



First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

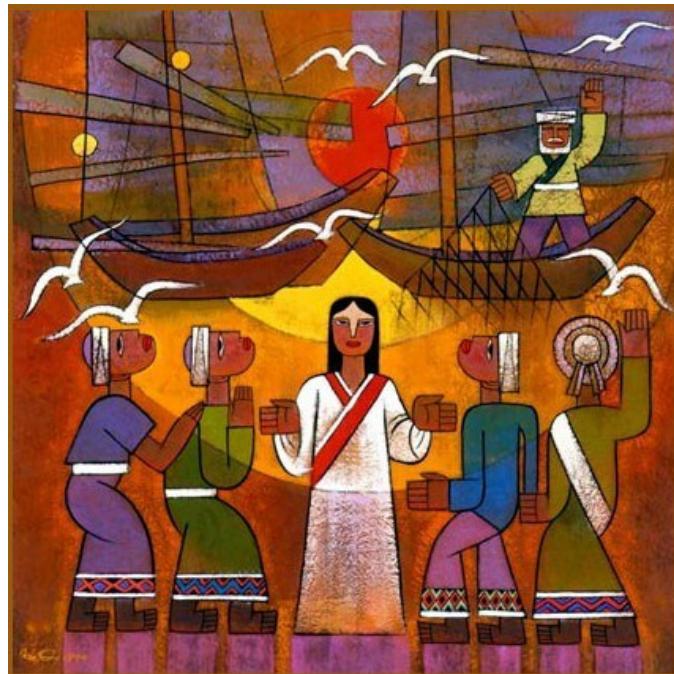
430 S. 16th St. Lincoln, NE 68508 402.475.4289

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 January 25, 2026
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Community Prayer

God of Blazing light, through the power of the cross you shattered our darkness, scattering the fears that bind us and setting us free to live as your children. Give us courage and conviction that we may joyfully turn and follow you into new adventures of faithful service, led by the light that shines through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

"Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,
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Call to Worship

One: As he walked by a lake, Jesus called folks to follow him.

Many: They left their work and went with him.

One: As Jesus journeys through our lives, he asks us to follow him.

Many: We have the chance to leave the past behind and pursue him into God's future.

One: Let us join him in this ministry, reaching out to others, without delay!

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

Matthew 4:12-23

Follow Me

If you're on social media, you've probably seen the invitations to "Follow" certain individuals or groups, meaning that you will be a "fan" of sorts, and receive any posts, updates, and anything else they might have to share. Typically, you only "Follow" things you are familiar enough with to know that you will like what they have to share. In our Scripture reading this week from Matthew 4, we find Jesus inviting the brothers Simon Peter and Andrew to "follow me"...and, although they knew pretty much nothing about Jesus, they got up and went. The world is filled with people and things that want us to "follow" them, but we can only have one master. And our Master is the only one who will lead us to Life. Join us Sunday for a time of renewal and connection to the one who invites us to follow him. We'll see you at First!

Pastor Kara



Scripture Reading

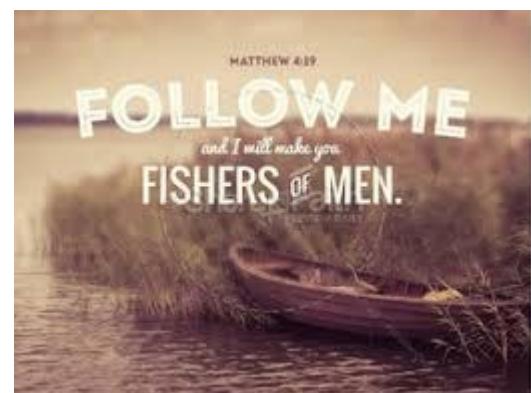
Psalm 27:1, 4-9

“The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple. For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock. Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord. Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me! ‘Come,’ my heart says, ‘seek his face!’ Your face, Lord, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!”



Matthew 4:12-23

“Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ‘Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.’ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. And he said to them, ‘Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.’ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him. Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.”



Prayers & Praises

January 25, 2026

In Our Church Family:

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

Prayers for Cec Burkhardt, who continues to recover at home from a broken hip after several falls.

Prayers for Ron Hile. He has returned home after a stay in the hospital and Eastmont after several falls.

Prayers for Debby Ortega. She is home after surgery on her arm following an accident in a parking lot where she was hit by a vehicle.

Prayers for Bob Throop. He is home after a stay at the Heart Hospital and is doing Cardiac Rehab. In the coming week or two he will have a procedure to place a second lead into his pacemaker to help his heart function better.

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:

- Laurie Aufdemberge, Kristi Bowker's sister, *prayers as she faces breast cancer again*.
- Ron Collamore, *prayers for his health*.

Our Timothy:

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

In the Nebraska Region: Beatrice First Christian Church - Jeff Collins (Interim)

Our Global Ministries Missionaries in:
Argentina

God of life and mission, bless our daily work and the ministries we carry out, so that they may be living signs of your Kingdom and a faithful expression of your love. We present to you the people and communities we serve, especially those living in vulnerable situations; make us instruments of healing, teaching, and hope. Amen.



Will You Come and Follow Me

“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known; will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”

“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?”

“Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?”

“Will you love the ‘you’ you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?”

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.”

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

