**About Christ Fellowship Church**

**Our Mission:** We exist to make disciples of Christ who love God and love their neighbor.

**Our Vision:** To see the gospel spread into every corner of our lives and every corner of the globe.

**As we gather** each Sunday, our desire is to engage with the living God in authentic worship, giving him the praise he deserves, as we read, sing, pray, preach, and sit under the truth of God’s Word and respond in obedience. We look to give ourselves to bold prayer, to spend ourselves and our resources through joyful giving, and to create a culture of gracious hospitality among a diversely unified people.

**As we scatter** each week, we commit to give ourselves to one another in sanctifying community, to the lost through faithful evangelism in our spheres of influence, and to the suffering around us with Christ-like compassion, all in hopes of multiplying the witness of Christ in our city and around the world.

**CFC Kids:** As a congregation, we are deeply committed to next-generation discipleship. This church wants to come alongside parents as they raise their children in the Lord. To help toward that end on Sundays, we offer CFC Kids for children from birth through fifth grade. We offer CFC Kids throughout the entire length of the service for children pre-school and younger. Kids in kindergarten through fifth grade will attend the first part of the worship service and then exit for age-appropriate lessons during the sermon. Of course, you may keep your children with you throughout worship, if you like. If you have any questions about CFC Kids, please email Maggie Irby at mirby@cfcbirmingham.org.

1/29/23

**What’s Happening at Christ Fellowship…**

***Membership Matters Class – Today at 2:00pm***

If you are interested in becoming a member at CFC, we are planning to hold a Membership Matters class today at 2:00pm. Attending this class is an important part of the process of becoming a member of Christ Fellowship Church. If you are interested in attending, please sign up at cfcbirmingham.org/membership-matters, or speak with Nick Murray before you leave today.

***Equip Classes Continue Tonight***

The Spring Semester of our Sunday evening Equip classes continue tonight! Classes will meet most Sunday nights throughout the semester, with the exception of the first Sunday of the month Prayer or Members’ Meetings. Dinner is served starting at 4:45pm. We’ll dismiss to classes around 5:30pm. The meal tonight is BBQ sandwiches.

***Volunteer Need: International Student Rides to Church***

We are looking for drivers to give rides to international students to and from church on Sunday mornings.  The students live in the downtown Birmingham/5 Points area and are typically a 5-10 minute drive from CFC.  If you are interested in being a driver (even if you can't commit every week), please contact Dennis Schauer (schauer.dennis@gmail.com or 205-527-6845).

***Friendship Partners for Spring 2023***

The Friendship Partners program is a great opportunity to get to know an international student or scholar while they are studying in Birmingham! To sign up, email Caroline Brown at cbrown@briarwood.org. If you have any questions, you can contact Dennis Schauer at 205-527-6845 or schauer.dennis@gmail.com.

***Held Together Dinner – Tuesday, February 7th at 6:00pm***

Ladies, join us at 6:00pm on Tuesday, February 7, to hear from our own Rebekah Head as she speaks about sharing the gospel. In addition, we'll enjoy a catered dinner and hear about the work of and a special opportunity coming up with Sav-A-Life! Register at [cfcbirmingham.org/women](http://cfcbirmingham.org/women) today and invite a friend!

***Visiting Philadelphia Baptist Church***

As the proposed partnership between CFC and Philadelphia Baptist Church moves forward, we would encourage members who are considering moving their membership to visit PBC in the coming weeks or months. Ryan will be preaching there January 8-29, but you are welcome to visit anytime! If you have young children, it would be helpful for them to know you are coming so they can recruit additional volunteers.

***Prayer Meeting Next Sunday – February 5th at 5:00pm.***

All are invited to join us for a prayer meeting and fellowship meal next Sunday, February 5th at 5:00pm. No adult Equip classes will meet, as all adults will attend the prayer meeting. But we will teach all of our kids Equip classes. Dinner is free.

