



**First Christian Church**

Disciples of Christ

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## 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 January 18, 2026**  
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### Community Prayer

Steadfast God, you have enriched and enlightened us by the revelation of your eternal Christ. Comfort us in our mortality and strengthen us to walk the path of your desire, so that by word and deed we may manifest the gracious news of your faithfulness and love. Amen.

“Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,  
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### Call to Worship

One: In the bleak midwinter, we wait:

Many: for the One who warms us with  
stories of love and hope.

One: In the stillness of a snowfall, we wait:

Many: for the One who clears a path so we  
may follow in faith.

One: In the shadows of life, we wait:

Many: for the One who lights the way  
through the world.

# Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

Psalm 40:1-11

*From the Pit to the Peak*

King David was a man after God's own heart, yet he was far from perfect. We learn of David, the king, in 1 and 2 Samuel and 1 Chronicles; but even more important, we learn of David, the man, through reading the psalms he composed. When we do, we get a glimpse into the real David. His songs (psalms) are honest confessions of both his struggles and victories, and they resonate with us, because they're filled with the messy and real emotions we all feel. Like other psalms, David's songs speak of the highs and lows of life, and God's faithfulness through it all. Join us for worship Sunday, and experience a time of spiritual rest and rejuvenation. Make worship at First a part of your week!

Pastor Kara



# Scripture Reading

## Psalm 40:1-11

“I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord. Happy are those who make the Lord their trust, who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods. You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you. Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted. Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required. Then I said, ‘Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me. I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.’ I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord. I have not hidden your saving help within my heart, I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation. Do not, O Lord, withhold your mercy from me; let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe forever.”



# Prayers & Praises

## January 18, 2026

### In Our Church Family:

- Donna Baker
- Cec Burkhart
- Jim Christ
- Joan Dietrich
- Ron Hile
- Debby Ortega
- Polly Putney
- Bob Throop
- Marvin Thurber
- Phyllis Thurber
- Jessica Vocasek
- Roger Vocasek

*Prayers for Cec Burkhart*, who fell and broke her hip, was hospitalized and had surgery. She is now at home recovering.

*Prayers for Ron Hile*. He is in rehab at Eastmont due to several falls, and is hoping to return home in the coming days.

*Prayers for Debby Ortega*, who was hit by a car in a parking lot, broke her arm, had surgery, and will be coming home from the hospital this week.

*Prayers for Bob Throop*. Pray for healing from a heart attack and other health concerns.

*Prayers for Jim Christ* as he continues to gain strength with cardiac rehabilitation.

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

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

### Friends:

- Ron Collamore, *prayers for his health*.

### Our Timothy:

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

**In the Nebraska Region:** Aurora First Christian Church - Penny Schulz

### Our Global Ministries Missionaries in: Syria

*As we continue to live amidst prolonged crises especially in Middle East region, let us bend our knees before the One who chose to dwell with the poor and the suffering. May He guide Global Ministry missions in many parts of this world through various types of solidarity and support and protect all GM stewards, who are serving tirelessly to make this world a better place. And may the Holy Spirit grant them the grace to recognize the face of Christ in every person they are called to serve. Amen.*

For more information and stories about our Global Ministry partners visit [www.globalministries.org](http://www.globalministries.org)



## God Is My Strong Salvation

God is my strong salvation; what foe have I to fear? In peril and temptation my light, my help, is near. Though hosts encamp around me, firm to the fight I stand; what terror can confound me, with God at my right hand?

Place on the Lord reliance; my soul, with courage wait; God's truth be thine affiance, when faint and desolate. God's might thy heart shall strengthen; God's love thy joy increase; mercy thy days shall lengthen; the Lord will give thee peace.

