



First Christian Church
Disciples of Christ

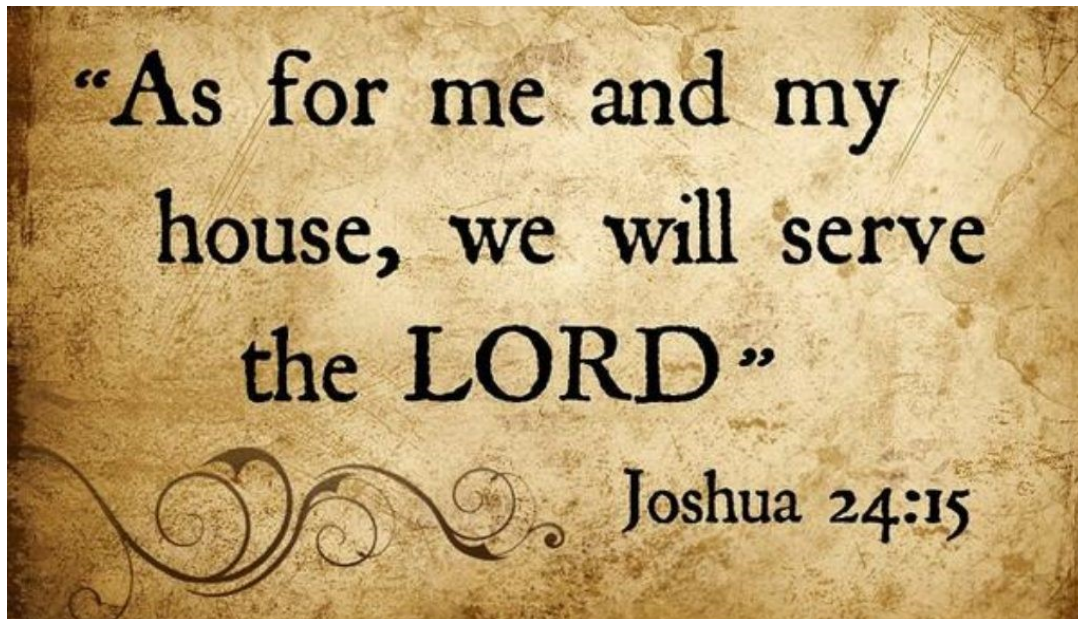
430 S. 16th St. Lincoln, NE 68508 402.475.4289

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 9, 2024
info@fcclincoln.org
www.fcclincoln.org



Community Prayer

Unlike earthly kings, you, O Lord, are ever steadfast and faithful. You sent us your Son, Jesus the Christ, to rule over us, not as a tyrant, but as a gentle shepherd. Keep us united and strong in faith, that we may always know your presence in our lives, and, when you call us home, may we enter your heavenly kingdom where you live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

“Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,
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Call to Worship

One: On this day, we gather with thanksgiving in our hearts.

Many: For God’s love is ever constant in our lives.

One: On this day, we would speak of what we believe.

Many: We will sing glad songs for all that God has done.

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

Choose

Joshua, Moses' successor, is nearing the end of his life. He has faithfully led the Israelites, as God has called him to do, and now he gathers the people around to "say goodbye," in a sense, and to urge them to remain faithful to God. The Israelites don't have a great track record of faithfulness. Their allegiance ebbs and flows as sometimes they are drawn to the various gods of the peoples with whom they interact. Joshua lays it out clearly in the first half of Joshua 24: all the ways God has rescued them, guided them, saved them. And then Joshua gets down to his point: who are you gonna serve? *Here, in this corner, is God, who has been faithful to you and desires your allegiance and faithfulness; and oh, by the way, also asks that you care for each other and put one another first. And here, in this other corner, are all the other options - gods who will give you your heart's desires, if only you will choose them.* And obviously this was a tough decision for the Israelites throughout the years, as they waffled in their faithfulness to God, as newer, shinier gods came around tempting them. Joshua lays it all down saying "choose this day who you will serve... but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." It's a question and a challenge that we all need to address, each and every day, as the temptations to serve gods other than the Lord are mighty. Join us for worship Sunday where we'll explore this text. We invite you to come and be rejuvenated by a time of Word, music, fellowship and communion. We'll see you Sunday!



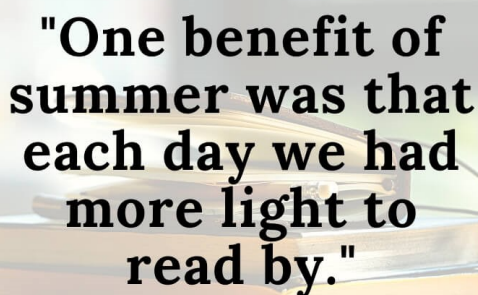
Scripture Readings

Psalm 138

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise; I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything. On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth. They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord. For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly; but the haughty he perceives from far away.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me. The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.



"One benefit of summer was that each day we had more light to read by."

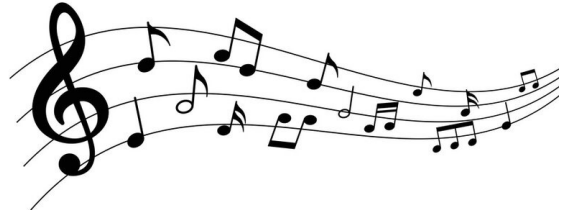
Jeanette Walls

Joshua 24:14-24

Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God." But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey."

Prayers & Praises

June 9, 2024



Song of the week

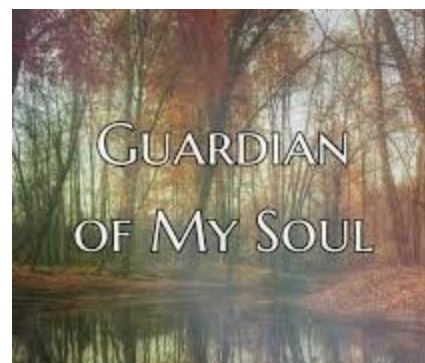
O Jesus, I Have Promised

O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; be now and always near me, my Master and my friend; I shall not fear the battle if you are by my side, nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.

O let me feel you near me! The world is ever near: I see the sights that dazzle; the tempting sounds I hear. My foes are ever near me, around me and within; but, Jesus, draw still nearer and shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still, above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will; O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control; O speak, and make me listen, true guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you that where you are in glory your servant shall be too. And, Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; now give me grace to follow, my Master and my friend.



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: Kamp Kaleo on the River
- Staff, Campers and Counselors

Our Global Ministries Missionaries: Mission Partners in Ghana

“In your Son and through the power of your Holy Spirit, invite each of us to join in your work. Grant us the courage to proclaim your word. Bless our Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Ghana, and its leadership. Open doors of gospel ministry for them, bringing light to where there’s darkness.”

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

