



# 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 November 14, 2021**



## Call to Worship

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

One: Come, let us give thanks to God!

Many: We gather together to praise the One who strengthens the weak and hears the prayers of the forgotten.

One: Come, let us give thanks to Christ!

Many: We gather together to sing of the One who calls us to serve those who are hungry and alone.

One: Come, let us give thanks to the Spirit!

Many: We gather together to exalt the One who provokes us to love not only our family and friends, but the guest among us.

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

Dear Lord who hears our cries, what a blessing your holy scripture is to us. We learn of so many people who have beseeched you, plead to you, prayed as though their lives depended on it - and you came through for them. God, we know that you will come through for us, too. Not only because we witness your mighty works and hear the testimony of changed lives, but also because of the gift of your Son, Jesus. As Jesus called people to follow him, he gave us a community, friends, a new family in which to live a new life. We read and learn about Jesus in your scriptures, and even he called out to you! Lord, thank you for never leaving us, for always hearing us, and for answering our prayers in that way which you see fit. For this endless 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)

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](http://fcclincoln.org) website to make an online donation via PayPal.

# Scripture Reading

## *1 Samuel 1:4-20*

<sup>4</sup> On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters; <sup>5</sup> but to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the LORD had closed her womb. <sup>6</sup> Her rival used to provoke her severely, to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb. <sup>7</sup> So it went on year after year; as often as she went up to the house of the LORD, she used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat. <sup>8</sup> Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Hannah, why do you weep? Why do you not eat? Why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?'

<sup>9</sup> After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented herself before the LORD. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the LORD. <sup>10</sup> She was deeply distressed and prayed to the LORD, and wept bitterly.

<sup>11</sup> She made this vow: 'O LORD of hosts, if only you will look on the misery of your servant, and remember me, and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a male child, then I will set him before you as a nazirite until the day of his death. He shall drink neither wine nor intoxicants, and no razor shall touch his head.'

<sup>12</sup> As she continued praying before the LORD, Eli observed her mouth. <sup>13</sup> Hannah was praying silently; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard; therefore Eli thought she was drunk. <sup>14</sup> So Eli said to her, 'How long will you make a drunken spectacle of yourself? Put away your wine.' <sup>15</sup> But Hannah answered, 'No, my lord, I am a woman deeply troubled; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD. <sup>16</sup> Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation all this time.' <sup>17</sup> Then Eli answered, 'Go in peace; the God of Israel grant the petition you have made to him.'

<sup>18</sup> And she said, 'Let your servant find favor in your sight.' Then the woman went to her quarters, ate and drank with her husband, and her countenance was sad no longer.

<sup>19</sup> They rose early in the morning and worshipped before the LORD; then they went back to their house at Ramah. Elkanah knew his wife Hannah, and the LORD remembered her. <sup>20</sup> In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the LORD.'

## *Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25*

<sup>11</sup> And every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. <sup>12</sup> But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, 'he sat down at the right hand of God', <sup>13</sup> and since then has been waiting 'until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.' <sup>14</sup> For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

<sup>19</sup> Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), <sup>21</sup> and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup> let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

<sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup> And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

# Reflection

*Meditation for 25th Sunday after Pentecost*

“Pleading with God”

written by Pastor Leigh Lestina

Have you cried out to God lately? Have you experienced heartache, to the point that your only hope was the God of Israel, the God at Christ’s side, the God of Hannah? Because I bring good news! Jesus, the resurrected Christ, is a listening God. We have God on our side – all of our sides.

Through addiction, through loneliness, and through many traumatic experiences – one after another – my mom never stopped crying out to God. Even if she couldn’t name this God and identify them, she never gave up on the idea that there wasn’t *some* sort of God watching over her and helping her as much as they could.

Hannah, one of the many women named in the Hebrew Bible, felt the same way. Imagine her situation – her sister wives birthed many children – many of them possibly sons – and yet she remained barren. Our Hebrew author of this section blamed God for closing her womb, as many people in ancient times thought God was in control of closing and opening the chance for male children.

What is the key between these two women? Both Hannah and my mom trusted the Lord. After both were accused of substance abuse, one got clean and has been sober for six years. Another brought a consecrated child to the Temple of the Lord as an answer to her prayer. But do you want to know what

makes all of this prayer possible? Just as Eli opened the door for Hannah’s prayer to be answered, we have our own priest – this Jesus – that advocates on our behalf and says “Go in peace; the God of Israel [will] grant the petition you have made to him.”

As Disciples of Christ, we do not just stand with our hands clasped in prayer at God’s presence. We move from there, with God still ever-present at our side, clasping our neighbor’s hands as they suffer and cry out to God. We do not walk alone as Christians. Indeed, we walk with Jesus – all of us together – as we journey from God’s presence within our own hearts, to our hands and feet, and eventually to our neighbors in need. God does not leave us comfortless when we are aching. Rather, they hear our cries and group us with our neighbors to share the burden and to lighten the load. This is our duty as Christians – not only to know God is listening, but to then listen as our Messiah speaks peace and comfort in and through us, and out into the world. God truly hears us pleading to them, and while we wait for whatever answer that may be, we are not left comfortless. Indeed, we are basked in the presence of Christ incarnate – the Church. Maybe Hannah and my mom felt that, too.

AMEN

# Prayers & Praises

## November 14, 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*
- 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:**

- Retired Ministers in Nebraska

**Our Global Ministries Missionaries:**

- Hannah Cranbury serving in Germany

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



# Song of the Week

## Enough

Words and Music by Chris Tomlin and Louie Giglio

All of You is more than enough for all of me,  
for every thirst and every need.  
You satisfy me with Your love,  
and all I have in You is more than enough.

You're my supply, my breath of life;  
still more awesome than I know.  
You're my reward, worth living for;  
still more awesome than I know.

And all of You is  
more than enough for all of me,  
for every thirst and every need.  
You satisfy me with Your love,  
and all I have in You is more than enough.

You're my sacrifice of greatest price;  
still more awesome than I know.  
You're my coming King, You are everything;  
still more awesome than I know.

More than all I want,  
more than all I need, yeah,  
You are more than enough for me.  
More than all I know, more than all I can see,  
You are more than enough.

And all of You is  
more than enough for all of me,  
for every thirst and every need.  
You satisfy me with Your love,  
and all I have in You is more than enough.

