

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 May 19, 2024 info@fcclincoln.org www.fcclincoln.org



Community Prayer

Creator Spirit and Giver of life, make the dry, bleached bones of our lives live and breathe and grow again as you did of old. Pour out your Spirit upon the whole creation. Come in rushing wind and flashing fire to turn the sin and sorrow within us into faith, power, and delight. Amen.

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Call to Worship

One: The Day of Pentecost is here:

Many: the day when the flames of faith dance in our hearts.

One: The Day of Pentecost is here:

Many: the day when babbling speech becomes the Good News for the world. Let the people of God rejoice. Alleluia!

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

Spiritus Sanctus

Can you believe that, as of this coming Sunday, it's been seven weeks since Easter?! Seven weeks of scriptures about Jesus trying to help his disciples understand what had just happened (his death and resurrection), and what was going to happen going forward (his going away to his Father and his sending of the Holy Spirit to help them continue spreading the Good News). And this Sunday, the Holy Spirit comes! We don't really talk about the Holy Spirit very much, perhaps because we can't really explain it and so it makes us a little uncomfortable. When we deny it, however, it does us a disservice as it's the power that equips, sustains, sends and aids us in our daily lives. In a nutshell, the Spirit gives us what we need to do what lays before us. The Spirit is the Advocate and Comforter Jesus promised his disciples, and the Spirit is present in our own lives too. So come Holy Spirit! Equip, sustain, send and aid us just as you did those first disciples! Join us for worship this week as we celebrate Pentecost and are rejuvenated by a time of music, fellowship and the Lord's Supper. We'll see you in church!



Scripture Readings

Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs - in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

Prayers & Praises May 19, 2024

In Our Church Family:

- Donna Baker
- Rhonda Ball
- Bobbi Carlin
- Mike Carlin
- Jim Christ
- Joan Dietrich

- Sharon Hile
- Phyllis Knosp
- Polly Putney
- Rae-Hope Putney
- Marvin Thurber
- Phyllis Thurber
- Jessica Vocasek

Friends:

- Sympathy to Lindsay Swanson and family Lindsay's Dad - Gene Gangwish passed away May 1st. His service will be in Gibbon, NE on May 18th.
- Bob Johnson, a longtime family friend of the *Vocasek family. Bob is battling terminal cancer* .
- 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: Hastings First Christian Church - Rev. Elba Iris

Our Global Ministries Missionaries: Mission Partners in Venezuela

"We continue to pray, our God, for the unity of the church and all creation. Venezuela and the world have become battle-fields, fighting with teeth and claws. The world that you created good is deeply divided by political ideologies, gender, race, and social classes. Dear God, we pray for an ecumenism of the spirit, an ecumenism of solidarity and liberation that leads to overcoming our divisions and liberating creation from its bondage of corruption. "

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





Song of the week

<u>Like the Murmur of the Dove's</u> <u>Song</u>

Like the murmur of the dove's song, like the challenge of her flight, like the vigor of the wind's rush, like the new flame's eager might: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

To the members of Christ's body, to the branches of the Vine, to the church in faith assembled, to our midst as gift and sign: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

With the healing of division, with the ceaseless voice of prayer, with the power to love and witness, with the peace beyond compare: Come, Holy Spirit, come.



"Believe in yourself.
You are braver than
you think, more
talented than you
know, and capable of
more than you
imagine." - Roy T.
Bennett: