



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 April 13, 2025
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Community Prayer

Giver of light, your steadfast love endures forever. Open our hearts to the Blessed One who comes so humbly, on a borrowed colt. Open before us the gates of your justice, that we may enter, confessing in heaven and on earth that Jesus is Lord. Amen.

“Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,

Call to Worship

One: We come to prepare for the holiest of weeks.

Many: We will journey through praise, with joy on our lips; we will travel through betrayal and death, cradling hope deep in our hearts.

One: Jesus leads us through this week, and we follow.

Many: We wave palm branches in anticipation, we lay our love before him, to cushion his walk.

One: Setting aside all power, glory, and might, he comes: modeling humility and obedience for all of us.

Many: Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is he who brings us the kingdom of God.

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

Luke 19:28-44

How Far Will You Go?

Palm Sunday is a bit of an anomaly sticking out in the season of Lent. It's so celebratory: Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, with the people draping things on the ground before him (palm branches, other kinds of branches or clothing, depending on which gospel we read from) and shouting words of praise. It's as if there was not a care in the world...just Jesus finally getting the recognition he deserved. How odd it is--an oasis of positivity and hope in the midst of a season of repentance. In Luke's version of this story, however, it ends with Jesus lamenting over Jerusalem. Again--it's the second time he's done it. He knows--even if no one else gets it--what is about to happen. The people will embrace him today...and yet hand him over to the authorities for crucifixion by the end of the week. And so, we don't stop observing Holy Week between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. If we do, we miss out on the most important part of the story: Jesus' sacrifice that we observe on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Join us for worship Sunday as we begin to walk with Jesus through his final days in Jerusalem--the holiest of weeks in the church year. We'll see you at First!

Pastor Kara

First Christian Church 24 - Hour Prayer Vigil

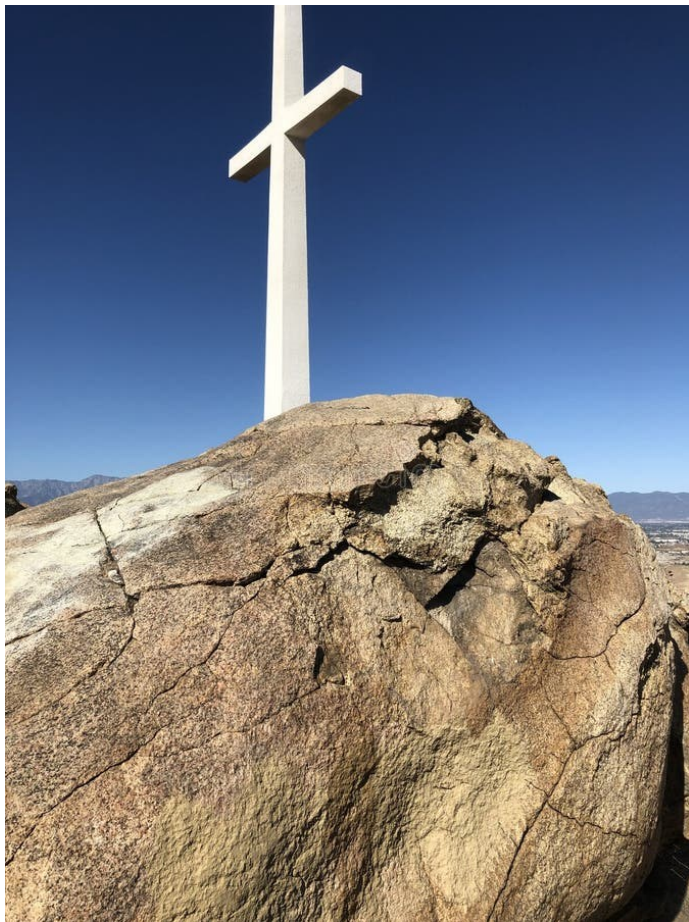
The 24 - Hour Prayer Vigil will begin at 1 pm on Friday, April 18th and end on Saturday, April 19th at 1 pm. If you are able to take one 30 minute time slot to be in prayer at home or your favorite spot to pray, please let the church office know and you will be added to the list.



Scripture Readings

Psalm 118:19-23

Open to me the gates of the righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. I thank you that you answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.



Luke 19:28-44

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out." As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, "If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you, and hem you in on every side. They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God."

Prayers & Praises

April 13, 2025



Song of the week

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang; through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang. To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed 'mid an exultant crowd, the victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud; the Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state, nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.

“Hosanna in the highest!” That ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer; the Lord of heaven, our King. O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in his blissful presence eternally 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
- Marvin Thurber
- Phyllis Thurber
- Jessica Vocasek
- Roger Vocasek

Sympathy to the family of Rae-Hope Putney. Rae-Hope passed away March 22nd. Visitation will be at First Christian Church, Friday April 11th from 6 pm to 8 pm. Memorial Service at First Christian at 1:30 pm Saturday, April 12th.

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

Friends:

- Gina Simpson, *sister of Sara Lugn. Gina continues to gain 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: Elwood First Christian Church - Pulpit Supply.

Our Global Ministries Missionaries in: Figi

“Today, in new oceans filled with hatred and capitalistic surges without fear or shame, we find ourselves lost again in the darkness of political storms. We search for land and light but are assaulted from every side. Help us cross this ocean. Please give us the strength, stamina, and willpower to weather the storm. But when we as a people and nation are afflicted beyond our strength to withstand, give us the grace to forgive and not to hate in return. Sail with us to new beginnings, dear God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.”



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

