



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 15, 2024
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Community Prayer

Wisdom of God, from the street corners and at the entrances to the city you proclaim the way of life and of death. Grant us the wisdom to recognize your Messiah, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the way of life and glory. Amen.

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Call to Worship

One: We are not our own:

Many: so, neither our will nor our wisdom should get in the way of God’s hopes for us.

One: We are not our own, we are God’s:

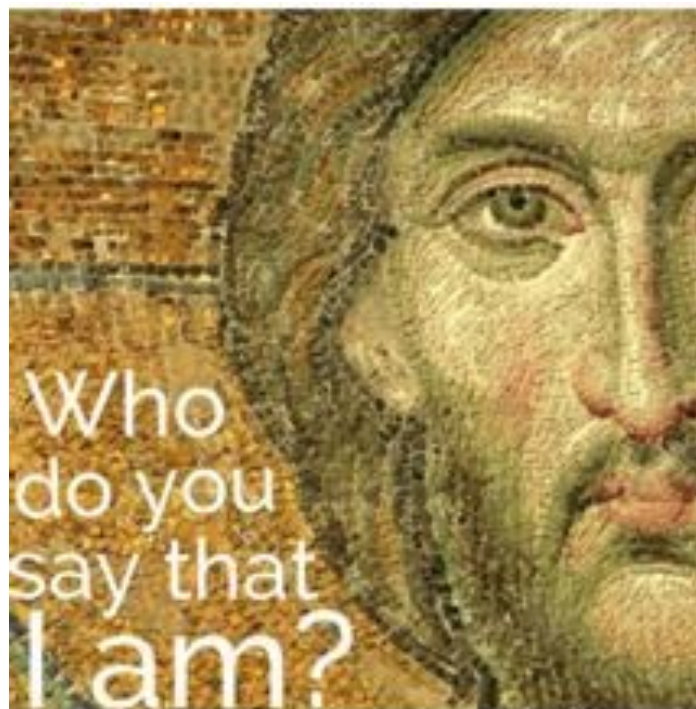
Many: so, let us choose to live for God, and serve all of God’s children

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

To the Cross

Once upon a time, Jesus asked his disciples what people said about him: and, in particular, who people thought Jesus was. And some of the answers were: John the Baptist, Elijah or any one of the other prophets. And then Jesus asked, "*but who do YOU say I am?*" And without hesitating Peter said "*you are the Messiah.*" Ding ding ding!! We have a winner! Peter understood Jesus' title, but still as yet didn't fully understand Jesus' purpose. So Jesus explained, in an agonizingly detailed manner, what he would have to go through, as the Messiah. And, naturally, the disciples were repulsed -- because the image they had of who the Messiah was, was not the reality of who Jesus was. Do we ever get Jesus wrong? Maybe we have this image of what kind of savior we're following and it turns out we're completely incorrect? I think it's very likely we do, because, as great as our brains are, they have such a small capacity for understanding the fullness of God. Jesus ultimately told his disciples that if any of them wanted to be with him, they'd have to take up their cross and follow him. Join us for worship where we'll explore this text from Mark 8, and have a time of fellowship and preparation for the journey ahead! We'll see you Sunday!



Scripture Readings

Psalm 19

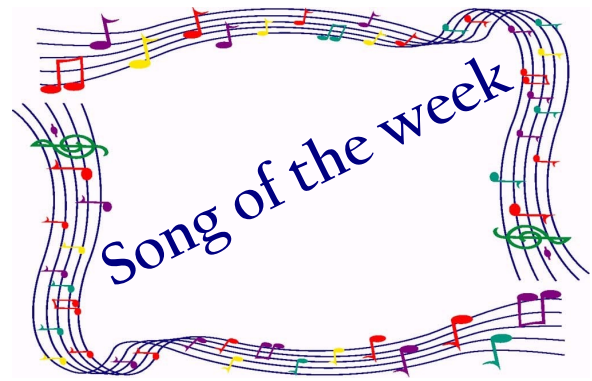
The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat. The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults. Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Mark 8:27-38

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Prayers & Praises

September 15, 2024



Lift High the Cross

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 the Blosser family. Jim's brother John passed away on September 6th. Services will be September 28th in Jefferson City, MO.

Bobbi Carlin, *prayers for successful colon cancer surgery.*

Wayne Duncan, *prayers for improvement of vision with Madonna rehabilitation therapy.*

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: Chuukese Christian Church, Cozad, NE - Joshua Moses

Our Global Ministries Missionaries: the Philippines

"God, who is known by many names, Draw us to Your heart. To the deepest sighs of grieving souls, so that we may stand and mourn with them for the loss of their kin, taken by hunger and disease; taken by bullets and bombs, accused as enemies of the state."

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



Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod, the Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God. [Refrain]

All newborn servants of the Crucified bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died. [Refrain]

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, your death has brought us life eternally. [Refrain]

So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the Crucified for victory. [Refrain]

