



# First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

430 S. 16<sup>th</sup> St. Lincoln, NE 68508 402.475.4289

## Weekly Worship

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

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**Week of October 24, 2021**



### Call to Worship

Feel free to follow along with our Call to Worship from today's live-streamed worship service.

**One:** With our lips and with our hearts:

**Many:** We bless God in every moment of our lives.

**One:** With our ears and with our hearts:

**Many:** We will hear the cries of our siblings in every broken place.

**One:** With every gift and with our hearts:

**Many:** We will serve God and all God's children with every moment of our lives.

Public Worship WILL be held at 10:30 am Sunday morning. If you are not quite ready to join us for public worship, we invite you to follow along with this printed service.

### Community Prayer

Why is it, God, that even though we know you know our every struggle, we feel the shame of having needs? Why do we fight our vulnerabilities? Why are we convinced that we must go it alone in all that we face? Lord, we come to you in prayer that you may offer us humility, offer us confidence, and most of all embolden our faith in you. It is in you that we should put our trust; so often our own solutions only cause more problems. Give us the patience to reflect on what we really need in this moment, and give us the courage to ask for your help. May we be persistent in our request until we feel your Spirit moving within us, guiding us down the right path. We offer you this prayer for we know that you hear us and long to come to our aid. For your grace, we pray. Amen.

*Check out our weekly video at [www.fcclincoln.org](http://www.fcclincoln.org), First Christian's Facebook page, or search for First Christian Church, Lincoln, Nebraska on YouTube.*

[www.fcclincoln.org/youtube](http://www.fcclincoln.org/youtube)

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: Even if you are worshipping from home, please con-  
: tinue 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 fcclin-  
: coln.org website to make an online donation via  
: PayPal.  
: .....

# Scripture Reading

## *Job 42:1-6, 10-17*

<sup>1</sup> Then Job answered the LORD:

<sup>2</sup> 'I know that you can do all things,  
and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

<sup>3</sup> "Who is this that hides counsel without  
knowledge?"

Therefore I have uttered what I did not under-  
stand,

things too wonderful for me, which I did not  
know.

<sup>4</sup> "Hear, and I will speak;  
I will question you, and you declare to me."

<sup>5</sup> I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,  
but now my eye sees you;

<sup>6</sup> therefore I despise myself,  
and repent in dust and ashes.'

<sup>10</sup> And the LORD restored the fortunes of Job  
when he had prayed for his friends; and  
the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had be-  
fore. <sup>11</sup> Then there came to him all his brothers  
and sisters and all who had known him before,  
and they ate bread with him in his house; they  
showed him sympathy and comforted him for all  
the evil that the LORD had brought upon him;  
and each of them gave him a piece of money and  
a gold ring. <sup>12</sup> The LORD blessed the latter days of  
Job more than his beginning; and he had four-  
teen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a  
thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand don-  
keys. <sup>13</sup> He also had seven sons and three daugh-  
ters. <sup>14</sup> He named the first Jemimah, the second  
Keziah, and the third Keren-happuch. <sup>15</sup> In all the  
land there were no women so beautiful as Job's  
daughters; and their father gave them an inher-  
itance along with their brothers. <sup>16</sup> After this Job  
lived for one hundred and forty years, and saw  
his children, and his children's children, four  
generations. <sup>17</sup> And Job died, old and full of days.

## *Mark 10:46-52*

<sup>46</sup> They came to Jericho. As he and  
his disciples and a large crowd  
were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus  
son of Timaeus, a blind beggar,  
was sitting by the roadside.

<sup>47</sup> When he heard that it was Jesus  
of Nazareth, he began to shout out  
and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have  
mercy on me!' <sup>48</sup> Many sternly or-  
dered him to be quiet, but he cried  
out even more loudly, 'Son of Da-  
vid, have mercy on me!' <sup>49</sup> Jesus  
stood still and said, 'Call him  
here.' And they called the blind  
man, saying to him, 'Take heart;  
get up, he is calling you.' <sup>50</sup> So  
throwing off his cloak, he sprang  
up and came to Jesus. <sup>51</sup> Then Je-  
sus said to him, 'What do you  
want me to do for you?' The blind  
man said to him, 'My teacher, let  
me see again.' <sup>52</sup> Jesus said to him,  
'Go; your faith has made you well.'  
Immediately he regained his sight  
and followed him on the way.

# Reflection

## *Meditation for 22nd Sunday after Pentecost* “Confident and Persistent Before God”

It seems like a lot of people really thought this Bartimaeus guy was a real pain in the “you know what.” He does not come off well in this story. He seems a bit obnoxious and pushy. In this short passage, we learn a lot about this man. Unlike many biblical characters, he had a name. We also learn that he had a father, telling us something of his heritage. We know his profession, a beggar, and we learn he lived in Jericho. So, we might ask “why is he so important?” “Why does he get so much attention from Jesus?” “Why does his story get told?” “What does his story have to teach us today?”

