Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

November 15, 2026

Commitment Sunday



*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

"Sunday Slacks" from *Lyrical Studies* by Nathan Ost; Matt Jackson, trumpet

Welcome Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

***Call to Worship** Deacon Claire Titus

One: We lift up our eyes to the Lord!

Many: Knowing our creator meets us in this time of worship.

One: We lift up our eyes to the Lord!

Many: Trusting our redeemer to meet us with forgiveness and renewal.

One: We lift up our eyes to the Lord!

Many: Relying on our sustainer to build us up for lives of love and service.

One: Let us worship the Lord with hope and commitment

***Hymn #39** **Great is Thy Faithfulness**

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

***Prayer of Confession**

Loving God, you are generous in the many ways you have gifted us. We have so many blessings be grateful for. Yet we are often motivated by fear, rather than our trust in you. We hold onto what we have, afraid we will never have enough. We become focused on protection rather than your call to welcome and love others. We see our blessings as our own, rather than seeing your care in each gift. Forgive us, God of grace. Forgive us and restore us to your vision for the world, we pray.

***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 #643** **Now Thank We All Our God (verse 1)**

Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

***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 Rev. Chris Peters

Scripture

Hebrew Scripture	Psalm 123:1-4	O.T. pg. 572
Gospel Reading	Matthew 25:14-30	N.T. pg. 28

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

Sermon "The Church Redefined and Always Redefining" Rev. Chris Peters

Choral Anthem Tune My Heart to Sing Thy Grace by Mark Hayes
Matt Jackson, trumpet

Connection to Message: *As we talk about The Church Redefined and Always Redefining, may this music remind us that just like needing to tune an instrument to make a beautiful sound, we, the church, must keep changing and growing (tuning our hearts) to follow God and live out God's purpose for us in the world.*

Stewardship Moment Elder Sarah Baltensperger

Invitation to Commitment Deacon Claire Titus

***Hymn #708** **We Give Thee But Thine Own**

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

All: 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.

***Hymn #301** **Let Us Build a House**

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

Postlude "The Solid Rock" by Larry Shackley

Liturgy Notes and Sources

Today's liturgy is adapted from Feasting on the Word: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 2; Rev. Dr. Kimberly Bracken Long, Editor and the Presbyterian Outlook: Order of Worship 25th Sunday after Pentecost: November 15, 2026, by Rev. Tara Bulger.

Trish Souliere and Mike Fegan have provided the flowers for worship today in loving memory of their parents, Frank and Connie Fegan, on the occasion of their sixty-first anniversary.

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: Joyce Douglas, Marilyn Hood, Josh Whitfield
Ushers: Leslie Miner, Carol Shelbourn, Barbara Arunksi, Marijane England
Dishwashers: Tom Pappas and Laurel Van Ham
Sanctuary Audio and Livestream: Dale Minter



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

The week of November 15, 2026

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

Adult Education:
November 15: No Adult Ed (Stated Congregational Meeting after Service then officer training with lunch)

Upcoming:
November 22: A Season of Giving - Peg Connealy, Co-president of the Heritage League of Lincoln, will speak about their community service activities.
November 29: No Adult Ed, Thanksgiving weekend.

Stated Congregational Meeting – Sunday, November 15th @ 11:15 AM

Explorers Bible Study
Join friends Monday mornings at 11 during Advent to explore with the prophets the coming of the Messiah. "Witness to the Light" features the words and stories of prophetic figures in Scripture, from major prophets like Isaiah, Jeremiah, and John the Baptist to lesser-heard voices like Miriam, Joel, Ezekiel, and Anna. Dates: November 30, December 7, 14, and 21. For information and to order study book email edavis3655@gmail.com.

Upcoming Confirmation Sessions
Confirmation class will meet at the same time (11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.) on Nov. 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!

November Prairie Readers
Prairie Readers will meet Wednesday, November 18 at 1 PM in the lounge. This is a chance to nominate a favorite book as we select titles for 2027. This is an important process so please join us.

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!

