



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 12, 2025
info@fcclincoln.org
www.fcclincoln.org



Community Prayer

Wholeness of the sick and Home of the exile,
give us grace to seek the well-being of those
among whom we live, so that all people may
come to know the healing of your love and
new voices join to give you thanks in Jesus
Christ. Amen.

“Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,
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Call to Worship

One: Make a joyful noise to God, all the
earth!

Many: Sing to the glory of God's name.

One: All of creation worships, singing praise
to God.

Many: Sing to the glory of God's name.

One: Let us give glory to God.

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

Luke 16:19-31

Listen!

When I was a young girl my family had a set of Encyclopedias. They were bound in beautiful brown leather with gold wording on them. These books were my world, because everything I wanted to know was within those pages, and I turned to them often for guidance. Not only did I read them, but I *listened* to the knowledge they shared with me—I took it to heart—because what good does it do to seek wisdom only to ignore it? As people of faith, we have a different authoritative source that we turn to for wisdom and guidance, a different book of information. And we try really, really hard to listen to what the Bible shares, especially the teachings of Jesus. We will fail, at times, to follow what we hear, but we continue to do our best to heed the teachings. This week Jesus tells us the story of Lazarus and the Rich Man, and the word "*listen*" plays an important role. It makes us ask ourselves, "am I truly listening to what God teaches me, or is it going in one ear and out the next without really being heard?" Join us for worship, for a time of listening for God's wisdom, guidance and comfort, as we seek to re-focus our lives on what truly matters. We'll see you at First!

Pastor Kara



Scripture Readings

Psalm 66:1-12

“Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise. Say to God, ‘How awesome are your deeds! Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you. All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you, sing praises to your name.’ Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds among mortals. He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot. There we rejoiced in him, who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations— let the rebellious not exalt themselves. Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard, who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip. For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried. You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs; you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.”

Luke 16:19-31

“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, “Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.” But Abraham said, “Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.” He said, “Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father’s house— for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.” Abraham replied, “They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.” He said, “No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.” He said to him, “If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”



Prayers & Praises

October 12, 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: Methodist Hospital Chaplain - Melissa Strong

Our Global Ministries Missionaries in: Japan

“Lord, as one of your called-out people, I lift the nation of Japan before your throne, a country of rich history and culture. Please bless Japanese people with your wisdom and understanding, so that they may contribute positively to world peace, justice, and reconciliation, and help them come to acknowledge your love and presence in their hearts.

Thank you, Lord, for the establishment of the Asian Rural Institute (ARI) in this country, which serves you on your mission fields. I thank you for the growing and nurturing leaders from the developing countries who are here to live together for nine months at a place where we are living together to overcome differences in religion, language, lifestyles, and cultural background—a place where we recognize each other's dignity. I also lift up the warm and resilient people from places that ARI serves from Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Father, I stand before you with a humble spirit, asking for your grace upon these people, that they may be granted unity, peace, and prosperity. God of Glory, be a beacon of hope for those in need and help the nations grow in harmony and love.”

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



When the Poor Ones

When the poor ones who have nothing share with strangers, when the thirsty water give unto us all, when the crippled in their weakness strengthen others, then we know that God still goes that road with us, then we know that God still goes that road with us.

When at last all those who suffer find their comfort, when they hope though even hope seems hopelessness, when we love though hate at times seems all around us, then we know that God still goes that road with us, then we know that God still goes the road with us.

When our joy fills up our cup to overflowing, when our lips speak no words other than true, when we know that love for simple things is better, then we know that God still goes that road with us, then we know that God still goes that road with us.

When our homes are filled with goodness in abundance, when we learn how to make peace instead of war, when each stranger that we meet is called a neighbor, then we know that God still goes that road with us, then we know that God still goes that road with us.

