



First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

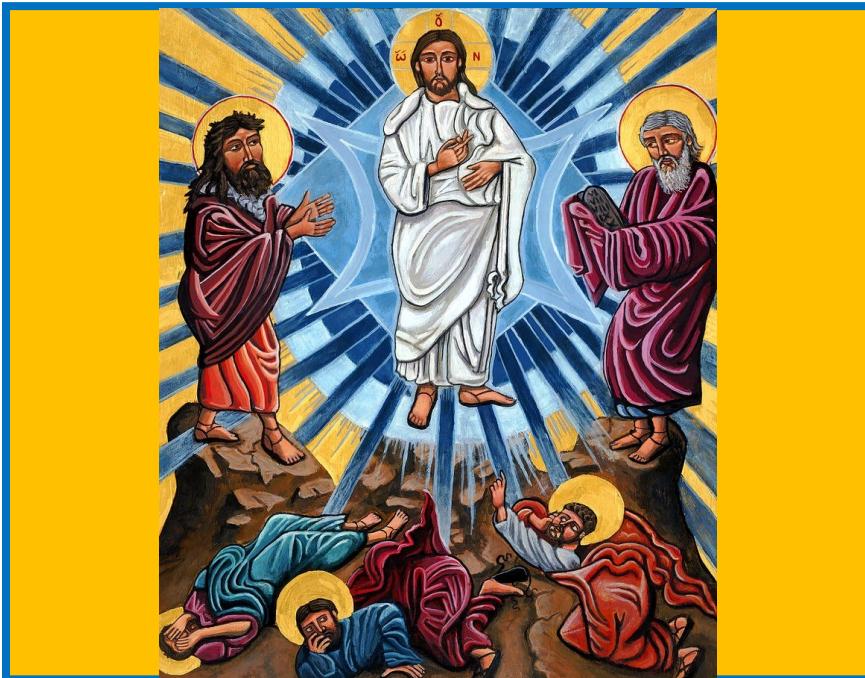
430 S. 16th St. Lincoln, NE 68508 402.475.4289

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 February 15, 2026
info@fcclincoln.org
www.fcclincoln.org



Community Prayer

O God of the covenant, the cloud of your splendor and the fire of your love revealed your Son on the mountain heights. Transform our lives in his image, write your law of love on our hearts, and make us prophets of your glory, that we may lead others into your presence. Amen.

"Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,
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Call to Worship

One: On glory's mountaintops of wonder and delight, we wait:

Many: for God's amazing grace to transform our shadowed lives.

One: In the valleys of everyday life, where noise overwhelms us, we wait:

Many: willing to waste time simply being in God's presence.

One: In the devouring fires of fear, in the mist of misguided living, we wait,

Many: for the One who comes in majesty, to lead us down the paths of humility.

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse
Matthew 17:1-9
Get Up and Don't Be Afraid

Our scripture this week finds three of the disciples with Jesus on the mountaintop, when he suddenly became "transfigured" before them. The voice of God came out of the heavens, and the disciples fell down in fear. But Jesus touched them and said "get up and do not be afraid." The Greek word for transfiguration comes from the same root word as "metamorphosis"--an outward change in appearance that comes from an inner deepening beauty. In this case, a divinity that could not be contained within Jesus' body, but pushed through to alter his external appearance. There are times in our own lives when God's beauty pushes through, revealing itself to us in ways that feel like an "a-ha" moment, or even a punch to the gut. It can be scary; it can knock us off-kilter; but God reminds us not to fear him or his confusing presence. But unlike Jesus' command to the disciples to "tell no one" what they saw, we are called to share God's often-surprising presence with the world. Join us for worship, for a time of setting aside all the things that take our focus away from God's beauty, and worshiping the One who gives us Life. We'll see you at First!

