



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 September 1, 2024
info@fcclincoln.org
www.fcclincoln.org



Community Prayer

Blessed are you, O Lord and Lover,
source of beauty and depth of passion.
Strengthen and inspire us to do the word
we hear and live the faith we confess.
Amen.

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

Call to Worship

One: Listen! Christ, our Beloved friend, calls to us:

Many: faithfulness is the life he shares, generous service is the path we can follow.

One: Listen! The Holy Spirit, our beloved Peace, transforms us:

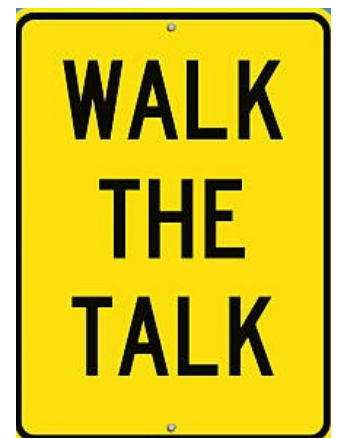
Many: the voice of our Beloved sound
through all creation, welcoming all into
the household of God.

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

3, 2, 1 Action!

The epistle (letter) of James doesn't get a lot of attention. It isn't as well-advertised as Paul's letters and the pseudo-Pauline letters (those written by others in Paul's name and style). Maybe the author of the book of James had a smaller operating budget or didn't attend the book-release parties like Paul did (joke). The epistle of James talks about the importance of having a well-rounded faith--one that is internal and personal as well as one that is external and action-driven. In other words thoughts and words alone do nothing to share the love of Christ with the world, just as actions alone do nothing to grow your personal faith in order to help you go out and share it. Both are needed. It's an important message for us to hear still today, because we all know of people (maybe even ourselves?) that talk the talk but don't walk the walk. We grow leery of those who say the words of faith but live lives that are counter to them. We are responsible for modeling (as imperfect as we are) how to do both. How do we do this? Join us for worship, where we'll ponder the words of James, make a joyful noise unto the Lord through music and fellowship, and feast at the Lord's table. We'll see you at First!



Scripture Readings

Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9

My heart overflows with a goodly theme; I address my verses to the king; my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe. You are the most handsome of men; grace is poured upon your lips; therefore God has blessed you for ever.

Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever. Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity; you love righteousness and hate wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions; your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia. From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad; daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor; at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.



James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act - they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Prayers & Praises September 1, 2024



Song of the week

Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O thou of God to earth come down, thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring. Jesus is fairer; Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling, starry host. Jesus shines brighter; Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.

Beautiful Savior, Ruler of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forever more be thine!



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

Sympathy to Mark Miller. Helen Miller, Mark's stepmother passed away August 21st. Services were in Grand Island on August 28th.

Wayne Duncan, *now going to outpatient therapy at Madonna.*

Friends:

- Allen Watsek, brother of *Gwen Belden is being treated for cancer.*
- John Burkhart, husband of *Cecilia Burkhart has completed chemo and radiation and doing well!*
- 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: Rev. Robin Blakemore, Interim Regional Minister.

Our Global Ministries Missionaries: Zambia

"We pray for our nation, Zambia, as it struggles with climate change. More than 6 million people are experiencing hunger due to low rainfall patterns that have affected food security. Internal political wrangles also affect the coexistence of political parties, as others feel their space is shrinking."

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