Pie and Fellowship | November 18 | 6:00 PM-7:00 PM
Kick off the holiday season with this culinary cornucopia. We share a special meal of delectable soups before moving on to dessert. You are invited to bring your favorite dessert to share and to sample the wonderful desserts brought by other families! We will provide whipped topping.

Hanging of the Greens | Nov 28, 10:00 AM
The Youth Group will help dress the church for the holiday season on Saturday, Nov. 28. Refreshments will be served after the decorating is completed.

Advent Candle Lighting
Westminster Families, Households, and Friends,
You are invited to help us celebrate the joyful anticipation of the season of Advent in worship! Each Sunday in Advent starting November 29th, along with both Christmas Eve services, we will have a household, family, or friend-group light the designated candles on our Advent Wreath in worship. This includes 1-2 people reading a Call to Worship for the lighting. Should you sign up, Pastor Chris will reach out to share a script and instructions at least seven days prior to your chosen date. Thank you for the consideration! If you sign-up and then cannot participate as the date nears due to change of plans, illness, etc., please text Pastor Chris at (402) 480-6068.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rJDyZ73fvl44v0o1fvFK1Eyq014nmAm4_7Jim1hIS8/edit?usp=sharing

Note about Fall Clean Up:
Fun fact: Steve Hughes's leaf vacuum collects the equivalent of 40 bags of leaves when it's full. Last Saturday the collection device was emptied 5 times. Do the math. The bags cost $3+. The "200 bags of leaves" are now at Tom Welstead's becoming the foundation of a massive compost pile. And $600+ wasn't spent on leaf bags. A win for creation.

Ladies Night Out | Monday, November 30 | Venue Restaurant and Lounge | 5 - 7 p.m.
Join us this month at Venue Lounge. As always, it promises to be a fun time of catching up. Feel free to bring a friend!

Dudes Night Out | Monday, November 30, 2026 | 5pm | Rosie's Sports Bar & Grill
Join us for a good meal and lots of fellowship at Rosie's Sports Bar & Grill - 1502 Center Park Road. 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, Nov. 29th. If you have questions or suggestions please email, text, or call Gary Haller at (817) 757-2980.

IT'S A BIRTHDAY PARTY !!!!!!
When: December 6, 2026, during and after the 10:00am service
Why: To celebrate our Sanctuary turning 100 years old
Historic memorabilia: church blueprints, pictures and other artifacts will be on display in Fellowship Hall
Details: Potluck menu - Pork loin main dish, tea, coffee and water provided; sides and desserts to be provided by our congregational members.(members with last name starting with A-O bring a side dish and P-Z a dessert dish)
Setting for lunch: Cole Hall (the original dining room)
For fun: Men and Women wear hats from the 1920's (an era where hats were worn to church). Check your closets, there will be some loaners provided.
Original recipes: A variety of original recipes would be an added attraction. Check your family recipes. Susie Hughes has an original 1950 church cookbook and is willing to share.

Week Beginning Nov. 15

Sun. (Nov. 15)	**Wed. (Nov. 18)**
10 AM Worship, Faith Village	1 PM Hearts & Hands, Library
11:15 AM Adult Ed., Lounge	1 PM Prairie Readers, Lounge
11:15 AM Confirmation Class	5:30 PM Pie and Fellowship Night
11:15 AM Stated Congregational Meeting	6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal
12 PM Sudanese Worship, Chapel	**Thurs. (Nov. 19)**
Mon. (Nov. 16)	7 PM Camera Club, Lounge
11 AM The Explorers—Study of Romans, Library	**Fri. (Nov. 20)**
6 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal, First Plymouth	4:30 PM YAAL Performance, FH
Tues. (Nov. 17)	**Sat. (Nov. 21)**
10 AM Faith and Cancer Support Group, Library	9 AM YAAL Performance, FH
	Sun. (Nov. 15)
	10 AM Worship, Faith Village
	12 PM Sudanese Worship, Chapel
	4 PM YAAL Performance, FH

Worship services are available on-line at this link:

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