



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 16, 2024
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Community Prayer

Creating God, your reign of love makes all things new. Plant seeds of confidence and gladness in our hearts, so that, trusting your word, we may live no longer for ourselves but for him who died and was raised for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

“Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,
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Call to Worship

One: The church is the place where the broken gather:

Many: let us worship the One who reconciles us to one another and God.

One: The church is the place where the lost, the least, the forgotten, the ignored are welcome:

Many: let us worship God who looks at us with the eyes of love.

Welcome Pastor Rachel Johnson

Rachel Johnson is a commissioned minister who is in her 16th year of service as the Religious Coordinator at the Lincoln Regional Center. Rachel joined Edmond Trinity Christian Church in Oklahoma as a young teen. Rachel attended Phillips University where she would meet her future husband, a Nebraskan. They married at Southview Christian Church in Lincoln. Two years later Rachel graduated from the University of Nebraska and a month later had their first child. As their family grew, so did their family's participation in church life, including a new morning worship service. Rachel completed the Education for Lay Ministry (ELM) program in 2003. In 2007 she began service to the Lincoln Regional Center where she provides spiritual services, organizes community events and is a passionate advocate for destigmatizing mental health in faith communities. Rachel has four grown children and an amazing life partner John who tolerates her never ending book collecting and rock concert adventures.

Expecting the Unexpected

Mark 4:26-34



Scripture Readings

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord. I bring low the high tree; I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.



Mark 4:26-34

He also said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

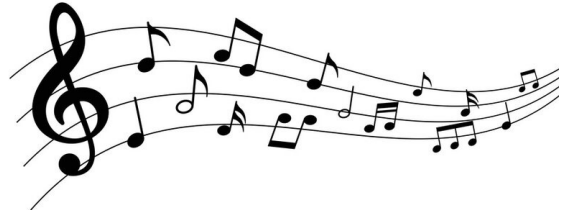
He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Every day may not
be good but there's
something good
in every day.

Prayers & Praises

June 16, 2024



Song of the week

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."

We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod; but in your promise we rejoice and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.

And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light may we behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.



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

Donna Baker, recently diagnosed with a form of cancer behind her ear. Donna is considering some treatment options.

Friends:

- John Burkhart, husband of Cecilia Burkhart is being treated 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: Iglesia Discipulos, Omaha
- Rev. Daniel Zapata

Our Global Ministries Missionaries: Mission Partners in Germany

God, we thankfully celebrate 75 years of democracy in Germany these days. In 1949, a constitution was signed that gave birth to a German government under the rule of law. This was not a given situation. Just a few years before, terror, brutality, antisemitism, racism, and inhumanity reigned in Germany. Now, the first sentence in the German basic law opens this constitution: "Human dignity shall be inviolable."

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

