Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

October 18, 2026

20th 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 "Gather Us In" by Jeffrey Honoré

Welcome Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

***Call to Worship** (Based on Psalm 96) Deacon Claire Titus

One: Sing to the Lord a new song! Everyone, even the rocks and trees, sing!
Many: Let us shout out in praise!
One: God does great things for us. See God's amazing works all around us.
Many: Great is the Lord!
One: Tell of God's wonders! Share stories of God's glory.
Many: Let us worship the Lord!

***Hymn #399** **God Welcomes All**

This piece will be repeated six times. If you picked up a percussion instrument, you are invited to play on rounds two, three, and four. The first will be piano and guitar only. The last will be a cappella.

***Call to Confession** Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Prayer of Confession**

Almighty God, we confess that we have not been the faithful disciples you call us to be. We have not remembered who we are. We are distracted by glitter and gold. We turn a blind eye to systems that cause harm and suffering. We close our hearts and imagine empathy to be weakness. Forgive us Lord. Remind us that we are yours. Give us the courage to show mercy and grace in a world in deep need. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

***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 #829** **My Faith Looks Up to Thee (verse 1)**

My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray; take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day be wholly thine!

***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 33:12-23	O.T. pg. 80
Epistle Reading	1 Thessalonians 1:1-9	N.T. pg. 203

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

Sermon "Our Values: Radical Welcome" Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #435** **There's a Wideness in God's Mercy**

Prayers of the People / Lord's Prayer Deacon Claire Titus

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.

Finance Update Elder Marijane England

Invitation to the Offering Deacon Claire Titus

Offertory Choir Anthem *Holy Holy Holy* arranged by Mark Hayes

Today's anthem reminds us that true holiness is not exclusive. Instead, it is "merciful and mighty"—a love big enough to embrace everyone. As we focus on radical welcome, let this music inspire us to open our doors and hearts wide for 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Hymn #547** **Go My Children, With My Blessing**

***Charge & Benediction** Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude "God of Grace and God of Glory" by J. Bert. Carlson

Liturgy Notes and Sources

Today's liturgy is adapted from The Presbyterian Outlook: Order of Worship for Sunday, October 18, 2026 by Rev. Rae Watson, Associate Pastor at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Staunton, Virginia.

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
Music: Wes Hansmeyer, Westminster Choir | John Ross, Organist
Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere
Greeters: Paul Korslund, Janice Rohwedder
Ushers: Leslie Miner, Debra Schleining, Joyce Douglas, Marijane England
Dishwashers: Barbara and David Arunski
Sanctuary Audio and Livestream: Dale Minter



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

The week of Oct. 18, 2026

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

Adult Education: Lenses that Distort Scripture; Lenses that Reveal Scripture

Today— Lenses that Distort Scripture: Moralism and Hierarchy

Upcoming:
October 25: Lenses that Reveal Scripture: Context and the Jesus Lens

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Explorers Bible Study of Romans
Explorers Study of Romans meets on Mondays through Nov. at the church library at 11 AM. You are invited.

Confirmation Kick-Off Session
Sunday, October 25
11:15a – 12:00p in Fellowship Hall
For youth 9th-grade-and-up who have not been confirmed.
A parent/guardian is encouraged to attend with youth. We will have some icebreakers, snacks, and our first session, "What is Confirmation?" After the Kick-Off session, the class will meet at the same time on Nov. 1, 8, 15, Feb. 7, 21, 28, and April 4, 11. Confirmation Sunday will be at the 10 am service on May 9. Contact Trish Souliere (trish@westminsterlincoln.org) to 'confirm' your participation in the class and/or RSVP for this session!

Let's Fill the Green Barrel Again
The Lincoln Hygiene Network Barrel has been filled and emptied twice in September with over 1,600 personal care items available to our Lincoln area neighbors. We will continue to collect new and unopened hygiene items during OCTOBER. Consider your life without a toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, and shampoo. Every item collected helps someone in our community to improve their health, dignity, and wellbeing. Thank you from Presbyterian Women for your generosity. Dental Products…Bar Soap & Deodorant…Hair Products…Feminine Hygiene Products

Back Pew Gardeners
YOUR HELP NEEDED

WHEN: Saturday - Oct 24
TIME: 9:00am until 12:00pm
REASON: Fall cleanup
If you have time on Oct 24 come and give us a hand getting our church grounds ready for winter.
No experience is necessary—just bring your willingness to help! If you have gardening gloves &/or hand tools, feel free to bring them.
Questions:
Call Tom Pappas (402) 202-4454 or
Gary Haller (817) 757-2980
Thank you for helping keep our church grounds beautiful!

