



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 June 2, 2024
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Community Prayer

Lord of the Sabbath, lawgiver and outlaw,
you lift the burdens from our shoulders.
You entrust your treasure to our clay. Sab-
bath in us a rest -- joyful as tambourines,
nourishing as bread, and available to all
people, rich and poor -- so that withered
bodies and spirits can be restored. Amen

“Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,
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Call to Worship

One: When we are relaxing after a long day,
when we are pacing midnight's floor,

Many: God knows, and is with us.

One: When we are climbing on the ladder of
success, when we have tripped over despair,

Many: God knows, and will guide us along
the way.

One: When we are tongue-tied and in love,
when we struggle to speak of hope,

Many: God knows, and gives us the words
we need.

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

Clay Jars

In Paul's second letter to the Corinthians he continues to try to encourage them on their faith journey, and he speaks of the challenges - the many challenges - of life lived in faithful devotion to Jesus Christ. He writes, "*We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.*" Paul speaks of how the challenges of the life of ministry (which is what all children of God are called to live) do not have the final say. That is because we carry Christ around within us and that helps us to endure. Our bodies are the carriers of Christ - both his life and his death - and we are merely clay jars that carry the Good News of Jesus Christ around. What does it mean to be a clay jar? How should that affect how we live our lives? Join us for worship Sunday as we explore these questions and are fed by the Word, beautiful music and the sacrament of communion. We'll see you Sunday!



Scripture Readings

Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18

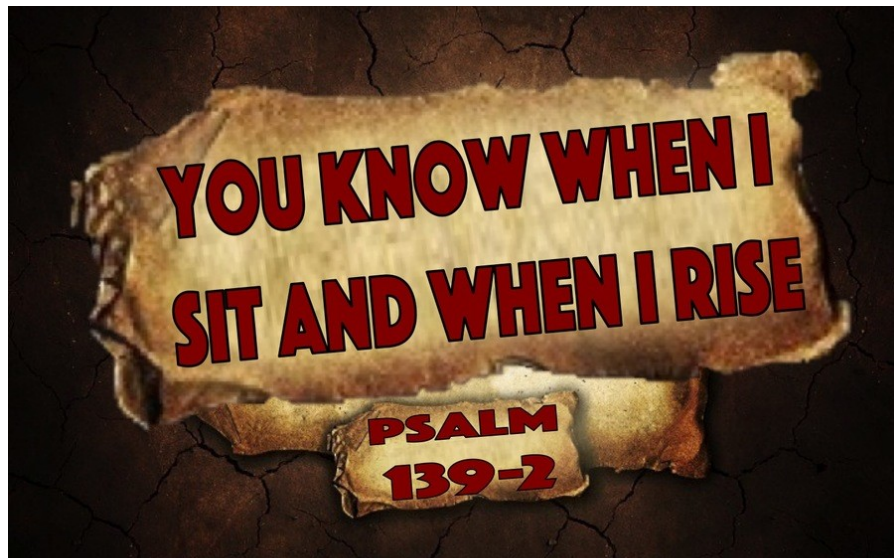
2 Corinthians 4:5-12

O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed. How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! I try to count them - they are more than the sand; I come to the end - I am still with you.

For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.



Prayers & Praises

June 2, 2024



Song of the week

Here in This Place

Here in this place the new light is streaming;
now is the darkness vanished away; see in
this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us
in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and
we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound
of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery.
We are the old who yearn for your face. We
have been sung throughout of all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather
us in, the proud and the strong; give us a
heart, so meek and so lowly; give us the
courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and water; here
we will take the bread of new birth. Here you
shall call your sons and your daughters, call
us a new to be salt for the earth. Give us to
drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat
the bread that is you; nourish us well, and
teach us to fashion lives that are holy and
hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in
some heaven, light years away: here in this
place the new light is shining; now is the
kingdom, and now is the day. Gather us in
and hold us forever; gather us in and make us
your own: gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

In Our Church Family:

- Donna Baker
- Rhonda Ball
- John Burkhart
- Bobbi Carlin
- Mike Carlin
- Jim Christ
- Joan Dietrich
- Sharon Hile
- Phyllis Knosp
- Polly Putney
- Rae-Hope Putney
- Marvin Thurber
- Phyllis Thurber
- Jessica Vocasek

Friends:

- John Burkhart, husband of *Cecilia Burkhart* will begin treatment for cancer behind his voice box.
- 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: Humboldt Christian Church - Rev. Howard Blecha

Our Global Ministries Missionaries: Mission Partners in India

"We remember the poor, sick, the downtrodden, and the neglected people, who constitute the majority of the population, and we pray for relief from their suffering and pain. We pray for all the mission hospitals across India involved in the healing ministry that serves these less privileged people. Despite many trying situations, we continue to be a beacon of light and hope for them."

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

