



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
Amy Johnson, Administrative Assistant

Week of October 5, 2025
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Community Prayer

God of all the ages, you have revealed your grace in our Savior, Jesus Christ. As we wait patiently on your mercies, strengthen us to live in your justice, that with open hearts we may hear and accomplish your will, through Christ, who lights the way to life everlasting. Amen.

“Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,
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Call to Worship

One: We gather, as God’s people, bringing our fears and pain,

Many: knowing that when our spirits have grown cold, God rekindles the gift of faith in us.

One: We gather, as God’s people, hungering for healing and hope,

Many: knowing that even when life seems desolate, God prepares a feast for us.

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

Lamentations 3:19-26

Hope in Troubled Times

The book of Lamentations is, not surprisingly, a series of laments (poems, actually) over the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple in 586 BCE. It's obvious as we read the book how deep was the author's pain and grief over this event, and all it led to. Yet, in the midst of the sorrow were glimpses of hope. And, as always happens when I see this mixture of pain and resilience, I am sometimes at a loss to explain what it is within us that allows us to stand at the outskirts of the desolation of our lives, and see hope on the horizon. There is something within us, as people of faith, that knows, innately, that though man may sorrow, God endures. And because God endures, the great purpose and workings of God endure. Join us for worship as we ponder this oft-neglected book in the Old Testament, and see what it might teach us. We look forward to seeing you for a time of rest, rejuvenation and fellowship. We'll see you at First!

Pastor Kara



Scripture Readings

Psalm 137

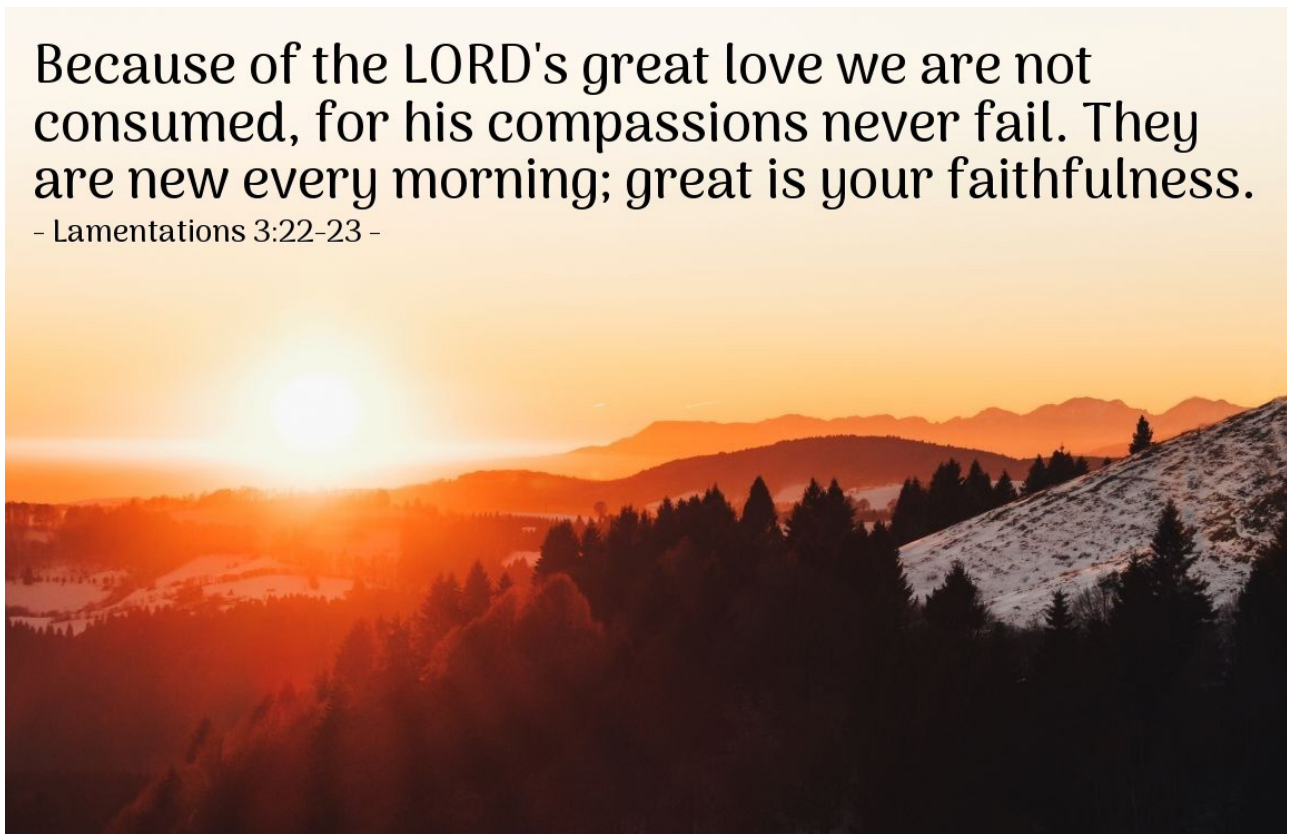
“By the rivers of Babylon—there we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion. On the willows there we hung up our harps. For there our captors asked us for songs, and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying, ‘Sing us one of the songs of Zion!’ How could we sing the Lord’s song in a foreign land? If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth, if I do not remember you, if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy. Remember, O Lord, against the Edomites the day of Jerusalem’s fall how they said, ‘Tear it down! Tear it down! Down to its foundations!’ O daughter Babylon, you devastator! Happy shall they be who pay you back what you have done to us! Happy shall they be who take your little ones and dash them against the rock!”

Lamentations 3:19-26

“The thought of my affliction and my homelessness is wormwood and gall! My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me. But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ‘The Lord is my portion,’ says my soul, ‘therefore I will hope in him.’ The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.”

Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

- Lamentations 3:22-23 -



Prayers & Praises

October 5, 2025

In Our Church Family:

- Donna Baker
- Joan Dietrich
- Ron Hile
- Polly Putney
- Marvin Thurber
- Phyllis Thurber
- Jessica Vocasek
- Roger Vocasek

Prayers for Roger & Jessica Vocasek. They both have health issues.

Prayers for Katelyn Long. Katelyn is continuing to work with a specialist.

Friends:

- Jody Schrage, friend of Katelyn Long. She is back in Lincoln, undergoing extensive testing.
- Nikki, friend of Katelyn Long. She is recovering from recent gastric bypass surgery.

Our Timothy:

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

In the Nebraska Region: Verdon Christian Church - Pulpit Supply

Our Global Ministries Missionaries in: Costa Rica

"Creator God, we give you thanks this day for the beautiful country of Costa Rica, where the Latin American Biblical University is based. We give thanks for its beaches and forests filled with diverse forms of life. Behind this beauty, there are struggles. This day, we lift up the people in different communities working to defend water sources from contamination by agrochemicals and deforestation. We especially pray for the leaders of the Bröran, Bribri, and Cabécar peoples as they defend their territories and their ancestral wisdom from outsiders despite threats and physical violence. May their cries for protection and justice be heard in the halls of power and in the churches. Fill us with a vision of abundant life for all living beings. May our hearts and hands be moved by your Spirit to join in efforts to re-new creation here in Costa Rica and around the world."

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



Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail
not. As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Summer and winter, and springtime and
harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses
above join with all nature in manifold
witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and
love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to
guide, strength for today and bright hope for
tomorrow: blessings all mine, with ten
thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy
faithfulness! Morning by morning, new
mercies I see. All I have needed thy hand hath
provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto
me!

