



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 May 3, 2026
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Community Prayer

Risen Christ, you prepare a place for us, in the home of the Mother and Father of us all. Draw us more deeply into yourself, through scripture read, water splashed, bread broken, wine poured, so that when our hearts are troubled, we will know you more completely as the way, the truth, and the life. Amen.

“Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,
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Call to Worship

One: Our God refuses to shame us. God's justice delivers us.

Many: Praise God, in whom we seek shelter and guidance!

One: Our God renews our spirits. God is always faithful.

Many: Praise God, in whom we seek shelter and guidance!

One: Let us worship God, whom we call ours.

Many: Praise God, in whom we seek shelter and guidance!

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

John 14:1-14

From Troubled Hearts to Tranquil Hearts

John 14:1-14 is one of those texts that stick with you. "Do not let your hearts be troubled...." I read it a lot at funerals, because it promises us a time when Christ will come and take us to a place he has prepared for us, so that where he is, we can be also. We think of this as Heaven. But it's so much more than a future promise. It's a *right-now* promise.

Wherever we are—in both life or death—the Lord is with us. In the dark lonely valleys of uncertainty, in the painful valleys of grief--we are not alone, for God is with us. In the bright joyful mountain-top moments filled with hope, in the moments when our cups overflow--we are not alone, for God is with us. Where I Am, Jesus said, you will be, too. Join us for worship, for a time of remembering that our hope is in the Lord, who made heaven and earth; so troubled hearts don't stand a chance! We'll see you at First!

Pastor Kara



Scripture Reading

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

“In you, O Lord, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me. Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me. You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name’s sake lead me and guide me; take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge. Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors. Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.”

John 14:1-14

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’ Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”



Prayers & Praises

May 3, 2026



Song of the Week

In Our Church Family:

- Donna Baker
- Cec Burkhart
- Joan Dietrich
- Polly Putney
- Bob Throop
- Marvin Thurber
- Phyllis Thurber
- Jessica Vocasek
- Roger Vocasek

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

Prayers for Bob Throop for continued healing and strength.

Prayers for Roger Vocasek as he looks for a job.

Prayers 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: Grand Island First Christian Church - Tamara Holtz (Interim)

Our Global Ministries Missionaries in: Jamaica

“Faithful God, We pray for the people of Jamaica as we continue rebuilding after the devastation caused by Hurricane Melissa and as we approach another hurricane season. Give us wisdom to prepare wisely so that we will be able to withstand devastating effects. Almighty God, we pray for the United Theological College of the West Indies, we pray that You will provide for us abundantly and give us vision for the way forward. Amen.”

Be Still, My Soul

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain. Leave to thy God to order and provide, who through all changes faithful will remain. Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake to guide the future surely as the past. Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last. Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on when we shall be forever with the Lord; when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.



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



MAY

Call to Confession

One:

Called to proclaim repentance, we are reluctant to look at our own fail-
ings. Invited to witness to God's forgiveness of sins, we would rather not
speak aloud of our own. Let us trust in the One who offers us hope and
healing, as together we confess our struggles in following Christ, pray-
ing,

Prayer of Confession

Many:

You call us to proclaim a gospel we find difficult to practice, God
Most High. We confess we want to spend more time with ourselves
than with you. We are hesitant to speak of your power to others, as
we doubt its presence in our own lives. Forgive us, God of Mercy.
Fill us with your Spirit, that, having been transformed by it, we may
boldly proclaim your Good News to all who wait for it with eager
longing.

Good News of God's Grace

One:

Do not be afraid of God. In love, God forgives us; in grace, God redeems
us; in hope, God sends us forth to share the Good News.

Many:

Through Christ's Resurrection, we are a new people. The old has
gone, the new has begun. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast

Who is My Neighbor

FEATURING:
Nebraska State Poet
Jewel Rogers



May 7th 2026

42nd Annual Mayor's Interfaith

Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, May 7 | Doors Open at 7:30 AM

Venue 5 Twenty-Two

1525 Yankee Hill Rd, Lincoln

Get Tickets

Scan to reserve tickets online
or reserve tickets by mail:

Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast
c/o Asian Community & Cultural Center
144 N. 44th Street, Ste. A
Lincoln, NE 68503

Please include name, address, and email.
Make checks payable to:

FCLC "Interfaith Prayer Breakfast"



Reserve
by April 29