



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

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Week of June 14, 2020



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 who sees and hears us, we pray to you together as a community to continue to hear our prayers. Life in our world is confusing right now, there are so many voices swirling around from every direction, and its becoming harder and harder to know what is true. But, the one thing we can know is true is you and your word. We know it is true that you hear our cries, you feel our pain, and you walk alongside us during our times of trouble. We know this through your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. 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>

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.

I Love You Lord

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SYV0ce3ybEA>

Performed by Maranatha

Unashamed

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MYnu0CwibT8>

Performed by Starfield

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 116

¹ I love the LORD, because he has heard
my voice and my supplications.

² Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as
long as I live.

³ The snares of death encompassed
me;
the pangs of Sheol laid hold
on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.

⁴ Then I called on the name of
the LORD:
'O LORD, I pray, save my life!'

⁵ Gracious is the LORD, and right-
eous;
our God is merciful.

⁶ The LORD protects the simple;
when I was brought low, he
saved me.

⁷ Return, O my soul, to your rest,
for the LORD has dealt
bountifully with you.

⁸ For you have delivered my soul
from death,
my eyes from tears,
my feet from stumbling.

⁹ I walk before the LORD
in the land of the living.

¹⁰ I kept my faith, even when I said,
'I am greatly afflicted';

¹¹ I said in my consternation,
'Everyone is a liar.'

¹² What shall I return to the LORD
for all his bounty to me?

¹³ I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD,

¹⁴ I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.

¹⁵ Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his faithful ones.

¹⁶ O LORD, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of
your serving-maid.

You have loosed my bonds.

¹⁷ I will offer to you a thanksgiving
sacrifice
and call on the name of the LORD.

¹⁸ I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people,

¹⁹ in the courts of the house of
the LORD,

in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Praise the LORD!

Reflection

“Meditation for 2nd Sunday After Pentecost”

In one of my favorite books on the Psalms, *Longing for God: Prayer & the Rhythms of Life* by Glandion Carney & William Long, the chapter for this Psalm is entitled “The Joy of Being Heard.” As I read this it struck me how appropriate this chapter heading is in these days! Between the pandemic and the protests, people want to be heard. As we find ourselves more and more isolated by physical distancing, there seems to be a real hunger for many of us to be seen and heard. This also seems to be a central issue for those protesting, the desire to be truly seen, heard, and valued. Carney and Long point out how important it is for us to be truly heard. When we are genuinely heard we are valued. Our experiences may not be shared by others, but when we are heard, those experiences are valued.

The Psalmist reminds us of the value of being truly heard by God. The Psalmist begins by saying: “I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.” This powerful experience of being heard by God brings the Psalmist, and hopefully us, to a point of praise and joy. Such an experience also opens us up to the desire to truly hear and listen to others. Just as God values us enough to hear our voice, we come to realize that God hears the voices of all others. Carney

and Long lift up three key words: love, heard, and call. For God, these three words are in the proper order; love, heard, and call. However, for us they fall in the reverse order; we call upon God who hears us and in that process, shows us love.

The Psalmist goes on to beautifully express the human condition by saying: “I suffered distress and anguish. Then I called on the name of the Lord: ‘O Lord, I pray, save my life!’” (Verses 3-4) We do not know what specific struggles were faced by the author of this Psalm, but we can gather that they were serious, even life threatening. In my mind, this is part of the lasting power of these passages of scripture; they speak to us no matter the specifics of our own situation. Since they were meant to be part of corporate worship there is also a communal aspect to these prayers. Carney and Long also remind us that we need not be eloquent or wordy in our prayers. Like the Psalmist we can simply pray “O Lord, I pray, save my life!”

Whether we cry out to God as individuals, communities, or nations, God hears our voice. God’s love impels us to hear the voices of one another too. May we find, and share, the joy that comes from truly being heard by one another and by God.

AMEN

Prayers & Praises

June 14, 2020

In Our Church Family:

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

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:

- Lincoln FCC and Pastor Karen Moritz

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Bosela Eale serving in Kenya

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



Spiritual Practice

Scribble Drawing

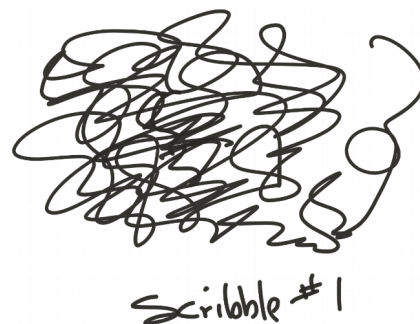
WELCOME OUR GOD WHO IS EVER WITH US.
OFFER A PRAYER.
CLOSE YOUR EYES, CLEAR YOUR MIND, RELAX YOUR BODY.
OPEN YOUR EYES.
ALLOW THE MATERIALS AND COLORS TO CHOOSE YOU.

In one continuous motion, draw a loose scribble on your paper. Allow the line to travel around and overlap in places.

You may do this with your eyes closed. You may try this with your non-dominant hand.

Stop and gaze at your scribble, perhaps placing it a distance away. Watch for images or objects to emerge. With a darker pen, go over the lines that have meaning. Add additional lines if you wish. Copy over just the lines that have meaning on another sheet of paper if you wish. Add color to sections.

On the back, write down anything of meaning and date the work. Give it a title.



Contributed by Mary Mohlke, adapted from *Drawing to God* by Jeri Gerding.