



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 December 3, 2023
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Community Prayer

Creator of the world, you are the potter, we are the clay, and you form us in your image.

Shape our spirits by Christ's transforming power, that as one people we may live out your compassion and justice, whole and sound in the realm of your peace. Amen.

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

Lighting the Advent Wreath

One: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Many: I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in God's word I put my trust.

One: God has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed.

Many: Hope in the Lord, for with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with God great power to redeem.

One: For the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is on those who fear him from generation to generation.

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

Just Wait

In an ideal faith community, spiritual gifts are shared. They are diverse and yet unified. They are not yet perfect or complete but are nonetheless powerful and intended to grow in strength day by day. In Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, Paul is speaking to a church that struggles to grow into its full potential because it is so busy fighting over who has what gifts and what knowledge. Paul understands that these early Christians suffer under the misbelief that there are not enough spiritual gifts to go around. He is striving to help them know that they have been given everything they need from God, and that they need to patiently wait because God is not done working in their lives. In this Advent season, we wait to experience not only the coming of the Christ child, but also the fullness of God's kingdom. Join us for worship this week where we'll explore the first part of Paul's letter to the people of Corinth, and be rejuvenated by fellowship, beautiful music and the Lord's Supper. We'll see you Sunday!



Stocking Stuffer Gift Cards!

SCRIP cards make a great holiday gift, and now for Christmas, smaller denominations are available for certain retailers:

\$10 Cards From

Amazon - Applebee's - Bath & Body Works - Cheddars - Cracker Barrel - CVS - Disney - Home Depot - IHOP - Olive Garden - Target - Walmart

\$5 Cards From

Barnes & Noble - Cold Stone Creamery - Panera - Starbucks - Taco Bell

Larger denominations are available, too! If you are interested in SCRIP, call the church office. SCRIP orders go out on the first Sunday of each month. **December 3rd** is the last Sunday to order before the holidays!

The Outreach Team is collecting \$10 and \$25 denomination Walmart gift cards for McPhee School during December. This is a great way to support those less fortunate in our church neighborhood.

Purchase of SCRIP supports local businesses and gives a portion of the proceeds back to the church. It's a Win-Win for everyone!

If you have special orders for SCRIP, please get in touch with Donna Ruhl or the FCC Office. Thank you again for participating in our SCRIP Program.

Scripture Readings

Psalm 80: 3-7, 17-19

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Oh Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers? You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure. You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.

Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself. Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind -- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you -- so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.



Prayers & Praises

December 3, 2023

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

Vic Burgess as he is now in Hospice Care at the Eastern NE Veterans Home in Bellevue, NE.

Mike Carlin as he begins chemo treatments on December 4th.

Friends:

- Jennie & Will Ernest and family. Tyler Goodrich, the young man missing since November 3rd is Jennie's brother.
- Tammy Foral, healing, patience and strength as facing many health issues. Co-worker of Sara Lugn.
- Cedric Gibb, healing prayers, friend of Cec Burkhardt.

Our Timothy's:

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

In the Nebraska Region:

Other Nebraska Clergy: Rev. Gary George; Rev. Dr. Paul Williams; Rev. James Harmon; Rev. Hollie Schmidt; Rev. Dr. Russ Seger; Rev. Kate West; Sandy Denton; Gene Merrill.

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Mission Partners in Morocco

"In this sacred moment, we lift up our country, praying for unity, compassion, and justice to prevail. May your guiding light lead our leaders toward decisions that honor the dignity of every person and foster a spirit of inclusivity."

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



O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily: to us the path of knowledge show; and teach us in her ways to go.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Root of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny; from depths of hell thy people save and give them victory o'er the grave.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.