



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 18, 2024
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Community Prayer

Living God, you are the giver of wisdom and true discernment, guiding those who seek your ways to choose the good.

Mercifully grant that your people, feasting on the true bread of heaven, may have eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

“Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers, copyright 2002 Consultation on Common Texts”

Call to Worship

One: For cool mornings and rumbling afternoon storms, for amazing days and ordinary evenings:

Many: we give thanks to God.

One: For the laughing God who tickles us with joy, for the broken-hearted Love who joins in our struggles, for the Spirit of grace who teaches us to dance:

Many: we give thanks to God at all times and for everything!

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

The Comforter

Paul and those working with him lived lives we can only get a glimpse of through the letters he wrote. In many of his writings he describes the trials and suffering he underwent in his ministry of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. Time and time again, Paul was faced with difficulties and yet he endured these because of the grace of Jesus Christ that was upon him. In 2 Corinthians chapter 1 he says, "*we were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself.*" And yet, in the very same chapter, Paul describes the compassion and comfort God bestowed upon him. An abundance of compassion poured out that allowed Paul to have hope. This Sunday is our Stewardship Sunday for August. We're going to be talking about how compassion is an integral component of stewardship, as it reminds us that there are those beyond us who are in need of our gifts and graces, our time and energy, our love. It is compassion that calls us to give of ourselves to better the kingdom of God. Join us for worship as we listen for God's continual guidance in our lives, share in a time of renewal and fellowship, and be strengthened for the road ahead. We'll see you at First!

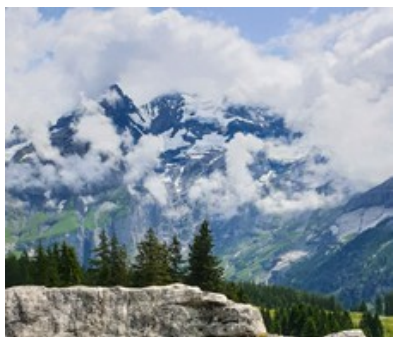


Scripture Readings

Psalm III

Praise the Lord!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them. Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever. He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful. He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant. He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations. The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy. They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness. He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.



2 Corinthians 1:1-11 (NIV)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the church of God in Corinth, together with all his holy people throughout Achaia; Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ. If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer. And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort. We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about the troubles we experienced in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt we had received the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead. He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us again. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us, as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favor granted us in answer to the prayers of many.

Prayers & Praises

August 18, 2024



Song of the week

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Refrain: All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

- Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, God made their glowing colors; God made their tiny wings. [Refrain]
- The purple headed mountain, the river running by, the sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky. [Refrain]
- The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the garden, God made them every one. [Refrain]
- God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well. [Refrain]



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, now going to outpatient therapy at Madonna.

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

Friends:

- Allen Watsek, brother of Gwen Belden is being treated for cancer.
- 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: Peru Community Church
- Rev.'s Ray and Becky Girard

Our Global Ministries Missionaries: Columbia

"We pray for our leaders to have wisdom in the search for peace and reconciliation so that they can effectively lead the dialogue processes that have begun with different armed groups and so that the armed actors become aware of the pain they have caused to the population, to the territory, and every one's home, our land."

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

