



First Christian Church
Disciples of Christ

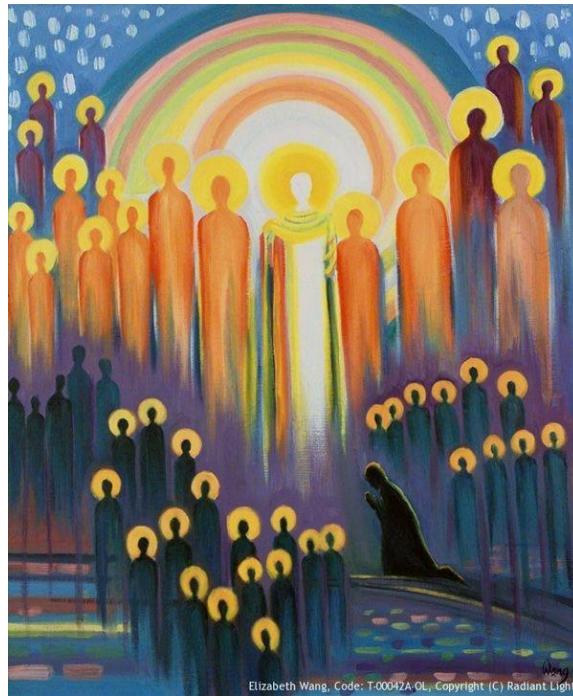
430 S. 16th St. Lincoln, NE 68508 402.475.4289

Weekly Worship

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

The Rev. Kara Hillhouse, Pastor
Mark W. Miller, Director of Worship, Music & Sacred Arts
Elaine Parman, Administrative Assistant

Week of November 3, 2024
info@fcclincoln.org
www.fcclincoln.org



Community Prayer

Beloved Companion, you deal with us kindly in steadfast love, lifting up those bent low with care and sustaining the weak and oppressed. Release us from our anxious fears, that we, holding fast to your commandments, may honor you with all that we are and all that we have. Amen.

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

Call to Worship

One: See how God loves us!

Many: God loves us enough to swallow up death forever.

One: See how Christ loves us!

Many: Christ loves us enough to share our loss and grief.

One: See how the Spirit loves us!

Many: The Holy Spirit loves us enough to offer us words of hope we can trust.

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

Arise!

In our story this week, Ezekiel and the Valley of the Dry Bones, we hear the words of God as spoken through the prophet Ezekiel, "*My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. I will put my Spirit in you and you will live.*" And then, Ezekiel watched as the dry bones took on muscles, flesh and skin and became alive! The thing we cannot help but notice is that this is a Resurrection story--in the Old Testament! I see it as a foreshadowing of the greatest Resurrection of all time: that witnessed in Jesus Christ. On this All Saints' Sunday, as we lift up in our prayers and hearts those who have gone before us, we remember the hope of the Resurrection. We cling to God's promise of life, abundant and eternal, through his son Jesus. And we praise God for the reminder, in this text, that death is never the end for God's children; it never has the final word. This profoundly impacts how we live our daily lives. Join us for worship this Sunday, for a time of praise, prayer, and lighting of candles for our loved ones who are now part of the great cloud of witnesses, the Saints in our lives. We'll see you Sunday!



Scripture Readings

Revelation 21:1-6

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.



Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord." So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

Prayers & Praises

November 3, 2024



Song of the week

For All the Saints

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia!
Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their
might; thou, Lord, their captain in the well-
fought fight; thou, in the darkness drear,
their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine! We
feebly struggle; they in glory shine; yet all are
one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare
long, steals on the ear the distant triumph
song, and hearts are brave again, and arms are
strong. Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's
farthest coast, through gates of pearl streams
in the countless host, singing to Father, Son,
and Holy Ghost, Alleluia! Alleluia!



In Our Church Family:

- Donna Baker
- Rhonda Ball
- 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
- Roger Vocasek

Prayers for Roger Vocasek. He dislocated his shoulder and is waiting to see an orthopedic surgeon.

Friends:

- Allen Watsek, brother of *Gwen Belden is being treated for cancer.*
- John Burkhardt, husband of *Cecilia Burkhardt has started speech therapy.*
- Tammy Foral, *healing, patience and strength as facing many health issues. Co-worker of Sara Lugn.*
- Cedric Gibb, *healing prayers, friend of Cec Burkhardt.*

Our Timothy:

- Rev. Bruce Frogge, *Cypress Creek CC in Spring, TX*

In the Nebraska Region: Bennet Community Church - Rev. Darin Corder

Our Global Ministries Missionaries: Armenia/Lebanon

"Hovering over our heads is the monotonous sound of death – Israeli drones, like those hovering over the destruction in Gaza, and like those Azerbaijan bought from Israel in order to annihilate Armenian soldiers in the largely-forgotten Artsakh War of Fall 2020. Now (as of this writing), they hover in networks of thousands, enabling the unhindered bombing of the capital as well as many Lebanese towns and villages. On the ground, however, is the movement of life. Students at Haigazian University decided that they were going to gather supplies to support the organizations involved in relief work."

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



IMPORTANT NEWS REGARDING PARKING LOT USAGE:

As of now, we are no longer using the Masonic Temple parking lot at anytime, including Sunday mornings. We have been informed by the Temple that they will tow any cars parked in the wrong spots. Please, when you come to church for worship or other activities throughout the week, park in First Christian's parking lot only (or street parking). The church parking lot is located at the corner of 17th and K Streets. *Only the paved spots are the church's. Do not park in the gravel spots next to the Masonic Temple building.*

Here are some other important things to keep in mind: **on weekdays**, between the hours of 6am-5pm (the times on the parking lot sign are incorrect), most of our lot is reserved parking, and we cannot park in those spaces. There are, however, five spaces reserved for First Christian Church--two marked Staff Parking, and three additional ones with signs indicating they are for First Christian. These three signs are in the northeast corner of the rows closest to 17th Street, not next to the Staff Parking spaces. Please park in these three spaces. After 5pm on weekdays you are free to park in any spot in our lot. **On Saturdays and Sundays** you can park anywhere in our lot. On home football game days, you are welcome to park in the lot *if there is room*. The lot is used for football game tailgating and may be full.

Again, *please do not park in the Masonic Temple parking lot at any time*. I understand this is a lot of information. However, we do not want any of you to have your cars towed, and we need to respect the spaces in our lot that are reserved for others. If you have any questions regarding this change, please contact the church office at 402/475-4289 or email Kara at pastorkara@fcclincoln.org.

I appreciate your understanding and willingness to change our practices. Peace be with you and be of good cheer!

Pastor Kara