



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

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Week of June 12th, 2022



Call to Worship

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

One: God who created the fields of Eden,
takes delight in all things, including us!

Many: God of glory, your name is exalted
in all the earth!

One: Christ, who walked the streets of our
world, gives hope to all people,
including us!

Many: God of glory, your Son is Savior of
all creation!

One: God's Spirit, who stays in our hearts,
bears truth and peace to us!

Many: God of glory, your love surrounds
our every moment!

Community Prayer

As we come to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, help us remember and celebrate the love you shower upon all your creation.

Open our hearts to your truth that all are loved and cherished by you. Empower us to remember that you abide with us always, in the good and the challenging times of life. In humility help us remember that you have chosen each of us long before we chose to come to 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

Scripture Reading

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
honour.

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!

Romans 5:1-5

¹Therefore, since we are justified by
faith, we have peace with God
through our Lord Jesus
Christ, ²through whom we have ob-
tained access to this grace in which
we stand; and we boast in our hope of
sharing the glory of God. ³And not on-
ly that, but we also boast in our suffer-
ings, knowing that suffering produces
endurance, ⁴and endurance produces
character, and character produces
hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint
us, because God's love has been
poured into our hearts through the
Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

John 16:12-15

¹²I still have many things to say to
you, but you cannot bear them
now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth
comes, he will guide you into all the
truth; for he will not speak on his
own, but will speak whatever he
hears, and he will declare to you the
things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glo-
rify me, because he will take what is
mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that
the Father has is mine. For this reason
I said that he will take what is mine
and declare it to you.

Reflection

Meditation for Trinity Sunday

“The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit of Truth”

In his article on the Lesson and the Arts for Lectionary Homiletics, Clarence Weaver from Austin Texas told a compelling story about the artist Rembrandt. Like other painters of his time, he often depicted the poor in very negative ways. Those resigned to begging had become a well-known part of life in Medieval Europe. As their numbers increased they began to be seen in very negative ways. Often they were depicted as deformed and idle. The intent was to create a sense of revulsion not sympathy. Instead of feeling any empathy for those in such a state, those looking on felt a sense of reproach, disdain, disgrace and disgust. Initially, Rembrandt depicted the poor in much the same way. No one is certain, but perhaps his time living near the Jewish Ghetto in Amsterdam and his walks around that area lent to an internal shift for him. As he advanced in his career and popularity he also seemed more willing to paint in less traditional ways. In 1648 he painted *Beggars Receiving Alms at the Door of a House*. In this painting, unlike his earlier ones, the beggars had more noble features with obvious worry and concern on their faces. Their clothes were crude but not ragged and dirty. The man giving out alms appeared kind and caring, not contemptuous and judgmental. Perhaps the most striking feature was that all the characters were on level ground. The customary steps that separated the giver from the receivers below were not present. Everyone was on level ground. In this painting Rembrandt not only portrayed the actual facts of those struggling with poverty, but he also conveyed a deeper truth. Perhaps the Spirit of God enabled him to portray the truth that all people are created equal by the loving hand of God.

For Weaver this story from the life of Rembrandt lifted up part of the reason God sent the third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit. In our Gospel lesson from John Jesus was trying to prepare his Disciples for his departure. Weaver went on to point out “The Spirit teaches us that God chose us before we chose God.” Jesus wanted to let the Disciples know that since God had chosen them God, through the son Jesus, would

not leave them. Now God would come to them in a new way through the Spirit. Jesus knew that difficult times were ahead for his followers and he wanted to reassure them that God would be with them in the impending loss, grief and confusion. God would not leave them desolate or abandoned. God would send a “Counselor” a “Spirit of Truth.”

In this same issue of Lectionary Homiletics, Wally Fletcher from The Dialogue Center in Plymouth Meeting, PA commented that the Holy Spirit came to remind Jesus’ followers of God’s love. As the author of John pointed out, the Holy Spirit also came to bring truth. Here “truth” is more than objective facts. Fletcher went on to say: “Truth with a capital ‘T’ is no less than the deep things of God, that are ordinarily hidden but brought to light in the way Jesus lived and the way he leads us to live.” As a pastor he also noted that “The more anxious people are the more likely they will seek truth that brings quick relief rather than truth that heals or liberates deeply...According to John, the truth of God is deep and ultimately spiritual in nature. Thus, genuine truth telling requires deep listening, empathy and discernment.” In this day and age when people banter about the word “truth” we are reminded that we must listen deeply for God and bring a sense of humility. When pain and anxiety are high distortion of God’s truth often happens.

One of the tools of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth, is memory. Jesus told the Disciples that the Spirit would bring all his teachings back to mind. Like the early Disciples we are called to remember who we are, who created and recreates us. The Holy Spirit helps us remember what God has done for us. We are invited to hold onto the deeper truth that God loves us all and empowers us to listen to one another with empathy and humility. On this Trinity Sunday as we gather at the Table may we remember the love God has revealed to all of us through the expressions of Father, the Son and Holy Spirit.

AMEN

Prayers & Praises

June 12, 2022

In Our Church Family:

- Marvin Thurber
- William Deterding
- Vic Burgess
- Dick & Roxie Pickel
- Harold & Donna Baker
- Polly Putney
- Jessica Vocasek
- Lois Frogge
- Joan Dietrich

Relatives:

- Friends and Family of Vic Burgess
- 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*

Friends:

- Cedric Gibb, *healing prayers, friend of Cec Burkhart*
- Carson Mousel, *grandson of Bob and Eileen Kunz from Mildred Brockemeyer*

Our Timothys:

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

In the Nebraska Region:

- Lincoln First Christian Church and Rev. Dr. Karen Moritz

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Bruce and Linda Hanson serving in Honduras

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



FCC Social Media!



Each week FCC is posting new pictures and announcements. Look for First Christian Church on Instagram, Facebook, and You Tube for new content every week. Get connected!

Song of the Week

Come, Thou Almighty King

Music: Felice De Giardini, 1769

Come, thou almighty King,
help us thy name to sing;
help us to praise.
Father all-glorious,
o'er all victorious,
come and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.

Come, thou incarnate Word,
gird on thy mighty sword;
our prayer attend.
Come and thy people bless,
and give thy Word success,
and let thy righteousness
on us descend.

Come, holy Comforter,
thy sacred witness bear
in this glad hour!
Thou, who almighty art,
now rule in every heart,
and ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of power.

To thee, great One in Three,
eternal praises be
hence evermore!
Thy sovereign majesty
may we in glory see,
and to eternity
love and adore.