



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

The Rev. Dr. Karen Moritz, Pastor
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Week of March 26th, 2023



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

Community Prayer

God of all consolation and compassion,
your Son comforted the grieving sisters,
Martha and Mary;
your breath alone brings life
to dry bones and weary souls.
Pour out your Spirit upon us,
that we may face despair and death
with the hope of resurrection
and faith in the One
who called Lazarus forth from the grave.
Amen.

Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,
copyright 2002 Consultation on Common Texts

Call to Worship

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

One: Lazarus, though dead, was called
to life by Jesus.

Many: May we be called to the light
of righteousness.

One: As others witnessed this
resurrection, they believed in Jesus.

Many: May we, who have heard,
believe in the power of Jesus to
conquer our fears and doubts.

One: Praise be to God who has given us
Jesus.

Many: Praise be to Jesus who has
given us life.

AMEN.

The Rev. Kara Hillhouse
"Arise"

Being human means we will have a hodgepodge of emotions: happiness, contentment, joy, sorrow, anger, despair. Hopefully, there are more positive emotions than negatives. But have you ever felt hopeless? Lost? Perhaps empty (what we might call "dead") inside? This week's story is about Lazarus, Jesus' dear friend, who has died. This text contains the shortest verse in some translations of the Bible--"Jesus wept." But Jesus doesn't stop there...he goes and calls Lazarus out of his tomb--alive!! He resurrects Lazarus from being dead. Jesus works in our own lives too, today. He weeps with us when we grieve, but then He works in us to bring us out of our own tombs. Join us for a time of worship this Sunday and hear Pastor Kara's sermon, "Arise." We look forward to seeing you!

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



Scripture Reading

John 11:1-45

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where

Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Psalm 130

A Song of Ascents.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive

to the voice of my supplications!

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,

Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you,

so that you may be revered.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,

and in his word I hope;

my soul waits for the Lord

more than those who watch for the morning,

more than those who watch for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the Lord!

For with the Lord there is steadfast love,

and with him is great power to redeem.

It is he who will redeem Israel

from all its iniquities.

Prayers & Praises

March 26, 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:

- Elwood First Christian Church

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Luis Samacumbi serving in Angola

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



Song of the Week

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Text: Charles Wesley, 1747

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling;
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion;
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation;
enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
into every troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit;
let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

First Christian Church Pulpit Supply

March - May, 2023

April 2	Eduardo Bousson
April 6	Kara Hillhouse
April 9	Kara Hillhouse
April 16	Ellie Thober
April 23	Ellie Thober
April 30	Kara Hillhouse
May 7	Kara Hillhouse
May 14	Rachel Johnson
May 21	Kara Hillhouse
May 28	Jane Holtzclaw