



## First Christian Church Disciples of Christ

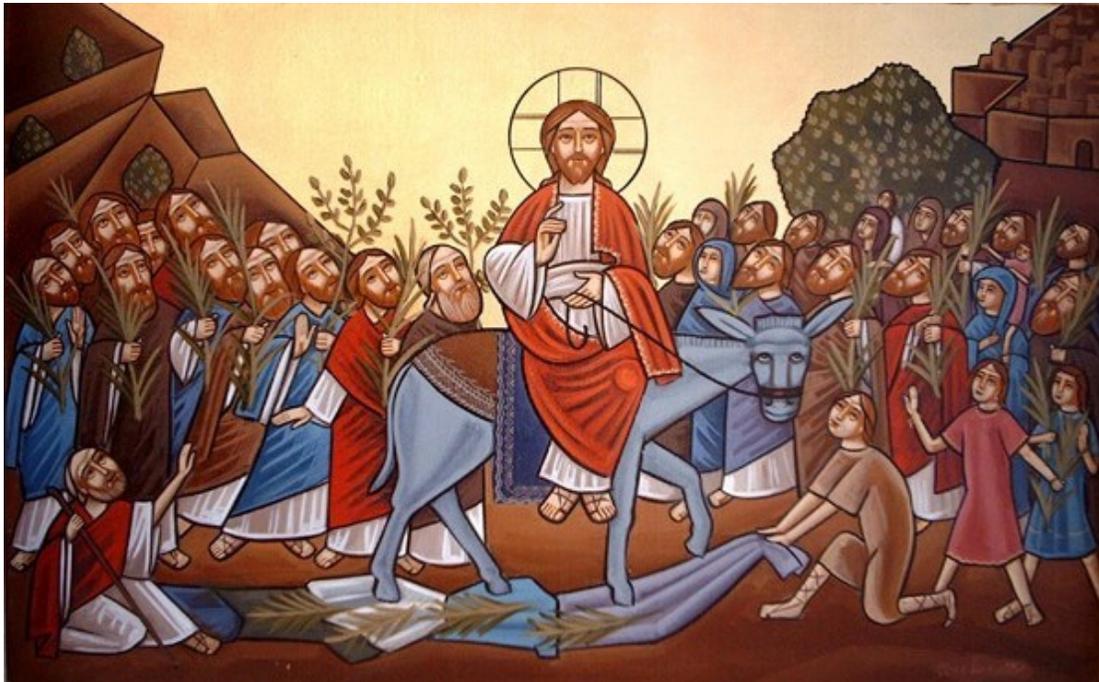
430 S. 16<sup>th</sup> St. Lincoln, NE 68508 402.475.4289

# 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 March 29, 2026  
[info@fcclincoln.org](mailto:info@fcclincoln.org)  
[www.fcclincoln.org](http://www.fcclincoln.org)



## Community Prayer

God of our salvation, we give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord, who came in your name and turned the lonely way of rejection and death into triumph. Grant us the steadfast faith to enter the gates of righteousness, that we may receive grace to become worthy citizens of your holy realm. Amen.

“Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,  
copyright 2002 Consultation on Common Texts”

## Call to Worship

One: “Hosanna!” They shouted. “Save us!”

Many: “Hosanna!” We’re shouting. “Save us!”

One: Savior, ride into our hearts again,

Many: wash us with excitement and hope,

One: give us a reason to praise

Many: and to shout again, “Hosanna! Hosanna!”

# Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

Matthew 21:1-11

*Let It Begin*

It's probably a good thing that Holy Week begins with the lighthearted joy of Palm Sunday. Otherwise we might run in the opposite direction. But the day that Jesus rode into Jerusalem, on the colt of a donkey, truly must have been a joyful day. The people with Jesus—who had been told to remain silent for so long, about who he was and all the amazing things he had done—were finally allowed to praise him out loud. How beautiful it must have been. It gives us a glimpse into what it will be like one day, when we will finally be in Christ's presence, praising him in person. But Palm Sunday is complicated, because it's also the day we begin to brace ourselves for what lies between it and the Empty Tomb. Join us for worship as we begin the journey to the Cross with a service of celebration for our King. We'll see you at First!

Pastor Kara



# Scripture Reading

## Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

“O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! Let Israel say, ‘His steadfast love endures forever.’ Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord. The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you. O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.”

## Matthew 21:1-11

“When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, ‘Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.’ This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, ‘Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, ‘Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!’ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, ‘Who is this?’ The crowds were saying, ‘This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.’”



# Prayers & Praises

## March 29, 2026



## Song of the Week

### A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd

A cheering, chanting, dizzy crowd had stripped the green trees bare, and hailing Christ as king aloud, waved branches in the air.

They laid their garments in the road and spread his path with palms and vows of lasting love bestowed with royal hymns and psalms.

When day dimmed down to deepening dark the crowd began to fade till only trampled leaves and bark were left from the parade.

Lest we be fooled because our hearts have surged with passing praise, remind us, God, as this week starts where Christ has fixed his gaze.

Instead of palms, a winding sheet will have to be unrolled, a carpet much more fit to greet the king a cross will hold.



### 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 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 and strength. He had a procedure last week to add to his existing pacemaker, and he quickly felt increased energy. He is settling into his new home at Legacy Terrace, and his daughter reports the coffee there is much improved over his regular places!

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

*Prayers for Roger Vocasek* as he looks for a job.

*Prayers for Jessica Stehlik-Vocasek* for her 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:** Elmwood Christian Church - Mark Sewell

**Our Global Ministries Missionaries in:** El Salvador

*“God of Grace, God of Mercy, we wish to place under your Grace the suffering of our people of El Salvador, now that poverty, extreme poverty, and unemployment have increased in this country. May all your sons and daughters turn their gaze to you and renew our faith, renew our hope in the magnificent promise of your Kingdom among us and in this history. Amen.”*

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

