



First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

430 S. 16th St. Lincoln, NE 68508 402.475.4289

Weekly Worship

love all • live spiritually • rejoice in hope • show hospitality

Rev. Dr. Karen Moritz, Pastor
Kelly Tyrrell, Church Administrator
Mark W. Miller, Director of Music Ministries

Sara Lugn, Stephen Ministry Leader
www.fcclincoln.org
info@fcclincoln.org

Week of June 7, 2020



Worship Playlist

Unfortunately, one piece of the worship service that we cannot replicate on paper is our wonderful music ministry. Below are links to the songs for this week's worship and reflection. If you have access to the internet, you can type in the links below - OR - you can type the name of each song into YouTube's search engine to enjoy the music this week.

Holy, Holy, Holy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fH6tbslLEaE>

Performed by Neil Rondina

Psalm 8: Word for Word

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahxPqeZc4zg>

Performed by Zac Fitzsimmons Music

Public Worship WILL be held at 10:30 am Sunday morning.

If you are not quite ready to join us for public worship, we ask that you follow along with this printed service. Find a comfortable place to be, relax your body, and calm your mind. Try to come into a prayerful mindset. As you pray the community prayer, remember, your fellow congregants at First Christian will be praying this along with you. Feel free to keep this prayer to pray all week.

Community Prayer

O God, we come to you this day in prayer with our hearts and our world in turmoil. We pray to you for the waters of justice and the streams of righteousness to come flowing over our country. Now, more than ever before, we pray for the courage to love our neighbor, especially our neighbors who do not look like us or love like us. Prepare in us a clean heart, O God, that we may face this day, face the news cycle, face the sirens, and face the night. Come bring your peace to us, through the presence of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

Check out our weekly video at www.fcclincoln.org, First Christian's Facebook page, or search for First Christian Church, Lincoln, Nebraska on YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVeJAW8Dmqv8Jmk5rzj43g>

Even if you are worshipping from home, please continue your regular giving to the church in addition to your faith giving. The FCC office is accepting checks at 430 S. 16th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508. We can also mail you a debit authorization form to do automatic withdrawals. Finally, there is a "GIVE" button on the top right-hand side of the fcclincoln.org website to make an online donation via PayPal.

Scripture Readings

Psalm 8

¹ O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

² Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

³ When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;

⁴ what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

⁵ Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.

⁶ You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet,

⁷ all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,

⁸ the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

⁹ O LORD, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Matthew 28:16-20

¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

Reflection

“Meditation for Trinity Sunday”

I think this short passage from Matthew has one of the best lines of scriptures, in verse 17 we have these words: “When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.” Here we see the very human side of the Disciples, they worshiped and doubted. As people of faith it’s so tempting to believe that these are two mutually exclusive experiences. In the midst of all that has been happening in our city and our world, our struggles with a world-wide pandemic and now the issues of racism and violence, we are invited to ponder this juxtaposition.

Dealing with these issues invites us to ponder more deeply the idea of worship. As we make plans to resume public worship and continue our online presence, what does it mean to worship? The Greek here is very striking; the word translated as worship means to show reverence and pay homage by kissing the hand, or among Oriental cultures like the ancient Persians, to fall upon the knees and touch the ground with the forehead. In the New Testament times this word meant showing reverence by kneeling or prostration. It could also mean to do homage or make obeisance, whether in order to express respect or to make supplication.

So, many traditions today still express reverence for God by physically kneeling or prostrating themselves as a part of worship and prayer. For many of us this may not be done with our bodies, but we are still invited to pay homage by mentally and spiritually making ourselves vulnerable before God. So, any act in which we present ourselves to God can be worship.

We are used to doing this in public worship on Sundays, but, in these days we have had to explore other ways to worship and present ourselves to God. We have made use of the technology available to us to facilitate this process. Whether one chooses to worship here in person or online, the important issue is that we present ourselves to God with respect and love.

We know that the Disciples came to the mountain to meet Jesus and that they did this with reverence. They physically, and I suspect mentally and spiritually, laid themselves before God. As they did this they also did so with a sense of doubt, or as the Greek says, they waived. In these days, there are probably many of us who have our doubts. We may even have a sense that our faith waivers or seems a bit shaky. If the Disciples can worship and doubt at the same time perhaps we can do so as well.

Although some doubted, and we may have our own doubts as well, Jesus reminded them, and us; “And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Jesus doesn’t tell us that God will only be with us in the midst of certainty. Jesus tells us that He is with us, always. We are invited to come to God with all our struggles and our doubts, and, the critical component is the fact that we come to God with reverence in worship and prayer.

May we come before God, ready to prostrate ourselves and share our full humanness, doubts and all.

AMEN

Prayers & Praises

June 7, 2020

Spiritual Practice

In Sight of Prayer

In Our Church Family:

- William Deterding
- Betty Ferguson
- Arlene Heimer
- Marvin Thurber
- Roger & Jessica Vocasek
- Scott Dietrick

Relatives:

- Friends and Family of Vic Burgess
- Friends and Family of Dick & Roxie Pickel
- Rick Pickel, going back in for treatments, son of Dick & Roxie Pickel
- Herb, prayers for health and wellness, cousin of Tom Mason
- Stephanie, prayers for upcoming surgery on a frontal lobe tumor, cousin of Vince Ortega

Friends:

- Pam Larsen, continuing to fight cancer, friend of Marcia Foster
- Peggy Westburg, prayers during chemotherapy, friend of Lindsay Swanson
- Karen, during cancer treatments, co-worker of Rhonda Ball
- Dianna Clark, prayers for health concerns and upcoming tests
- Prayers for a co-worker, who was paralyzed in an accident, from Carla Pinneo
- Dennis, battling cancer, friend of the Effle Family
- Will Barrett, for healing with gut issues, high-school aged neighbor of the Blossers

Our Timothy's:

- Bruce Frogge at Cypress Creek CC in Spring, TX
- Glenda Dietrich Moore, Creative Arts Ministry in Lincoln, NE

In the Nebraska Region:

- Cotner College Education Lay Ministries

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Rosalind Gnatt serving in Germany

Find more information and stories about our Global Ministry partners at www.globalministries.org



We live in a very visual culture. From billboards and television sets to posters and movies, our lives are full of images that shape information and consumer patterns. At times these pictures may seem overwhelming, but quite often we are hardly aware of their presence, so common are they in our lives. The issue is not about quantity, however, but also quality.

Visual images have always been a way the Christian faith has been understood and shared, from stained glass windows to Orthodox icons to the colors of the liturgical year. In what ways might the images around us be a resource for prayer?

Take time to really look at the images around you, from paintings, posters, and photographs on the walls, to pictures in newspapers and magazines. Enter into that time with prayerful expectation. Be prepared to stop at an image that you find particularly striking. Do not rush to have someone else explain what you are seeing, whether by asking another's opinion or reading a caption or title.

What details do you observe? What thoughts, emotions, or connections are raised? What might God be trying to communicate to you through this picture: an invitation or a word of encouragement? A call to confession or a greater commitment?

Upon spending reflective time with an image, how might you respond to it? Consider a written response of poetry or free verse. It may be that drawing, painting, or another visual form seems most appropriate. Or, an act of justice or mercy may be the faithful response.

Possible Images:

