



**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

**The Rev. Dr. Karen Moritz**, Pastor  
**Mark W. Miller**, Director of Music Ministries  
**Ethan Cai**, Administrative Assistant

**Elaine Parman**, Care Minister  
[info@fcclincoln.org](mailto:info@fcclincoln.org)  
[www.fcclincoln.org](http://www.fcclincoln.org)

**Week of March 19th, 2023**



Public Worship will be held at 10:30 am Sunday morning.

### Community Prayer

Discerner of hearts,  
you look beneath our outward  
appearance and see your image in each  
of us. Banish in us the blindness that  
prevents us from recognizing truth, so  
we may see the world through your  
eyes and with the compassion of Jesus  
Christ who redeems us.

**Amen.**

Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,  
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### Call to Worship

Feel free to follow along with our Call  
to Worship from the live-streamed  
worship service on Sunday.

One: Here, in this place, with these  
people,

Many: we find the One who leads us  
into God's Kingdom.

One: Here, in God's Kingdom, with our  
sisters and brothers in Christ,

Many: we find a feast prepared for us.

One: Here, in God's sanctuary, at this  
table,

Many: we eat of the good news  
which heals us, we drink of the  
mercy which is God's gift.

## The Rev. Kara Hillhouse "The Underdog"

Don't you love a good story with an unexpected ending? Especially when the good guy or gal ends up coming out on top. You know what I mean: the underdog, the one who isn't expected to triumph, but who does...sometimes. This week we hear the story of young David's anointing by the prophet Samuel, where, despite his youth and the inferiority of his outward qualities when compared with his brothers, *"the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David."* *The power behind this story is that God does amazing things with unexpected ingredients. What often initially seems to be a limitation is ultimately found to be more than enough, because God makes up for what we lack. But first we have to be bold enough to offer our limitations up to God and allow Him to use them. Join Pastor Kara for her message, "The Underdog" and feed your spirit with a time of Word and fellowship!*

### Easter Lilies for Easter Worship

Once again, we would like to decorate our worship space with lilies for Easter. If you would like to help make this possible, please fill out the order form below and put it in the offering plate, or give it to Donna Ruhl. **Deadline to order is Friday, March 31.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of plants (\$15.00 each): \_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

or Honoring: \_\_\_\_\_



**Make all checks payable to First Christian Church, and please write "Easter Lily" in the memo line.**

## Good Friday 24-hour Prayer Vigil

We invite you to participate in our upcoming 24-hour prayer vigil beginning at 1 pm on April 7th. We will be holding this event in order to lift up our church community, our city, and our world in prayer.

The prayer vigil is divided into 30-minute windows, and you are welcome to sign up for as many windows as you would like. You may pray from the comfort of your own home or come to the chapel to pray in person. This is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community and lift up our concerns, hopes, and gratitude to God.

To sign up for a prayer window, simply call the church office or choose your time slot with the SignUpGenius link below. We will also have sign-up sheets available in the church parlor beginning March 26th for those who prefer to sign up in person.

We encourage you to invite your friends and family to participate as well. Let's come together in prayer and show the power of community in action.

Thank you for your consideration and we hope to see you there!  
Blessings,  
The Worship Team

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B49ADA823A3F49-good>



# Scripture Reading

## 1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.' And the Lord said, 'Take a heifer with you, and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the Lord." Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.' Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, 'Do you come peaceably?' He said, 'Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen any of these.' Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.' He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

## John 9:1-41

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.' When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?'

Some were saying, 'It is he.' Others were saying, 'No, but it is someone like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' But they kept asking him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?' He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash." Then I went and washed and received my sight.' They said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.'

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?' And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.' He said, 'He is a prophet.'

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.' His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.' So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, 'Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.' He answered, 'I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?' Then they reviled him, saying, 'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' The man answered, 'Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.' They answered him, 'You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?' And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.' He said, 'Lord, I believe.' And he worshipped him. Jesus said, 'I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.' Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, 'Surely we are not blind, are we?' Jesus said to them, 'If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, "We see", your sin remains.'

# Prayers & Praises

## March 19, 2023

### In Our Church Family:

- Marvin Thurber
- William Deterding
- Vic Burgess
- Jessica Vocasek
- Relda Lathrop
- Bobbi Carlin
- Rae-Hope Putney
- Donna Baker
- Polly Putney
- Lois Frogge
- Joan Dietrich
- Mildred Brockemeyer
- Karen Moritz

- Tito Vigan, *Sarah Mason's husband, for healing from a spinal stroke.*

### Relatives:

- Friends and Family of *Vic Burgess*

### Friends:

- Cedric Gibb, *healing prayers, friend of Cec Burkhart*
- Carson Mousel, *grandson of 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:

- Elmwood Christian Church and Rev. Mark Sewell

### Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Rev. T. Thevanesan serving in Sri Lanka

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



# Song of the Week

## I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Text: Isaac Watts, 1715

I sing the mighty power of God  
that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad  
and built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained  
the sun to rule the day.  
The moon shines full at God's command,  
and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord  
who filled the earth with food.  
God formed the creatures through the  
Word,  
and then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,  
where'er I turn my eye,  
if I survey the ground I tread,  
or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below  
but makes thy glories known.  
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,  
by order from thy throne,  
while all that borrows life from thee  
is ever in thy care,  
and everywhere that we can be,  
thou, God, art present there.

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## 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!