves. Trusting worldly strength, we have not trusted your word nor followed the Word-made-flesh. Forgiving by worldly norms, we have not shown mercy to others as you have shown mercy to us. Forgive us yet again, we pray in Christ's name. 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 #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

Hebrew Scripture

Exodus 12:1-14

O.T. pg. 58

Epistle Reading

Hebrews 9:11-18

N.T. pg. 223

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

Sermon

“The Exodus Saga III: Passover”

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Hymn #52**

When Israel Was in Egypt’s Land

Ministry Architects Update: Discipleship Task Force

Kelly Braswell & Kathy Rohwedder

Invitation to the Offering

Deacon Claire Titus

Offertory Special Music

“Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho”

John Ross and Wes Hansmeyer, Piano Duet

Today’s duet fits perfectly with our Passover theme. It tells the story of how God freed God’s people from slavery in Egypt. This joyful song celebrates God’s faithfulness, showing how God broke down walls and safely led God’s people to the Promised Land.

***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. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Communion Music

Prayer After Communion

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Hymn #56**

Sing Out with Joy to God Our Strength

*Charge & Benediction

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Postlude

"Come Labor On" by Michael Burkhardt

Liturgy Notes and Sources

Today's liturgy is adapted from *Feasting on the Word Words for Worship Year A, Vol 2., Semicontinuous Lectionary*, Rev. Kimberly Bracken Long, Editor.

Thank you to Valerie and Eric Wachter for providing flowers today in honor of Ron Wachter's birthday.

Irish poet Joseph Plunkett participated in the Easter Uprising on Easter Monday 1916 from St. Stephen Green in Dublin, which British forces put down, firing down on the rebels from their occupation of the upper floors of the Shelbourne Hotel. Soon after Plunkett was executed by firing squad at Kilmainham Gaol. Ironically, in 1922, another leader of the uprising, Michael Collins, signed the new constitution of the new Irish Republic in Room 112 of the Shelbourne Hotel.

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 Johnson, Jack Johnson, Josh Whitfield

Ushers: Diana Wild, Debra Schleining, David Anderson, Charles Duncan

Dishwasher: Paul Korslund

Sanctuary Audio and Livestream: Dale Minter

Communion Servers: Sebit Deng, Marijane England, Stephanie Laux, Sarah Baltensperger, Sam Baltensperger, Susie Hughes





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

The week of Sept. 6, 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

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

Oct. 4: Creation Celebration: Crystal Powers, Nebraska Water: Development, Use, and Policy

Explorers Bible 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.

September Artist—Allison Borgschulte

The featured September artist is Allison Borgschulte of Lincoln. She is a multi-disciplinary artist working in glass, fiber art, painting and kaleidoscope making. Her work has been displayed in local, national and internationally juried exhibits, received high honors and is often published. She feels a stirring in her soul when admiring large panels of stained glass in church sanctuaries as well as walks on a forest trail or prairie path. Seeking to combine these spiritual awakenings, she has created detailed studies of botanical subjects and wildlife using traditional glass staining techniques. The techniques utilized are the same methods artisans have used for centuries in Cathedral windows and cultural centers

across the world. With the pieces chosen for our exhibit, Allison strives to honor the God-given beauty of the natural world.



Mission/Outreach is pleased to bring Equal Exchange Coffee and Equal Exchange Organic Chocolate to Westminster friends. We give the opportunity to purchase Equal Exchange products during Fellowship Hour on the first Sunday of each month. Thank you for supporting our ongoing commitment to making these products available.

Many Hands Make Light Work

And so it was when **Presbyterian Women at Westminster**, on August 22 for their annual Kick Off, assembled **750 Period Kits** for their partner in mission, **The Lincoln Hygiene Network**. This year at least 100,000 items will be distributed for girls and women in Lincoln. You can help by filling the green barrel by the office door with more feminine products, body products, hair products, and dental products during September and October. **WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER.**

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 on 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.

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 (Sept. 6 to Sept. 12):

South Street

- Preschool - Cut Euonymus down to 6 inches
- Playground - Remove weeds
- Francy's Prairie - Remove weeds and clean up area

Ryons Street

- From Driveway to 27th Street - rake up Linden Seeds

Strip 4 upper

- Library side - Cut down and remove 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!

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.

Adult Ed. Recordings Available

Did you know that you can access recordings of some of the previous Adult Ed. classes on WPC's website? The link is in the weekly eVine that comes out on Wed. Otherwise, this is the link to copy into your browser: <https://westminsterlincoln.org/adult-education/>

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 return to the office on Sept. 9.

Week Beginning Sept. 6

<u>Sun. (Sept. 6)</u> 9:30 AM Equal Exchange Coffee Available to Purchase 10 AM Worship with Communion, Sanctuary Faith Village 12 PM Sudanese Worship, Chapel <u>Mon. (Sept. 7)</u> Church offices will be closed for Labor Day. <u>Tues. (Sept. 8)</u> 10 AM Circle 5, Lounge 5 PM Building & Grounds, Lounge 5:30 PM Worship, Music & Fine Arts, FH-C	6 PM Mission & Social Witness, Lounge 6:30 PM Circle 4, Parlor <u>Wed. (Sept. 9)</u> 1 PM Hearts & Hands, Library 5:30 PM W3 Wed. Activities, Youth Areas 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary <u>Thurs. (Sept. 10)</u> 6:30 PM Pack 61 Scouts Committee Meeting, Youth Café <u>Sun. (Sept. 13)</u> 10 AM Worship, Sanctuary, Faith Village 11:15 AM Adult Ed., Lounge 12 PM Sudanese Worship, Chapel
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Worship services are available on-line at this link:

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