



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 January 26, 2025
info@fcclincn.org
www.fcclincn.org



Community Prayer

In you, O Lord our God, we find our joy, for through your law and your prophets you formed a people in mercy and freedom, in justice and righteousness. Pour your Spirit on us today, that we who are Christ's body may bear the good news of your ancient promises to all who seek you. Amen.

"Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,
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Call to Worship

One: On this day, which is holy, we gather, not alone, but as Christ's Body;

Many: as ones who would suffer together, we gather.

One: On this day of prayer and praise, of silence and song, we gather, not in isolation, but in community;

Many: as ones who would care for one another, we gather.

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

1 Corinthians 12:12-31

The Search for a "More Excellent Way"

In a world that seems to become more divisive by the day, it can be easy to focus only on what makes us different from one another. We easily view people through an "us vs. them" lens. In fact, our brains are especially adept at noticing "differences" -- possibly a primitive survival tool for identifying potential threats vs. opportunities. This makes Paul's words to the Corinthians, where he describes the diverse parts of the body united as one in Christ, so vital. It's a really important reality check -- as we jump to conclusions and judge people as "others" -- that *we need each other*. In fact, the body of Christ cannot be complete if even one body part is missing. What does this mean for us today? Join us for Sunday worship, where we -- the wondrously diverse body of Christ -- will come together as one to worship God, listen to his living Word, fellowship together and be renewed by his presence. We'll see you Sunday!

Pastor Kara



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.

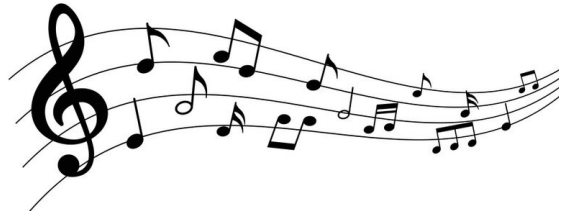


1 Corinthians 12:12-31

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - Jews or Greeks, slaves or free - and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Prayers & Praises

January 26, 2025



Song of the week

One Bread, One Body

Refrain: One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless. And we,
though many, throughout the earth, we are one
body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man,
no more. [Refrain]

Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord
of all. [Refrain]

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one, for all. [Refrain]



New address and phone number for Joan Dietrich:

7963 Yellow Knife Drive
Lincoln, NE 68505

Cell: 531-510-2571

In Our Church Family:

- Donna Baker
- Rhonda Ball
- Cecilia 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
- Roger Vocasek

Prayers for Roger & Jessica Vocasek. Both are struggling with a variety of health issues.

Praise for Joan Dietrich. Joan is out of rehab, settling into her “new” home with her daughter.

Friends:

- Gina Simpson, *sister of Sara Lugn. Gina and Sara will be going to Mayo Clinic in MN where Gina will have brain surgery on February 12th for a benign mass.*
- John Burkhart, *recent scan shows he is cancer-free.*
- Linda De Los Santos, *sister of Vincent Ortega. Linda is in rehab in Scottsbluff.*
- Maggie Schumacher, *friend of Katelyn Long.*
- Allen Watsek, *brother of Gwen Belden is being treated for cancer.*
- 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: ALL Nebraska Disciples of Christ Congregations and Clergy

Our Global Ministries Missionaries in: China

“Dear Creator God, Thank you for the partnerships that connect our faith communities across cultures and distances. We pray for the churches in China as they seek to proclaim the Good News and promise of God’s favor to the people of that historic land.”

For more information and stories about our Global Ministry partners

