



First Christian Church
Disciples of Christ

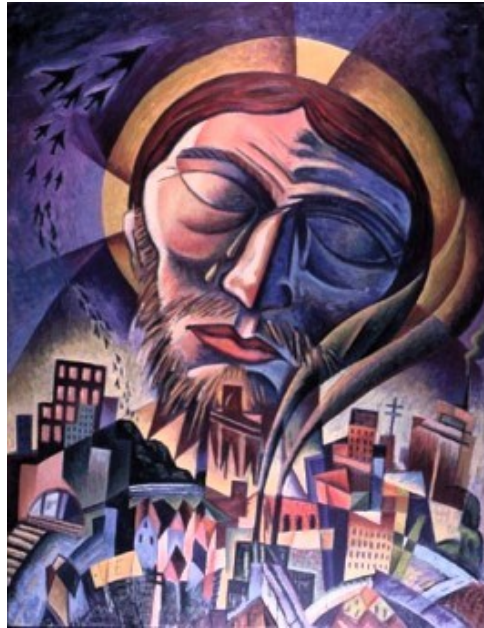
430 S. 16th St. Lincoln, NE 68508 402.475.4289

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 March 16, 2025
info@fcclincoln.org
www.fcclincoln.org



Community Prayer

Hope beyond all human hope, you promised descendants as numerous as the stars to old Abraham and barren Sarah. You promise light and salvation in the midst of darkness and despair, and promise redemption to a world that will not listen. Gather us to yourself in tenderness, open our ears to listen to your word, and teach us to live faithfully as people confident of the fulfillment of your promises. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

“Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,
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Call to Worship

One: I was glad when they said to me,

Many: Let us go to the house of the Lord!

One: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: May they prosper who love you.

Many: Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers.

One: For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say,

Many: Peace be within you.

Sermon

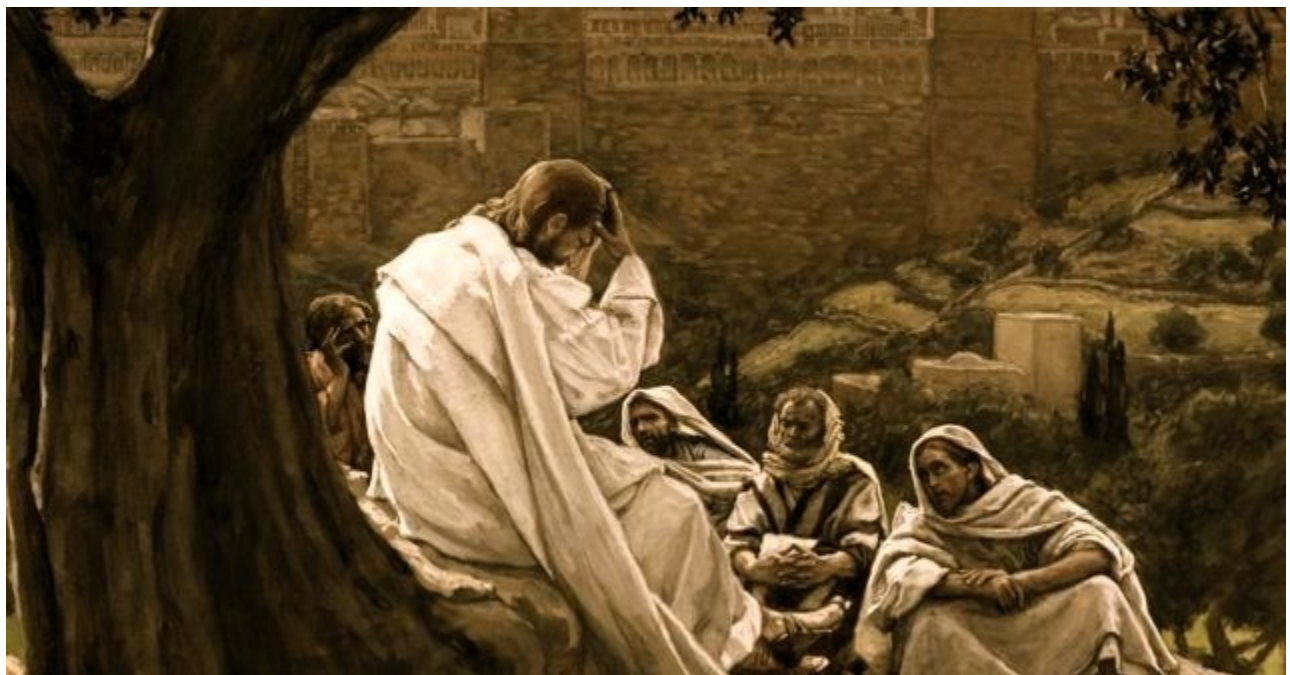
From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

