



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 17, 2023
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Community Prayer

Merciful God of peace, your work, spoken by the prophets, restores your people's life and hope. Fill our hearts with the joy of your saving grace, that we may hold fast to your great goodness and in our lives proclaim your justice in all the world. Amen.

“Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,
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Third Sunday of Advent

Today we light the candle of Joy, looking to the one who comes to turn our mourning into dancing. We rejoice as Mary sings, “My soul magnifies the Lord” and the angels proclaim “Gloria.” We light the candle of Joy proclaiming that through Christ Jesus the outcasts are invited back into community. Through Christ Jesus, the forgotten are named and remembered. Through Christ Jesus, the rejected and abandoned are sought and found. Through Christ Jesus, the powerless receive authority and worth for their lives. Through Christ Jesus, God’s children are drawn out of pits where discrimination, hardship and oppression are the norms. Emmanuel comes and humanity, dignity and joy are restored for all God’s children. Today we light the candle of Joy looking to that day when all sorrow gives way to joy, and all tribulation gives way to blessing. We light the candle of Joy and give ourselves as partners to the Lord of the Dance.

JOY



Invitation to Worship

Beloved in Christ, with delight we prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels, and go in heart and mind to Bethlehem to see Mary and Joseph, with Jesus in a manger.

Let us listen to the story of God's loving purpose which traces God's saving acts from humanity's first disobedience down to the glorious redemption brought to all by this Holy Child. And let us make these hallowed walls reverberate with the glad tidings of great joy which is to all the people.

The Nine Lessons

1st Lesson: Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

2nd Lesson: Genesis 22:15-18

3rd Lesson: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

4th Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-4, 6-9

5th Lesson: Luke 1:26-35, 38

6th Lesson: Luke 2:1-7

7th Lesson: Luke 2:8-16

8th Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12

9th Lesson: John 1:1-14



Prayers & Praises

December 17, 2023

In Our Church Family:

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

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 Timothys:

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

In the Nebraska Region: Disciples General Church

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Mission Partners in India

"We come before you with hearts filled with hope and gratitude, lifting up prayers for our beloved country, India. We thank you for the diverse tapestry of cultures, faiths, and people that make up this land of India. Lord, we pray for peace, unity, and prosperity to flourish in every corner of our nation."

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

Song of the week

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king. Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies; with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the incarnate deity, pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

