



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 November 9, 2025
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Community Prayer

Eternally righteous God, merciful judge of all the living, in your love you called us to share the glory of Christ. Strengthen our hearts in every good work and word, that we may be steadfast in your ways and always believe your truth. Amen.

“Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,
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Call to Worship

One: The God who is greater than we will ever understand,

Many: is humbled to become one of us.

One: The God who is more loving than our hearts dare imagine,

Many: gives us more grace than we ever realize.

One: The God who is wiser than we will ever know,

Many: teaches us all we need to become God's children.

Sermon

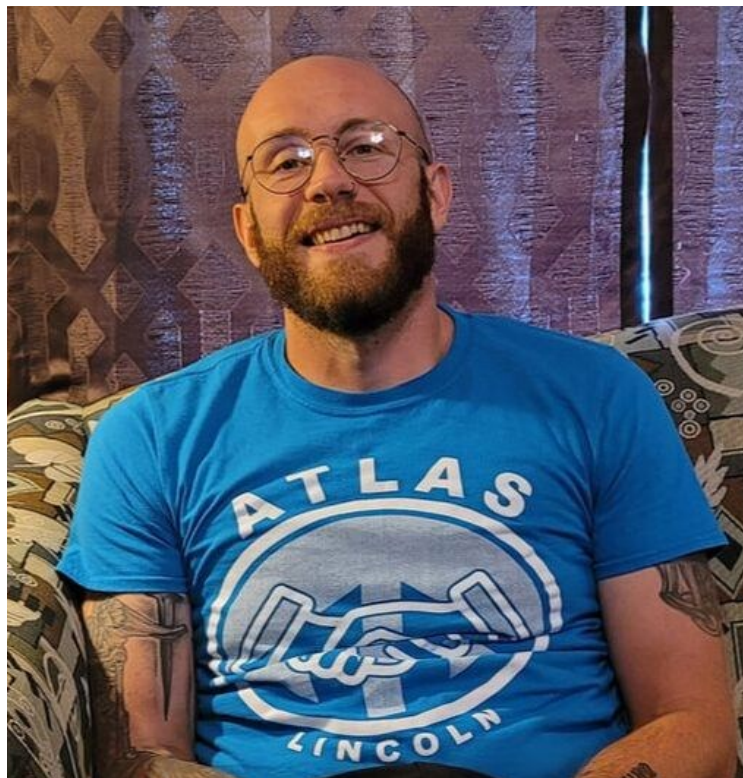
Welcome Guest Pastor

Brody Van Roekel

James 2:1-7

Forsaking Favoritism for Friendship

This week our guest preacher is Brody Van Roekel: Brody serves as the Executive Director for Atlas: Lincoln, an adult mentoring and peer-support organization he helped found in Lincoln in 2018. In addition to serving with Atlas, he is active on the Board of Directors for several local organizations. Brody is also attending Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa, OK, and is under care for ordination in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Nebraska. He serves as a Chaplain Candidate with the Nebraska Army National Guard. Living relationally has always been central to Brody's life, and he finds purpose in meaningful, diverse connections. Passionate about reaching marginalized populations, he is driven to empower others with hope and the tools for lasting change.



Scripture Readings

Psalms 145:1-5, 17-21

"I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever. Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts. On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

The Lord is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings. The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desire of all who fear him; he also hears their cry, and saves them.

The Lord watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy. My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord, and all flesh will bless his holy name forever and ever."

James 2:1-7

"My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please,' while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there,' or, 'Sit at my feet,' have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?"



Prayers & Praises

November 9, 2025

In Our Church Family:

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

Prayers for Jim Christ as he continues to recover following open heart surgery on October 10, 2025.

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

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

Friends:

- Lucy Reuter-Masek, mom of Kristie Christianson. *Prayers for healing as she has been diagnosed with melanoma, with a rare tumor on her face. A procedure to remove it will be on Tuesday, November 18th, followed by reconstructive surgery on Friday, Nov 21st, if all goes according to plan.*
- 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.*
- Ron Collamore, *prayers for his health.*
- Deidra Parman, sister-in-law of Elaine Parman. *Deidra has been diagnosed with B Cell Lymphoma of the eyelids. She will be at MD Anderson in Houston for treatment.*

Our Timothy:

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

In the Nebraska Region: Religious Coordinator
- Rachel Johnson

Our Global Ministries Missionaries in: Sri Lanka

"God, we remember the work and witness of the Ecumenical Institute for Study and Dialogue (EISD) in Sri Lanka over the last 74 years. We especially give thanks for the pioneers who evolved and led the EISD, Rev. Basil Jackson, Rev. Dr. Lynn de Silva, and Rev. Fr. Aloysius Pieris. We pray unto you, O gracious God, that we continue working to strengthen people for active service in the fellowship of the gospel. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen."



O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

O worship the King, all glorious above! O gratefully sing God's power and God's love: our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of God's might; O sing of God's grace, whose robe is the light, whose canopy space, whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form; and bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold, Almighty, your power had founded of old; established it fast by a changeless decree, and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Your bountiful care what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air; it shines in the light; it streams from the hills; it descends to the plain, and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in you do we trust, nor find you to fail; your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end, our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

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

