



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 March 10, 2024
info@fcclincoln.org
www.fcclincoln.org



Community Prayer

Steadfast God, you reach out to us in mercy even when we rebel against your holy call and prefer to walk in disobedience rather than in the way of your divine truth. Soften our hearts with the warmth of your love, that we may know your Son alive within us, redeeming us and raising us up into your eternal presence. Amen.

“Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,
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Call to Worship

One: We come, to offer all we have to God:

Many: our minds, our hearts, our hopes.

One: We come, to offer all we would be to God:

Many: We come, to offer ourselves to God: who offers life, joy, and peace in Jesus Christ.

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

Come to the Light

It's one of the most well-known verses in the Bible. You see it written on signs at football games, you see bumper stickers with it and it's elsewhere too. It's John 3:16: "*For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.*" I bet you've all heard it before. It's a great verse, although I confess to some discomfort with it at times, as it has been used to judge and outcast people, which is unfortunate. But still, it's true: God did give His son for our sake that we might know God's love for us. Yay God! I actually like the next verse even more: "*Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.*" What a wonderful image: this amazing gift from God, who knew that we were our own worst enemies and needed to be shown the way towards love. This amazing gift: the Light of the world. Join us for worship this Sunday where we'll explore these verses. Come and be fed by a time of the Word, music, fellowship and the Lord's Supper. We'll see you Sunday!



Scripture Readings

Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

John 3:14-21

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

Prayers & Praises

March 10, 2024

In Our Church Family:

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

Friends:

- Bob Johnson, a longtime family friend of the Vocasek family. *Bob is battling terminal cancer.*
- 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 Burkhart.*

Our Timothy:

- Rev. Bruce Frogge, *Cypress Creek CC in Spring, TX*

In the Nebraska Region:

- Trinity Chapel Church - Rev. Abigail Conley

Our Global Ministries Missionaries:

- Mission Partners in Japan

"We thank you for the interfaith representative and the advocates for peace who gathered "from east and west, from north and south" to support the values upheld in Japan's Article 9 and to share their stories of the pain that violence has caused and threatens to portend in places like Okinawa. "

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



Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

Open now they gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there, where my soul in joyful duty waits for God who answers prayer; O how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace.

Gracious God, I come before thee; come thou also unto me; where we find thee and adore thee, there a heaven on earth must be; to my heart O enter thou; let it be thy temple now.

Speak, O Lord, and I will hear thee; let thy will be done indeed; may I undisturbed draw near thee, while thou dost thy people feed. Here of life the fountain flows; here is balm for all our woes.



Are you interested in being part of the 24 Hour Prayer Vigil beginning at 1 pm on Friday, March 29th and ending at 1 pm on Saturday, March 30th? If so, call the church office Monday - Thursday between 9 am and 2 pm at 402-475-4289 to schedule a 30 minute slot to pray from home.