



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 10, 2026**
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Community Prayer

Living and gracious God, through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ you have brought us out to a spacious place where we are called to live as those redeemed. Empower us by your spirit to keep your commandments, that we may show forth your love with gentle word and reverent deed to all your people. Amen.

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

Call to Worship

One: We gather to celebrate the God of wonder and majesty!

Many: Awesome God, help us to worship you in spirit and in truth.

One: We gather to celebrate Jesus Christ, who was dead and buried, and now risen indeed!

Many: Jesus, renew our hope in your great power and love.

One: We gather to celebrate the Holy Spirit, our promised comforter and guide!

Many: Come Holy Spirit! Fill us with your presence and peace.

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

John 14:15-21

Children of God

Belonging to a "family," a group of people formed by either genetics or choice, is crucial to our survival. We might be able to survive *physically* while living in complete isolation (not easily, of course); but our minds and hearts are programmed to need affection and a sense of belonging, so *emotional* survival is less likely. And when I say "alone," I'm not referring to living by yourself, or not being in a romantic relationship. I mean literally being alone: no family, no friends, no meaningful connection, nobody looking out for you, no larger community claiming you as their own. When Jesus was about to go away from his disciples, he reassured them he would not leave them "orphaned." Yes, they had each other, but Jesus knew their lifeblood was their connection to him, their Savior. He was their family. So he promised them God would send another Advocate to be with them forever. Join us for worship, where we'll look at the Paraclete's presence in our life, and Jesus' promise that he'd be with us forever. We'll see you at First!

Pastor Kara



Scripture Reading

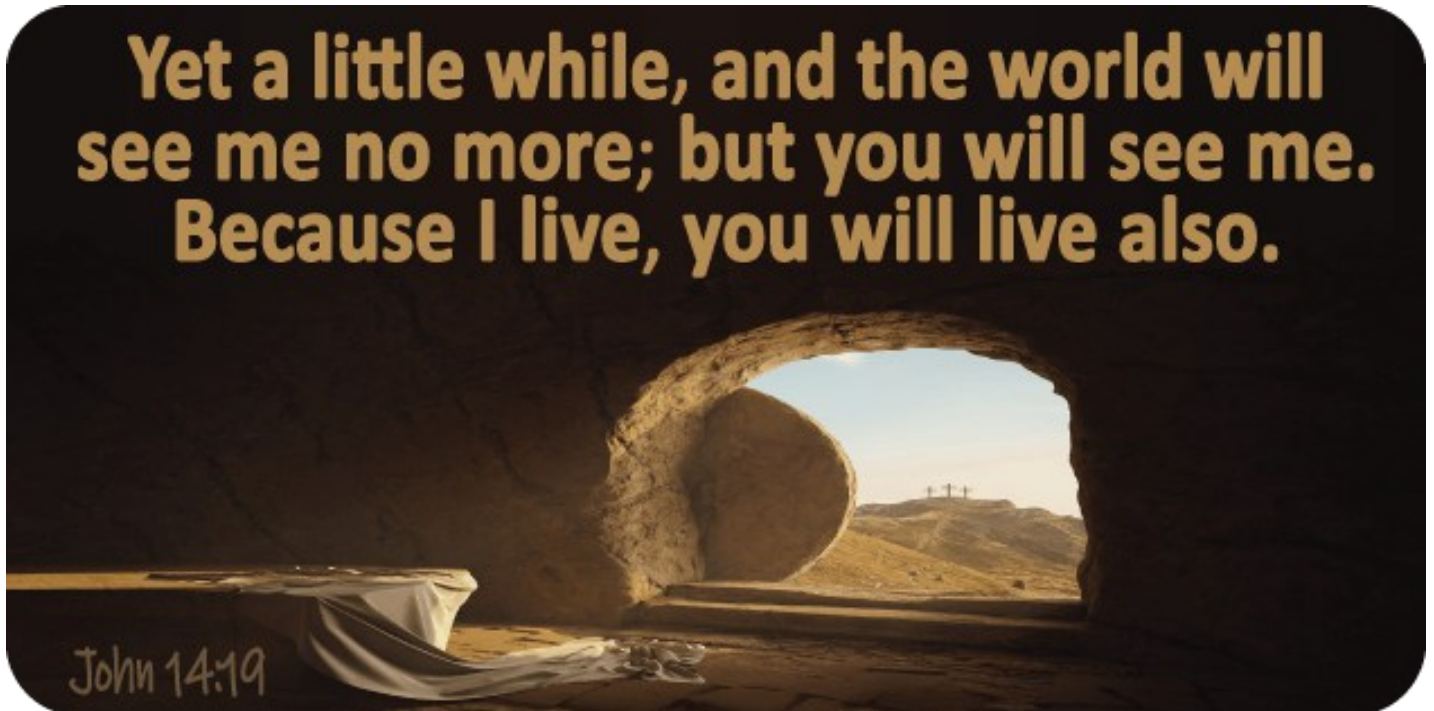
Psalm 66:8-20

“Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard, who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip. For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried. You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs; you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place. I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will pay you my vows, those that my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble. I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatlings, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats. Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me. I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue. If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer. Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me.”

John 14:15-21

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ‘I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.’”

Yet a little while, and the world will see me no more; but you will see me. Because I live, you will live also.



John 14:19

Prayers & Praises

May 10, 2026



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: Hastings First Christian Church - Leaders

Our Global Ministries Missionaries in: Palestine

“O God of the Incarnation, today we lift before you our region, this land many call the Middle East, a land burdened by wars, scarred by violence and fear. In this hour of escalating conflict, including the war on Iran, we cry out for your peace—the peace that grows from justice. We pray for Dar al-Kalima University, a place where imagination resists despair, where creativity becomes resistance, and where knowledge becomes liberation. Bless the young women and men who study there—Christians and Muslims together—that they may rise to create a new future. Amen.”

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



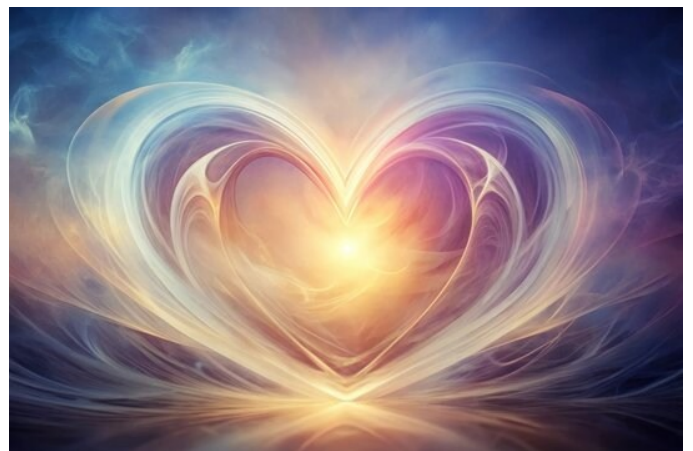
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast; let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest. Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be; end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive; suddenly return, and never, never—more thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee: changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.



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.