



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

Ethan Cai, Church Administrator

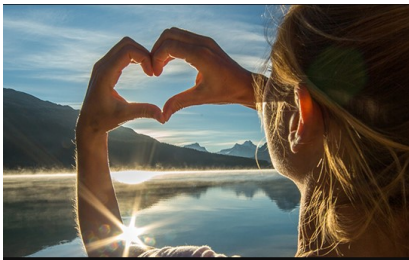
Mark W. Miller, Director of Music Ministries

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Week of May 1st, 2022



Call to Worship

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

One: Great Spirit of God, you have healed our wounds.

Many: You have brought us from paths of hurt and anger.

One: You have blessed our life that we might be a blessing to others.

Many: Let us worship you in great joy.

One: Let us remember the ways you have turned our mourning into dancing..

All: Let us give thanks to you forever. Alleluia!

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

Holy God, Shepherd of the sheep, we give you thanks for the gift of forgiveness. Sometimes our actions separate us from others and from you. Thank you for the gift of forgiveness that you are eager to give. Help us, like Peter, affirm "Lord, you know that I love you."

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.

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 website to make an online donation via PayPal.

Scripture Reading

Acts 9:1-6

¹Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' ⁵He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.'

John 21:1-19

¹After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ²Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' ⁶He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to

haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. ⁸But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' ¹⁶A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' ¹⁷He said to him the third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.' ¹⁹(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, 'Follow me.'

Reflection

Meditation for the 3rd Sunday of Easter

“Lord, You know that I love you!”

During our recent Elders meeting we discussed chapter 11 in the book *Christian Caregiving: A Way of Life* by Rev. Kenneth C. Haugk. This chapter was entitled “Confession and Absolution over the Back Fence.” While the language of confession and absolution is not a regular part of conversation, particularly for Protestants of the Disciples persuasion, it is an important part of our faith heritage. Those of other traditions use this language to describe a process meant for everyone. Our story from the Gospel of John is an excellent example of this important process. The interchange between Jesus and Simon Peter may not be described in the usual way that confession and absolution are portrayed, nonetheless, this is an excellent expression of those ideas. Haugk said:

Confession and absolution is the process whereby one person communicates the burden of his or her sin to another, and the other person, in turn, shares with the burdened individual the good news that God has forgiven the sin and promises to heal the brokenness.

In our story today Simon Peter unwittingly enters into this process with Jesus.

As they shared the Last Supper together Jesus told Simon Peter of his impending denial. While Simon Peter could not grasp that this was possible, it did happen. As we all remember, it was predicted that Simon Peter’s denial would come three times and it came to pass. Now as Peter encounters the Risen Lord not only does Jesus acknowledge the three-fold betrayal, he offered three-fold absolution and forgiveness. Jesus offered the healing of their relationship and brought healing to Simon Peter’s soul. Although the author tells us how hurt Peter was, he walked through the process anyway. In this process Jesus demonstrated what a challenge true for-

giveness and absolution can be. At times it may take more than one time to confess and hear the words of absolution. For Peter it happened in one encounter with Jesus, however, it may take many times for us to completely move through the process. Jesus did not leave things there. Jesus also shared the new call on Peter’s life. Peter was being called to shepherd and care for God’s people. Jesus called Peter to feed and tend the lambs and the sheep.

Simon Peter’s encounter with Jesus undoubtedly tugs at our hearts, it certainly tugs at mine. Our sin may not seem as dramatic as Peter’s denial of the Lord, but our sins may weigh as heavily on our hearts and minds. Each of us has undoubtedly done things that have wounded relationships or hurt people we love. As we ponder this encounter between Jesus and Peter those instances in our lives may rise to the surface. Like Peter, we may need to return to those occasions more than once, or once may be enough. Sharing these experiences with Jesus may bring closure, but as Haugk pointed out in the chapter mentioned above, sometimes we need to share this process with another person. The significance of our story today can be found in the invitation to enter into this process. We are urged to come to Jesus, no matter what separates us from others or from God. Like Peter we may be asked “do you love me?” No matter how painful or how long it takes, we are invited to respond as Peter did. “Lord, you know that I love you.” Every time we open our heart to God we are empowered to do it again. May we have the courage and tenacity of Simon Peter to answer over and over again “Lord, you know that I love you.”

AMEN

Prayers & Praises

May 1, 2022

In Our Church Family:

- Marvin Thurber
- William Deterding
- Vic Burgess
- Dick & Roxie Pickel
- Our sympathy to the family of Arlene Heimer, *upon her recent passing*
- Harold & Donna Baker
- Polly Putney
- Jessica Vocasek
- Lois Frogge
- Joan Dietrich

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*
- Annie DeLosSantos, *with liver cancer diagnosis, sister of Vince Ortega*
- Our sympathy to the family of Alice Stehlik, *upon her recent passing, grandmother of Jessica Vocasek*

Friends:

- Cedric Gibb, *healing prayers, friend of Cec Burkhart*
- Carson Mousel, *grandson of Bob and Eileen Kunz, from Mildred Brockemeyer*
- Dr. Bob Kunz, *prayers for healing after second surgery for pancreatic cancer*

Our Timothys:

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

In the Nebraska Region:

- Hastings First Christian Church and Rev. Tamara Holtz

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Bryan Parrish serving in The Democratic Republic of Congo

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



at

Song of the Week

Day of Arising

Text/Music: Luis Bojos, 1974

Day of arising,
Christ on the roadway,
unknown companion walks with his own.
When they invite him,
as fades the first day,
and bread is broken,
Christ is made known.

When we are walking,
doubtful and dreading,
blinded by sadness,
slowness of heart,
yet Christ walks with us,
ever awaiting
our invitation:
Stay, do not part.

Lo, I am with you,
Jesus has spoken.
This is Christ's promise,
this is Christ's sign:
when the church gathers,
when bread is broken,
there Christ is with us,
in bread and wine.

Christ, our companion,
hope for the journey,
bread of compassion,
open our eyes.
Grant us your vision,
set all hearts burning
that all creation
with you may rise.

Adult Study

May 4

Lives of Great Christians

April 11

Lives of Great Christians

April 18

Pizza and Games for youth and adults