**Sunday, January29th, 2023**

**Pre-Service Music** (\*please remain seated)

“My Worth Is Not in What I Own” Getty & Kendrick

**Welcome** Billy Shepard

**Time of Silent Reflection**

**Call to Worship**

*1I will extol you, my God and King,*

 *and bless your name forever and ever.*

*2Every day I will bless you*

 *and praise your name forever and ever.*

*3Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,*

 *and his greatness is unsearchable.*

*4One generation shall commend your works to another,*

 *and shall declare your mighty acts.*

*5On the glorious splendor of your majesty,*

 *and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.*

*6They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds,*

 *and I will declare your greatness.*

*7They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness*

 *and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.*

*8The LORD is gracious and merciful,*

 *slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.*

*9The LORD is good to all,*

 *and his mercy is over all that he has made.* (Psalm 145:1-9)

**Prayer of Invocation & Adoration**

**God’s Greeting & Mutual Greetings**

*4For the LORD takes pleasure in his people;*

 *he adorns the humble with salvation.* (Psalm 149:4)

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” Beethoven & Van Dyke

“All Creatures of Our God and King” Francis, Draper, & Baird

**Public Reading of Scripture** – Jeremiah 45:1-5 Katherine Wolfe

**Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon** Nick Murray

*12Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.* (Matthew 23:12)

*5Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.* (Philippians 2:5-11)

**The Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,**

 **Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, dead, and buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic\* church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

[\*that is the true Christian church of all times and all places]

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” Watts

“Yet Not I but through Christ in Me” Robinson, Thompson, & Farren

**Prayer for Illumination** Will Mitchell

**Reading of the Preaching Passage** Jessica Dreher

**Preaching of God’s Word** Bart Box

 The Gospel According to John: “Wise Guys Finish Last”

John 3:22-36

**The Lord’s Supper**

“Jesus Is Better” Ivey & Land

**Offering**

***9For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.*** (2 Corinthians 8:9)

***7Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.*** (2 Corinthians 9:7-8)

**Prayer of Intercession** Will Johnston

**The Lord’s Prayer**

***Our Father in heaven,***

 ***hallowed be your name.***

***Your kingdom come,***

 ***your will be done,***

 ***on earth as it is in heaven.***

***Give us this day our daily bread,***

 ***and forgive us our debts,***

 ***as we also have forgiven our debtors.***

***And lead us not into temptation,***

 ***but deliver us from evil.***

***For yours is the kingdom***

 ***and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.***

**Benediction**

*17To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.* (1 Timothy 1:17)

“Doxology” Bourgeois & Ken

We are pleased that you have joined us for worship this morning.

Visitors and members alike are encouraged to fellowship with one another after the service. If you would like to speak with a pastor about a need in your life or for prayer, one will be available at the front of the room.

**Additional Explanatory Notes of Worship Elements**

***The Lord’s Supper***

We celebrate the Lord’s Supper every Lord’s Day as part of our worship and witness. The Lord’s Supper is an occasion for believers in Christ to be reminded of Jesus’ death in our place, to be strengthened by the promise of His coming, and to be renewed toward God and one another. All who have identified with Christ in baptism and who are in good standing with a local church that preaches the gospel are welcome at the Table.

If you are not a follower of Jesus, we invite you to spend this time in prayer reflecting on the Word that has been preached and the great offer of salvation in Jesus Christ. If you feel so inclined, we invite you to offer the following prayer to God:

“Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.”

**This Week We’re Praying…**

***For Our Church***

For our church, as we promise to do in our church covenant: that we would continue to give cheerfully and generously to the support of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations, and that God would be pleased to take our resources and use them His glory.

***For Our City***

For Philadelphia Baptist Church, current pastor Cory Varden, their elders, staff, and congregation, especially as they consider calling Ryan Adams to be their new pastor.

***For Our Nation***

For police officers, firefighters, and first responders, that the Lord would help them to look after the good of others as they serve and protect; that they would be consistent in maintaining peace and just order; and that God would protect them as they serve in dangerous situations.

***For Our World***

For the nation of Turkey, that God would open the hearts of many Muslims in Turkey to receive the gospel and that those who do would have the strength to withstand opposition for the sake of Christ, that churches would minister to those who are discriminated against or neglected due to their ethnicity or social status, and that God would put an end to the government’s violent actions toward its own citizens.



