



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 31, 2026
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Community Prayer

God, whose fingers sculpt sun and moon and curl the baby's ear; Spirit, brooding over chaos before the naming of day; Savior, sending us to earth's ends with water and words: startle us with the grace, love, and communion of your unity in diversity, that we may live to the praise of your majestic name. Amen.

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

Call to Worship

One: Called to be faithful stewards of creation, we come to worship:

Many: to sing to the One who has created all that is good, beautiful, and true.

One: Called to be disciples of Jesus Christ, we come to learn:

Many: to follow the One who meets us in every moment of our lives.

One: Called to proclaim the good news of Easter, we come to find the words:

Many: to be taught by the Spirit who moves in and through us, as we serve the world.

Sermon

From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

Genesis 1:26-31

It's Complicated

Does God love humans more than other animals? Why were we made in God's image, but no other living creatures were? Does that make us inherently more worthy? The Genesis story seems to create more questions than it provides clarification. The more scientists, such as Dr. Jane Goodall, learn about some of our fellow creatures--and the skills, emotions and relationships they are capable of experiencing--the less willing I am to believe that humans are more important than the rest of God's Creation. But Genesis suggests we have been set apart from the rest. What does that really mean, and how should it affect the way we live? Join us for a time of meaningful, spiritually-fulfilling worship and fellowship. Make worship a part of your week! We'll see you at First!

Pastor Kara

Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

Genesis 1:26



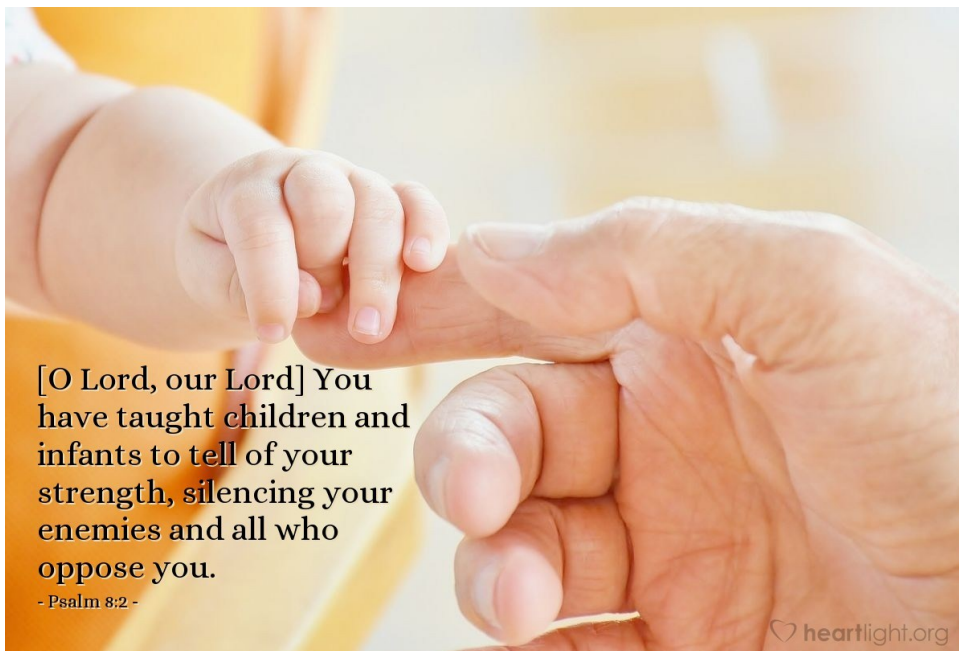
Scripture Reading

Psalm 8

“O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger. When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas. O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!”

Genesis 1:26-31

“Then God said, ‘Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.’ So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.’ God said, ‘See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.’ And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.”



[O Lord, our Lord] You have taught children and infants to tell of your strength, silencing your enemies and all who oppose you.

- Psalm 8:2 -

Prayers & Praises

May 31, 2026



In Our Church Family:

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

Prayers for Monte Dietrick, who had a fall and broke 3 ribs.

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: Kamp Kaleo on the River - Brad Hindsley, Staff & Counselors

Our Global Ministries Missionaries in: East Timor

“Our Gracious God, we lift up the country of Timor-Leste into Your mighty hand. May You continue to keep us in peace, justice, and prosperity for all its citizens. May your blessing and grace continue to pour out to the people life and their struggles. We recommit to continue serving and working for the well-being of the poor, the vulnerable, and marginalized people across the entire country with the support of our partners. May Your wisdom continue to guide and lead us to serve with love and compassion. Amen.

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



All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing, Alleluia! Alleluia! O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam, sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother wind with clouds and rain, you nurture gifts of fruit and grain. Alleluia! Alleluia! O sister water, flowing clear, make music for your Lord to hear. Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shadows of the night. Alleluia! Alleluia! Dear mother earth, who day by day unfolds such blessings on our way, sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All who for love of God forgive, all who in pain or sorrow grieve, Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ bears your burdens and your fears; so, even in the midst of tears, sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



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.