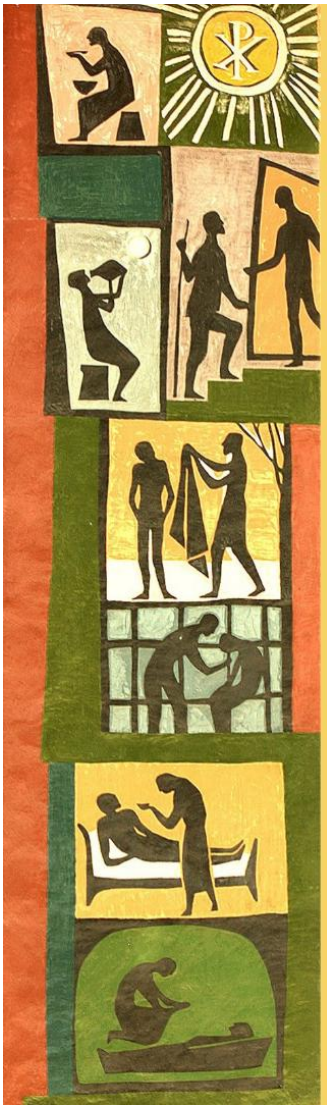
Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

November 22, 2026

Reign of Christ Sunday



Jesus: Our "Why"

"Seven Works of Mercy,"
Today's bulletin cover mural is from Art in the Christian Tradition,
a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library,
Nashville, TN. [retrieved November 18, 2026].

*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 "Now We Thank We All Our God" by Paul Manz

Welcome Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

***Call to Worship** (Psalm 100:1-2, 4-5) Jaime Hemmerling

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
All: Worship the Lord with gladness;
One: Come into God's presence with singing.
All: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving and God's courts with praise.
One: Give thanks to God, bless God's name.
All: For the Lord is good;
One: God's steadfast love endures forever,
All: and God's faithfulness to all generations.

***Hymn #263** **All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name**

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

***Litany Prayer of Confession**

One: If we had known it was you, Lord,
All: we would have done something different.
One: If we had known if was you, Lord,
All: we would have given you food.
One: If we had known it was you, Lord,
All: we would have taken you in.
One: If we had known it was you, Lord,
All: we would not have passed you by. But we did. Too often we make excuses for not taking care of each other. We have ignored your commandments to love and care. We do not deserve forgiveness, but we ask for it anyway, and ask you to help us change our ways.

***Time of Silent Confession** Rev. Chris Peters

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

***Declaration of Forgiveness** Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

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	Amos 5:21-24	O.T. pg. 854
Gospel Reading	Matthew 25:31-46	N.T. pg. 29

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

Sermon "Jesus: Our 'Why" Rev. Chris Peters

Hymn #268 Crown Him with Many Crowns

Invitation to the Offering Jaime Hemmerling

Offertory Choir Anthem **Amazing Grace arranged by Jack Schrader**

Connection to Message: In observance of the Reign of Christ, we are reminded by the words of "Amazing Grace" that God's divine grace triumphs over human failures. The hymn bears witness to a Savior who seeks the lost, offers forgiveness, and leads us into new life.

***Doxology Hymn #606**

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 Jaime Hemmerling

The Lord's Supper Rev. Chris Peters

Invitation

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.

Blessing and Sharing of the Elements Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Communion Music

Prayer after Communion Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Hymn #187** **Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us**

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

Postlude "Jesus Shall Reign" by Gilbert Martin

Liturgy Notes and Sources

Today's liturgy is adapted from The Call to Worship Journal: November 22, 2026 – Reign of Christ. The Call to Worship Journal is a publication of the PCUSA's Office of Theology & Worship and the Presbyterian Association of Musicians.

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: Thom & Jack Johnson, Josh Swanson
Ushers: Rohn Loyd, Joyce Douglas, Bruce Sheffield, Margaret Sheffield
Communion Servers: Marybell Avery, Sebit Deng, Bob Leavitt, Sarah Baltensperger, Sam Baltensperger
Dishwashers: Lisa and Steve McConnell
Sanctuary Audio and Livestream: Dale Minter



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

The week of November 22, 2026

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

Adult Education:
November 22: A Season of Giving - Peg Connealy, Co-president of the Heritage League of Lincoln, will speak about their community service activities.

Upcoming:
November 29: No Adult Ed, Thanksgiving weekend.

Giving in Gratitude: We are Better Together!
Westminster, we are better together with you! As we near the end of 2026 and start of a new year, our Finance Committee and leadership have two invitations for you...

1. If you pledged to support our budget for 2026 but have not fulfilled your pledge, we hope you will do so before the end of the year! This year has seen a new vision emerging for our church, with more to come in 2027! If you sent in a pledge card last year, that means we structured our budget with your commitment included. We are grateful for the strong support this year!
2. If you have not yet made a commitment to our 2027 Annual Giving Campaign, we invite you to prayerfully consider doing so before the end of the year! Whether it's your first time or fiftieth time, your "pledge" commitment makes a difference in how we plan staffing, mission, worship, new discipleship opportunities, a new pathway for visitors and members - and more - in the coming year! You may find the Annual Giving packet online here:

https://westminsterlincoln.org/special-programs-events/

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 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!

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!

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.

Fifth Sunday Food Pantry Drive | Sunday, Nov. 29
Please help us fill the pantry this month with peanut butter and canned soup. We appreciate your generosity to our food pantry!

ANGEL TREE
Once again Westminster is partnering with the Salvation Army Angel Tree Project. Christmas and holiday gifts from the Angel Tree are given to children from low income families. Gifts, toys, clothing, and much more are provided for children from infant to age 12. Starting Nov. 16, look for the Angel Tree in the reception desk area. Pick a tag from the tree, shop. Return the unwrapped gifts, with the tag attached to the bag, placing them under the tree. Gifts must be returned to the church **no later than Dec. 11**. Past that date you can take the gifts directly to the Salvation Army. Most people, especially children, look forward to receiving clothing and gifts over the holidays. Will you be someone's Angel?
-Mission and Social Witness

Fifth Sunday Pantry Drive- Sunday, November 29
Let's stock our food pantry with peanut butter and soup this month. We appreciate your support!

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/1rJDyZ7-3fvl44v0o1fvFK1Eyq014nmAm4_7Jim1hlS8/edit?usp=sharing**

Ladies Night Out | Monday, November 30 | Venue Restaurant and Lounge | 5 p.m. - 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. 22

Sun. (Nov. 22)	**Wed. (Nov. 25)**
10 AM Worship, Faith Village	1 PM Hearts & Hands, Library
11:15 AM Adult Ed., Lounge	5:30 PM W3 Activities
12 PM Sudanese Worship, Chapel	6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal
12 PM YAAL Performance, FH	**Thurs. (Nov. 26)**
Mon. (Nov. 23)	Church closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
11 AM The Explorers—Study of Romans, Library	**Fri. (Nov. 27)**
6 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal, First Plymouth	Church closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
Tues. (Nov. 24)	**Sat. (Nov. 28)**
5:30 PM Deacons Meeting, Lounge	10 AM Hanging of the Greens
	Sun. (Nov. 29)
	10 AM Worship, Faith Village
	12 PM Sudanese Worship, Chapel

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