



First Christian Church
Disciples of Christ

430 S. 16th St. Lincoln, NE 68508 402.475.4289

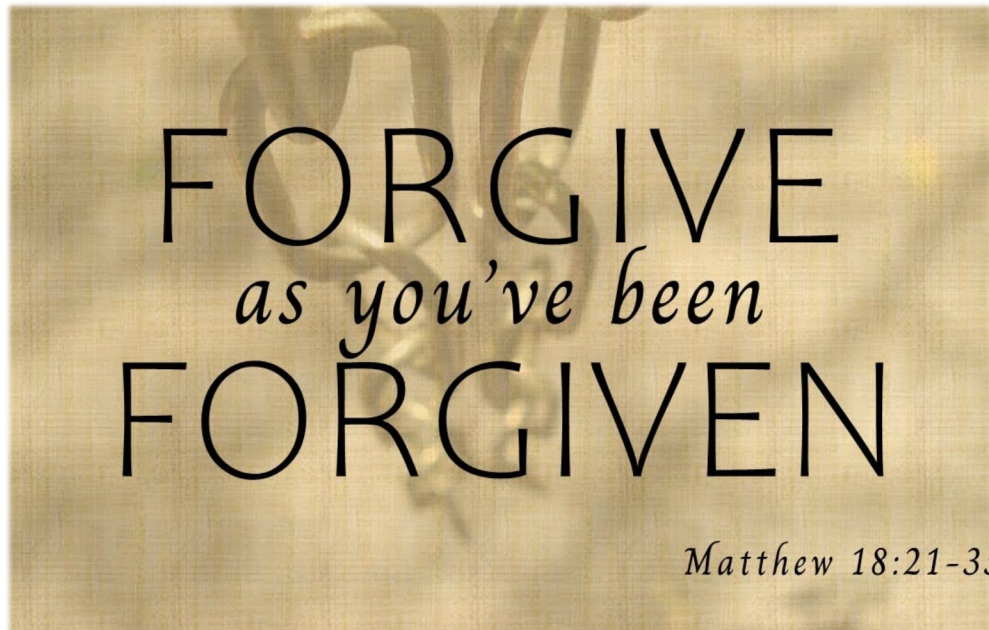
Weekly Worship

love all • live spiritually • rejoice in hope • show hospitality

Rev. Kara Hillhouse, Interim Pastor
Mark W. Miller, Director of Music Ministries
Mariana Tines, Administrative Assistant

Elaine Parman, Care Minister
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Week of September 17th, 2023



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

Community Prayer

God of freedom, you brought your people out of slavery with a mighty hand. Deliver us from our captivity to pride and indifference to the needs and gifts of others, that we may be ready to love as you have loved us, and to give even as we have received. 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: In sacred times of the word, wonder, and awe; in ordinary days of work and play:
Many: **in every moment, God is with us.**

One: In those who teach us and those who trouble us; in those who surprise us, and those who forgive us:
Many: **in every person, God is with us.**

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

“Wicked!!!: The Story of an Unfaithful Servant”

In this week's text, Jesus tells his disciples another parable, the one we call the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant (or the Parable of the Wicked Servant). It arose after a question by Peter, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" And Jesus responds with "Not seven times, but I tell you seventy-seven times," and then he tells them this parable. It's all about forgiveness. You know, that word we hear about at church all the time, but struggle to understand and put into practice in our daily lives. Perhaps the reason Jesus replied with "seventy-seven" is because he wanted us to practice practice practice forgiving, until it became our habit, our default. Research has shown that it takes an average of 66 repetitions to make something into a habit--so Jesus wasn't that far off! Join us Sunday for Pastor Kara's sermon, *Wicked!!!: The Story of an Unforgiving Servant*, and be fed by the Word, music and the Lord's Supper. We'll see you Sunday!!

Join us for

PRAISEFEST

Sunday, September 17th

5 - 7 pm

First Christian Church Parking Lot

Scripture Reading

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds.

Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Matthew 18:21-35

Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything. And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you. But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you? And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Prayers & Praises

September 17th, 2023

Song of the Week

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Text: Joachim Neander, 1680

In Our Church Family:

- Donna Baker
- Rhonda Ball
- Mildred Brockemeyer
- Vic Burgess
- Bobbi Carlin
- William Deterding
- Joan Dietrich
- Sharon Hile
- Polly Putney
- Rae-Hope Putney
- Marvin Thurber

Friends:

- Tammy Foral, *healing, patience and strength as facing many health issues. Co-worker of Sara Lugn*
- Cedric Gibb, *healing prayers, friend of Cec Burkhardt*
- 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:

- SouthPointe Christian Church and Rev. Abby Conley

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Mission partners in Kenya

Our dear loving God, we lift up to you All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) in its mission to unite churches in Africa together for life, peace, justice, and dignity.

Find more information and stories about our Global Ministry partners at

www.globalministries.org



Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Come, all who hear; now to his temple draw near,
join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, above all things so wondrously reigning;
sheltering you under his wings,
and so gently sustaining!
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
sent by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
if with his love he befriends you.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him.
Let the Amen sound from his people again;
gladly forever adore him.

NEW FCC Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9am to 2pm