October Prairie Readers
Prairie Readers will meet on Wednesday October 21 at 1 PM in the Lounge. It is our privilege to have Pat Leech as our guest. She will review the American Library Association Notable Books for 2026. She promises to have some unexpected titles too. Everyone is welcome.

Pianist Needed for Preschool Program
Preschool is looking for a pianist to play for the Christmas Program on Dec. 17. Must be able to attend 2-3 morning practices during the week of the program. Contact Laurie McCubbin, Preschool Director, at 402-475-6702 if interested in helping out!

New Staff Email
Dylan Douglas, our Executive Administrator, will be transitioning to the email dylan@westminsterlincoln.org. Although Dylan will still be fulfilling the communications role for the time being, please use the new email to contact her directly.
Ladies Night Out
Tuesday, October 27 @ 5p
Billy's Restaurant
Join us this month at Billy's Restaurant. As always, it promises to be a fun time of catching up. Feel free to bring a friend! Westminster Presbyterian Church Ladies' Night Out @ Billy's 1301 H St; Tuesday, October 27 , from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Nader and his team serve a variety of heavy appetizers family style. Our cost is $17/per person, additional cost of your drink, tax, and tip. Feel free to order off their menu to meet your dietary needs or preferences. We visit local restaurants to share in conversation and in a good meal. We have no agenda; our

primary goal is to get-to-know one another better in a small group setting. We would love to have a seat at the table for you; please RSVP to robynu2@hotmail.com by Sunday, October 25th.Questions or suggestions please email, text, or call Robyn 937-935-6858. We want to have plenty of seating for all. We hope you can join us!

Dudes Night Out
Tuesday, October 27, 2026 - 5pm-7pm
Westminster Men
Join us for a good meal and lots of fellowship at the The Mettle Grill - 5500 S. 56th St. There is no agenda; the primary goal is to get-to-know one another better in a small group setting. We would love to have you join us at the table; please RSVP to **garyhaller70@att.net** by Sunday, Oct. 25th. If you have questions or suggestions please email, text, or call Gary Haller at (817) 757-2980.

KidCon II: Cake, Costumes, & Major Discoveries | October 25, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM
Faith has never been this much fun! Join us for KidCon II, an exciting adventure where kids can grow in faith and make lasting memories.
What to expect:

- The Great Disguise: Wear your Halloween costume or borrow one from our costume closet.
- Play "Is It Cake?" Can you spot the real deal from the optical illusion?
- Meet Special Guests: Step into the stories of 3 Bible-times outcasts who met Jesus.
- Discover that God doesn't judge by the outside. He sees you, loves you, and welcomes you in!

Spooktacular Trunk or Treat | Oct 28, 5:30 PM-7:00 PM
Believe it or not, Spooktacular is coming soon! All Cowboys, princesses, and creatures of the night are invited to slither, shuffle, or ride on down to Westminster to play games, trick or treat, for a frightfully fun evening.
You can help us make this event possible!

- Provide donation bags of candy, packaged snacks, and/or any small handouts for the children. Look for the collection box at the top of the steps by the East entrance.
- Wear a costume and decorate a table in Fellowship Hall with a fun theme then pass out treats to the children. You will need to arrive by 4 pm to select a spot and decorate your table.

Questions? Contact Trish at trish@westminsterlincoln.org or by text or phone, 402-570-0163.

Week Beginning Oct. 18

Sun. (Oct. 18)	6 PM Communications and Outreach Committee, Library
10 AM Worship, Faith Village	**Wed. (Oct. 21)**
11:15 AM Adult Ed., Lounge	1 PM Hearts & Hands, Library
12 PM Sudanese Worship, Chapel	1 PM Prairie Readers, Lounge
Mon. (Oct. 19)	5:30 PM W3 Youth Activities
11 AM The Explorers—Study of Romans, Library	6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
6 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal, First Plymouth	**Sat. (Oct. 24)**
Tues. (Oct. 20)	9 AM Fall Cleanup
10 AM Faith and Cancer Support Group, Library	**Sun. (Oct. 25)**
10 AM PW Coordinating Team, Lounge	10 AM Worship, Faith Village
	10 AM KidCon II
	11:15 AM Adult Ed., Lounge
	12 PM Sudanese Worship, Chapel

Worship services are available on-line at this link:
https://www.youtube.com/@WestminsterLincoln/streams