**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 Sarah Beth Shepard at sb@cfcbirmingham.org.

11/12/23

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

***Equip Meets Tonight***

The Fall semester of Equip continues tonight. Dinner is pizza and will be served beginning at 4:45pm. Classes will begin at 5:35pm, sharp. Kid classroom locations will be on their check-in sticker. The youth group meets in the youth room. And all adults will meet in the worship room. All classes will conclude at 6:25pm.

***ABCH Christmas Gifts***

Each year, we have the opportunity to support children and moms who are in the care of one of our local partners, the Alabama Baptist Children's Home, by providing Christmas gifts for children who are in care. You can sign up to provide gifts at **cfcbirmingham.org/abch.** Gifts need to be unwrapped, with a post-it note or sticker with the recipient's name somewhere on the gift, and brought to church and dropped off at the table next to the entrance any Sunday morning from now until December 3rd**.**There are many gifts to be bought, which means ample opportunities for many of us to be involved! If you have questions, you can email Billy Shepard at bshepard@cfcbirmingham.org.

***Kids Camp – July 16-19, 2024***

Calling all 3rd-5th grade families! We are planning to be back at Shocco Springs this summer for camp, July 16-19. Our own Nick Murray will be the camp pastor and we will spend time in worship, Bible study, recreation, and amazing free time options. We can't wait! Registration is open to CFC families now at on the Church Center app. In December we will open up sign ups to friends of CFC kids just to make sure we have enough spots for CFC members' children first. At the same link you can let us know if you are interested and available to chaperone.

***Youth Winter Retreat – February 16-18***

This upcoming February our youth will embark on our first ever winter retreat! During the trip we will consider the implications of God making us new from Ephesians 2. The cost is $175 and that includes transportation and all meals. If you plan to register more than one student, please reach out to Keri or Billy for a discount code. You can register for Winter Retreat on the Church Center app.

***CFC Women’s Christmas Service Night for ABCH***

CFC Ladies, on Thursday night, November 30, kick off Christmas season with a night of service with Alabama Children's Home. Hosted at CFC this year, we will hear about the work of ABCH, wrap gifts, make cards, and write notes for ABCH children and their families. In addition, we will have a Christmas sing-a-long, dinner, and a cookie decorating station. Bring your friends, neighbors, and elementary age & older kids for dinner and this fun, service-oriented event. Register in the Church Center app or at [cfcbirmingham.org/women](http://cfcbirmingham.org/women).

***Directory Updates***

For all members of CFC, if you have recently moved, added children to your family, or would like to update your email address or picture in the church directory, please email those updates to Keri Westbrook at kwestbrook@cfcbirmingham.org.

**Sunday, November 12, 2023**

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

“Christ Our Hope in Life and Death” Kauflin, Getty, Boswell, & Merker

**Welcome** Bart Box

**Time of Silent Reflection**

**Call to Worship**

*11Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. 12His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. 13He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. 14And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. 15From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. 16On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.* (Revelation 19:11-16)

**Prayer of Invocation & Adoration**

**God’s Greeting & Mutual Greetings**

*7Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, to the glory of God.* (Romans 15:7)

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

“Only a Holy God” Farren, Robinson, Smith, & Thompson

**Public Reading of Scripture** – Matthew 3:1-12

**Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon** Bart Box

*1Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things. 2We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who practice such things. 3Do you suppose, O man—you who judge those who practice such things and yet do them yourself—that you will escape the judgment of God?* (Romans 2:1-3)

*25I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. 26And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.* (Ezekiel 36:25-26)

**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]

“O Fount of Love” Papa & Boswell

“O Praise the Name” Sampson, Hastings, & Ussher

**Prayer for Illumination** Will Mitchell

**Reading of the Preaching Passage**

**Preaching of God’s Word** Nick Murray

 “The Book of Malachi: “But What Will You Do When the End Comes?”

Malachi 2:17–3:5

**The Lord’s Supper**

“Rock of Ages” Toplady

**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** Ralph Parrish

**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**

*20He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! 21The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.* (Revelation 22:20-21)

“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, that God would mark us as a people who are constantly repenting from sin in our lives, that we would not grow complacent with areas of rebellion or hypocrisy in our own lives, that we would bear increased fruit by God’s Spirit, and that we would continually turn toward Christ to receive mercy and pardon as we await the Day of His return.

***For Our City***

For Redeemer Community Church, pastor Joel Brooks, their elders, staff, and congregation.

***For Our Nation***

For the men and women serving in the armed forces, that they would strive to maintain peace and order in the places they are serving, that the Lord would comfort and preserve the families of those who are deployed, and that we would faithfully give thanks to God for these men and women.

***For Our World***

For the nation of Saudi Arabia; that God would build his church and to make his glory known; for God's people to faithfully endure an environment of persecution and opposition to the gospel; and gospel workers are limited in number, that they would find and invest their time in faithful people.