Pastor Kara



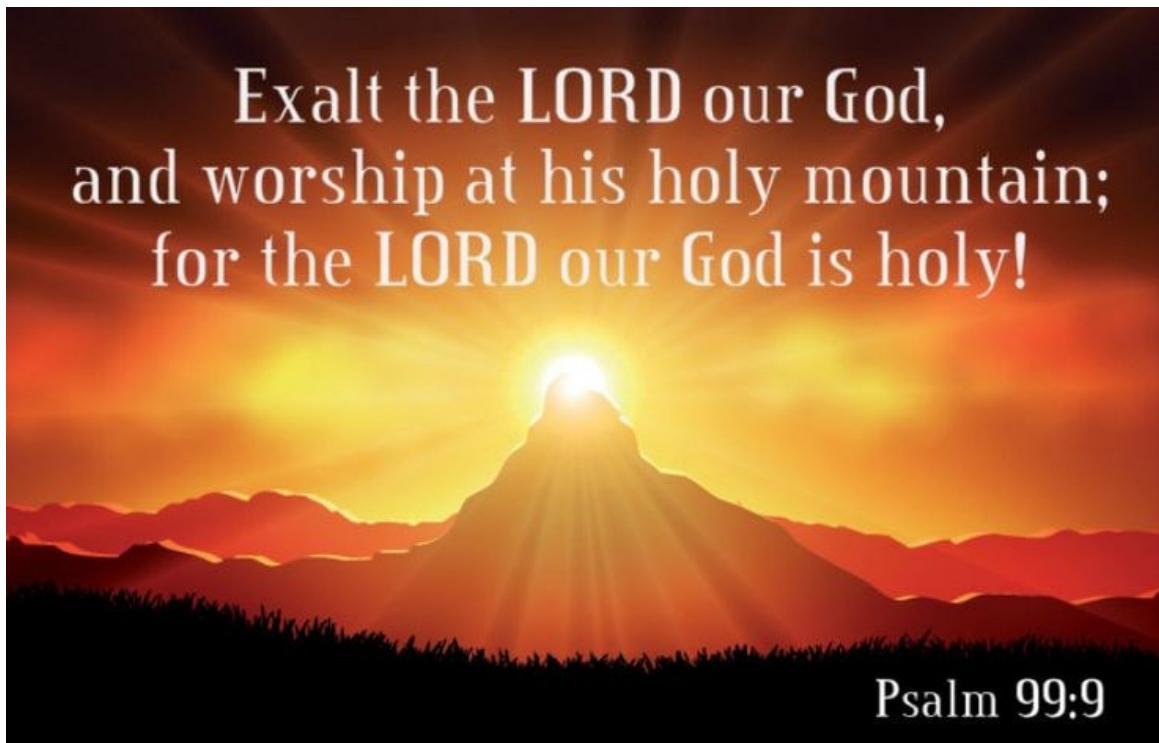
Scripture Reading

Psalm 99

“The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake! The Lord is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples. Let them praise your great and awesome name. Holy is he! Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob. Extol the Lord our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he! Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was among those who called on his name. They cried to the Lord, and he answered them. He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept his decrees, and the statutes that he gave them. O Lord our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger of their wrongdoings. Extol the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the Lord our God is holy.”

Matthew 17:1-9

“Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, ‘Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.’ While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!’ When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, ‘Get up and do not be afraid.’ And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, ‘Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.’ ”



Prayers & Praises

February 15, 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 the Bowker family, as they continue to grieve the death of Kristi's sister, Laurie Aufdemberge, from breast cancer.

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

Prayers for Ron Hile, as he continues to heal from several falls.

Prayers for Debby Ortega as she continues to heal from a broken arm following an accident.

Prayers for Bob Throop for continued healing from heart concerns. He will have a procedure to place a second lead into his pacemaker on Feb. 25th.

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 for continued healing and strength.

Friends:

- Ron Collamore, *prayers for his health*.

Our Timothy:

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

In the Nebraska Region: Bennet Community Church - Darin Corder

Our Global Ministries Missionaries in: Honduras

"We pray for the Christian Development Commission, for this beautiful project of faith and hope, and for the opportunity you give us to serve the most vulnerable families and provide for their basic needs for family, local, and community development. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen!"



Arise, Your Light Is Come

Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey; show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.

Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door; proclaim the captives' liberty, good tidings to the poor.

Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born, bind up the brokenhearted ones and comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song! Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.



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