Everyone in this story just wanted to keep him quiet. He was being a bit annoying and embarrassing with all his yelling. But all he wanted was to be heard and seen by Jesus. I suspect those around him were asking, “Who was this guy anyway and who did he think he was that he should be noticed by Jesus?” I bet many of them thought “how rude!” He just kept calling out to Jesus even as others yelled at him to be quiet! I have to admit it, I rather like this guy and I think we could learn a lot from him and his story.

I wonder if he got noticed and the author recorded his name and story because Bartimaeus is intended to be a model of faith. For starters, he was persistent despite the discouragement of others. He also asked for what he needed. He overcame the shame of having needs. Bartimaeus demonstrated a sense of confidence in God, not reliance in himself. Once he had this direct encounter with Jesus, he made a commitment to serve and sacrifice for others. I think Bartimaeus calls out to the best in each of us as individuals and as a community as well.

We also learn a great deal about Jesus.

Jesus took the time to really see and listen to this stranger. Jesus spoke with him and did not make any assumptions about what he sought. Jesus directly asked Bartimaeus, “What do you want me to do for you?”

So, how might the story of Bartimaeus inspire us and deepen our faith? Like Bartimaeus we are invited to be persistent. This may require us to call out for the help we need. It is so tempting to withdraw and keep silent when our needs are not immediately acknowledged or met, but we are encouraged to keep calling out. Hopefully, we will not need to be quite so obnoxious, but our persistence may be seen that way by others. Perhaps the most significant lesson in this story is the reminder to place our hope and confidence in God, not in ourselves. We are shown how to trust in an incarnate God who yearns to respond when we call out. We can learn from the response of Jesus who invites us to take time to see and listen to others. We are also inspired not to make assumptions but to ask questions and listen to the answers.

May we be emboldened like Bartimaeus to be confident and persistent even in the face of discouragement. May we trust in God and hold firm to the reality that we are seen and heard by an incarnate God who knows and embraces our struggles. May this inspire us to serving God and one other.

AMEN



# Prayers & Praises

## October 21, 2021

### In Our Church Family:

- Vic Burgess
- Arlene Heimer
- Harold & Donna Baker
- Marvin Thurber
- Polly Putney
- William Deterding
- Jessica Vocasek

### Relatives:

- Friends and Family of Vic Burgess
- Greg Ogren, *prayers for healing, still ill after surgeries and treatments, son of LaVonne Ogren*
- Mark Carpenter, *with colon cancer, brother of Jill Carpenter and Dick & Roxie Pickel*
- Lorie Chrastel, *Mark Carpenter's fiancée, prayers for recovery from a stroke*
- Roger Christianson, *with stage 4 cancer, father of Brady Christianson*
- Gene Gangwish, *prayers for comfort upon returning home, father of Lindsay Swanson*
- Diane, *praises for recovery, mother of Doug Effle*
- Mother of John Swanson, *prayers for health as she is ill with COVID-19*
- Emily Carpenter, *aunt of Carpenters & Pickels is in hospice due to Covid in May*

### Friends:

- Tallu Schuyler Quinn, *prayers for diagnosis of glioblastoma, friend of Kaleo and D'Arcy Blosser*
- Cedric Gibb, *healing prayers, friend of Cec Burkhart*
- Jim Bottolfsen, *for stage 3 lung cancer, friend of the Vocaseks*
- Carson Mousel, *13-year-old grandson of Bob and Eileen Kunz, from Mildred Brockemeyer*
- Jamin and Hailey, *for the safe delivery of their baby girl, from Tony Flack*
- Kristen Moore, *daughter-in-law of Ken & Susan Moore, wife of James, prayers for healing from liver transplant*

### Our Timothys:

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

### In the Nebraska Region:

- Wilsonville United Baptist Christian Church and Rev. Keith Theobald

### Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Bryan Parrish serving in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Find more information and stories about our Global Ministry partners at [www.globalministries.org](http://www.globalministries.org)



# Song of the Week

## Our God

Words and Music by Matt Redman, Jonas Myrin, Chris Tomlin and Jesse Reeves

Water You turned into wine  
Open the eyes of the blind  
There's no one like You  
None like You

Into the darkness You shine  
Out of the ashes we rise  
There's no one like You  
None like You

Our God is greater, our God is stronger  
God You are higher than any other  
Our God is Healer, awesome in power  
Our God, Our God

Into the darkness you shine  
Out of the ashes we rise  
There's no One like You  
None like You.

Our God is greater, our God is stronger  
God You are higher than any other  
Our God is Healer, awesome in power  
Our God, Our God

Our God is greater, our God is stronger  
God You are higher than any other  
Our God is Healer, awesome in power  
Our God, Our God

And if Our God is for us, then who could ever stop us  
And if our God is with us, then what can stand against?  
And if Our God is for us, then who could ever stop us  
And if our God is with us, then what can stand against?  
What can stand against?

Our God is greater, our God is stronger  
God You are higher than any other  
Our God is Healer, awesome in power  
Our God, Our God

Our God is greater, our God is stronger  
God You are higher than any other  
Our God is Healer, awesome in power  
Our God, Our God

