



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, Pastor
Mark W. Miller, Director of Music Ministries
Elaine Parman, Administrative Assistant

Week of August 4 2024
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Community Prayer

God of the lowly and the mighty, you know the ugliness of your people when we harm and destroy one another, yet you offer us forgiveness of our sins if we but turn to you. Expand our hearts to receive the mercy you give us, that, in turn, we may share your grace and mercy with others each moment of our lives. Amen.

“Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,
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Call to Worship

One: Called to lead a life that is worthy, we gather as God’s people.

Many: Whatever roads we walk, whatever waters we have passed through, we share one baptism.

One: Called to be people of peace and gentleness, we offer these gifts to all of creation.

Many: Though each of us is unique and precious to God, our hearts beat as one with hope.

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

A Blessing in Disguise

Humility is one of the greatest challenges in the daily life of a Christian. It seems so very easy to be overly-confident or even arrogant in our circumstances. On top of that, our culture glorifies independence and the ability to do things on our own, and this can lead to the mistaken belief that we are in control and infallible. David, the golden child of the Lord, wasn't perfect. He may have gotten overly-confident and arrogant. He was the king, after all, and with that power can come abuse of said power. In the interwoven stories of David, Bathsheba and Uriah we see some definite abuse of power. But then came the prophet Nathan, a blessing in disguise. Are we able to see these blessings in our own lives, as painful as they might be? Join us Sunday August 4th for worship as we take a look at the story of a grown up David. Feed your spirits with a time of music, fellowship and the Lord's Supper. We'll see you at First!



Scripture Readings

Psalm 51:1-12

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me. You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD, and the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds; but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him." Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity." Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. Thus says the LORD: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun. For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun." David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."

Prayers & Praises

August 4, 2024



Song of the week

Restore in Us, O God

Restore in us, O God, the splendor of your love; renew your image in our hearts, and all our sins remove.

O Spirit, wake in us the wonder of your power; from fruitless fear unfurl our lives like springtime bud and flower.

Bring us, O Christ, to share the fullness of your joy; baptize us in the risen life that death cannot destroy.

Three personed God, fulfill the promise of your grace, that we, when all our searching ends, may see you face to face.

In Our Church Family:

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

Wayne Duncan, *suffered a stroke on July 24th. He is now at Madonna for rehab.*

Donna Baker, *recently diagnosed with a form of cancer behind her ear. Donna has started a series of treatments.*

Friends:

- John Burkhart, *husband of Cecilia Burkhart is being treated for cancer behind his voice box.*
- 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: Omaha First Christian Church - Rev. Josh Sawyer

Our Global Ministries Missionaries: Italy

"We thank you for the light, sun, sea, and mountains you gave Italy. We confess we have not been responsible custodians of this exceptional heritage, and today, facing catastrophes and floods, we pay the price for our greed. Forgive us, God, for our irresponsibility and our selfishness."



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

