



**First Christian Church**  
Disciples of Christ

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## Weekly Worship

love all • live spiritually • rejoice in hope • show hospitality

**The Rev. Kara Hillhouse**, Pastor  
**Mark W. Miller**, Director of Music Ministries  
**Elaine Parman**, Administrative Assistant

**Week of September 22, 2024**  
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### Community Prayer

O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside our envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as a servant of your peace. Amen.

“Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,  
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### Call to Worship

**One:** Our world offers many wide avenues and boulevards to walk;

**Many:** Our God invites us to walk the road of service and sacrifice.

**One:** Our society suggests we put down our roots in the shallow soil of pleasure and greed.

**Many:** Our God seeks to plant us on the banks of hope, watered by the rivers of joy and grace.

# Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

*Upside Down*

In our scripture reading this week Jesus and his disciples are on the road to Capernaum, and some of the disciples are arguing about which one of them is the greatest. Jesus, possibly with a resigned sigh, sits down and tells them "*Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.*" And then he shows them an example of what it means to be "great" by telling them that whoever welcomes a little child welcomes him. It was his way of saying that if we truly want to be great, we have to *completely reevaluate* our definition of the word, because in God's kingdom greatness is determined by our willingness to be weak by being vulnerable, through humility and service. And we are called to live out and embody this kind of greatness. Join us for worship as we explore this text and what it means for us today. Be rejuvenated, equipped and filled up with hope as we prepare to go out into the world and follow Christ! We'll see you at First!



# Scripture Readings

## Psalm 1

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

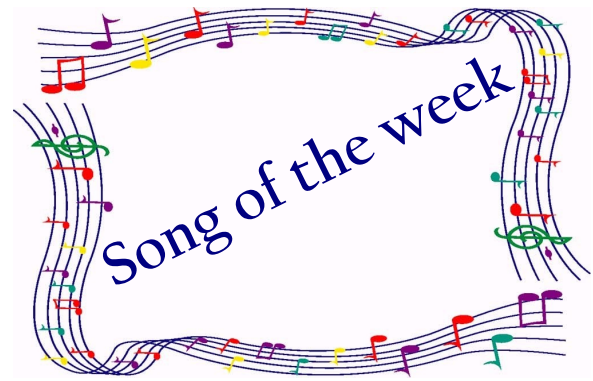
## Mark 9:30-37

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."



# Prayers & Praises

## September 22, 2024



### 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

Bobbi Carlin, *prayers for continued recovery following colon 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:** SouthPointe Christian Church - Rev. Abby Conley

### Our Global Ministries Missionaries: Indonesia

*“O God, You have sent the House of Hope GMT to stand in solidarity with survivors of human trafficking and gender-based violence. With your strength, may we be worthy to extend loving and supportive hands to those in need. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.”*

For more information and stories about our Global Ministry partners visit [www.globalministries.org](http://www.globalministries.org)



## Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might: thy justice, like mountains high soaring above; thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small. In all life thou livest, the true life of all. We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light. Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight. All praise we would render; O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