Luke 13:31-35

God's Grief

"Lament is the language of a broken heart. Lament is an expression of love. It is the language of love when we see bad things happen to our loved ones, when we watch people make tragic decisions, when disasters unfold and wars erupt" (Pastor Clarke Dixon). On the second Sunday of Lent, we find Jesus lamenting over Jerusalem: he's not angry, he's not hurt, and he's not resentful...just grieving. It's clear that Jerusalem is a beloved place to him, or else he'd respond much differently. In this story, "Jerusalem" can stand for many things (although the city itself *was* broken and unfaithful). "Jerusalem" can be a metaphor for the universal Christian church, religious leaders or people of faith, as on all levels we sometimes reject what God is desperate to teach us, just as Jerusalem killed the prophets. Lent is a good time to evaluate whether we are willing to hear what God is trying to teach us, or whether we've hardened our hearts towards him. Join us for worship, where we'll ponder this text anew, come to the Lord's Table and share in fellowship with one another. We'll see you Sunday!

Pastor Kara



Scripture Readings

Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!” Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem -built as a city that is bound firmly together. To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord. For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers.” For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, “Peace be within you.” For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

Luke 13:31-35

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ”



Prayers & Praises

March 16, 2025



Song of the week

Sometimes a Light Surprises

Sometimes a light surprises the child of God who sings; it is the Lord who rises with healing in his wings; when comforts are declining, he grants the soul again a season of clear shining to cheer it after rain.

In holy contemplation we sweetly then pursue the theme of God's salvation and find it ever new; set free from present sorrow, we cheerfully can say, "Let the unknown tomorrow bring with it what it may."

It can bring with it nothing but he will bear us through; who gives the lilies clothing will clothe his people too; beneath the spreading heavens no creature but is fed; and he who feeds the ravens will give his children bread.

Though vine nor fig tree neither their longed - for fruit should bear, though all the fields should wither, nor flocks nor herds be there, yet God the same abiding, his praise shall tune my voice; for while in him confiding, I cannot but rejoice.



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 Rae-Hope Putney. Please keep Rae-Hope and her family in prayer as she is kept comfortable after breaking her pelvis.

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

Friends:

- Sympathy to the family of Tyler Goodrich. Tyler is the brother of Jennie Ernest. He was missing for 16 months. His remains were discovered on March 8th.
- Gina Simpson, sister of Sara Lugn. Gina is home and gaining strength every day.
- Jody Schrage, friend of Katelyn Long. She is having shoulder surgery.
- Linda De Los Santos, sister of Vincent Ortega. Linda is home and continues rehab.

Our Timothy:

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

In the Nebraska Region: Brownsville Christian Church—Pulpit Supply

Our Global Ministries Missionaries in: Japan

"Creator God, you created this world and put the stewardship of the planet in our hands. Yet, we have put our own greed first thereby destroying the environment around us. Fourteen years ago, the Tokyo Electric Power Company "Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station" was the sight of the world's most terrible nuclear disaster. Great amounts of nuclear debris have polluted the earth and the ocean. The effects of this disaster have transcended national borders, and will even transcend generations."

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

