



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
Elaine Parman, Care Minister

Week of October 29, 2023
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Public Worship will be held at 10:30 am Sunday morning.

Community Prayer

Almighty God, your Son has shown us how to love one another. May our love for you overflow into joyous service and be a healing witness to our neighbors through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,
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Call to Worship

One: We are invited to share in Christ's ministry of compassion.

Many: We will widen our hearts so we might cradle the lost.

One: We are challenged to learn more about God each day.

Many: We will open our minds so we might discern God's dreams for us.

One: We are summoned to let the Spirit be planted within us.

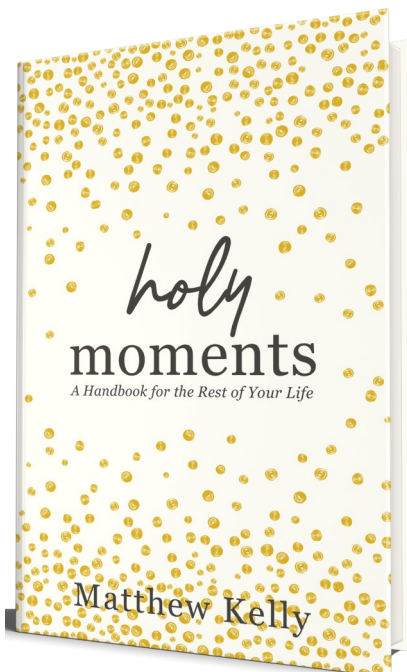
Many: We will deepen our souls so we might grow in love.

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

“Let My Lifesong Sing to You.”

Prince Rainey Rivers writes, “Liking God is not enough. Jesus’ message to the Pharisees is clear. God is not interested in superficial relationships. God wants total devotion, a complete surrender of one’s mind, will, and desires. ... Loving God involves action and ethics.... Loving God is not sentimental. Loving God is compassionate action toward neighbors and strangers.” In our scripture this week we find Jesus once more being challenged by the religious leaders in an attempt to trick him into saying something...anything...that they could use to crush him. This time it's this question: "teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" And Jesus' answer is the well-worn, well-loved, too-often-neglected "you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second one is like it, 'you shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" There were hundreds and hundreds of laws observant Jews had to follow in Jesus' time, but what Jesus is telling the people around him is this: if you can get these two commandments right, all the others will be covered. If you can love the Lord, and if you can love your neighbor, then you will end up fulfilling all the other laws as well. Join us for worship on Sunday where we'll explore this text, be blessed with beautiful music and celebrate the Lord's Supper. We'll also be bringing our Commitment Pledges to be blessed this week during worship. We'll see you Sunday!



The Elders of FCC are gifting YOU with a free book that has inspired each of them in various ways. Copies will be brought to those who receive Homebound Communion in November. Please take time to read it and become aware of all the *holy* moments already happening in your life.

Author Matthew Kelly describes a '*holy* moment' as any time you are united with God; a *moment of prayer, awareness of a beautiful sunset, a random act of love or kindness which increases God's Love and Joy in your life.*

Scripture Readings

Psalm 90:1 - 6, 13 - 17

Matthew 22:34 - 40

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You turn us back to dust, and say, "Turn back, you mortals." For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night.

You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning; in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

Turn, O Lord! How long? Have compassion on your servants! Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil. Let your work be manifest to your servants, and your glorious power to their children. Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands—

O prosper the work of our hands!

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."



Prayers & Praises

October 29th, 2023



Song of the week

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing. Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe, doth seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing, were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he. Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us. The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him. His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure. One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth. The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth. Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also. The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still. His kingdom is forever.

In Our Church Family:

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

Our sympathy to the family of Mildred Brockmeyer. Mildred passed away October 17, 2023. Her graveside service was Saturday, October 21 @ Lincoln Memorial.

Jessica Vocasek and friends Amy Nasworthy, and Becky Williams as they all recover from injuries received in an auto accident on October 2, 2023.

Friends:

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

Our Timothy's:

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

In the Nebraska Region:

Nebraska Regional Minister - The Rev. Chris Morton

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Mission Partners in Italy

"Italy, within touching distance of Africa, is an obvious destination for the many fleeing conflict, persecution, and poverty on that continent. Italy calls on other nations to play their part so that it may not bear this load alone."

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

