



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 June 8, 2025
info@fcclincn.org
www.fcclincn.org



Community Prayer

Call to Worship

Living God, you have created all that is. Send forth your Spirit to renew and restore us, that we may proclaim your good news in ways and words that all will understand and believe. Amen.

One: The Day of Pentecost is here! God's children have gathered in this place:

Many: we are transformed into God's family by God's Spirit joining with ours.

One: Come, Holy Spirit!

Many: Come, Holy Spirit!

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

Acts 2:1-21

Indefinable

Life can feel too difficult at times: lonely, unbearable, scary. All of those emotions are valid, because it truly is hard sometimes. It helps me to remember that God has equipped us with what we need to endure these moments. Now, just because God has equipped us doesn't mean all the difficulties will be whisked away and life will be all unicorns and rainbows, because it won't. But what *does* happen, when we can recognize God at work in our lives, is we remember it is all temporary. The struggles we wrestle with will never have the last word -- the last word belongs to God, and it is Life. One of the ways God has equipped us is the Holy Spirit, always present, always in our midst, always working to help, comfort and encourage us. Maybe we forget about this great gift, because we focus so much on Jesus. But the Holy Spirit is as important as Jesus: it is God with us *right now*. This Sunday is Pentecost, the day we recognize the Holy Spirit pouring out upon the disciples and all gathered with them; the day we remember we are not alone, even though Jesus has ascended. Join us for worship as we celebrate this great gift, praise God, listen to his holy word for us and be rejuvenated for the new week before us. We'll see you at First!

Pastor Kara



Scripture Readings

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great. There go the ships, and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it. These all look to you to give them their food in due season; when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things. When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground. May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works - who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke. I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord. Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more.

Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs - in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'



Prayers & Praises

June 8, 2025

In Our Church Family:

- Donna Baker
- Rhonda Ball
- Mike Carlin
- Jim Christ
- Joan Dietrich
- Wayne Duncan
- Ron Hile
- Phyllis Knosp
- Polly Putney
- Marvin Thurber
- Phyllis Thurber
- Jessica Vocasek
- Roger Vocasek

Prayers for Roger & Jessica Vocasek. Roger is recovering from shoulder surgery and Jessica has back issues.

Friends:

- Prayers for Ron Collamore, *Ron is a regular visitor and is seeking prayers for improvement to his health.*
- Jeanne Schruck, *mother of Meghan Schruck Cowger. Jeanne is having lung surgery on June 9th.*
- Nikki, *friend of Katelyn Long. She is recovering from recent gastric bypass 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: Kamp Kaleo on the River—Rev. Brad Hindsley, Staff & Counselors

Our Global Ministries Missionaries in: Indonesia

"We bring the struggles of the Sumba Christian Church and the Theological Seminary of Sumba Christian Church when facing various social problems, such as poverty, violence against women and children, human trafficking practices, drought and other climate-related issues, and various other social problems. We bring to you all those suffering from depression and other mental health issues. We continue to hope that the Holy Spirit will enable us to be the witnesses of Christ by becoming agents of change for the people of Sumba.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen."



Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

Like the murmur of the dove's song, like the challenge of her flight, like the vigor of the wind's rush, like the new flame's eager might: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

To the members of Christ's body, to the branches of the Vine, to the church in faith assembled, to our midst as gift and sign: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

With the healing of division, with the ceaseless voice of prayer, with the power to love and witness, with the peace beyond compare: Come, Holy Spirit, come.



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

