**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.

11/26/23

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

***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. All of the gifts have already been claimed and you can refer to that list in your midweek email. 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 in the commons any Sunday morning from now until December 3rd. If you have questions, you can email Keri Westbrook at [kwestbrook@cfcbirmingham.org](mailto:kwestbrook@cfcbirmingham.org).

***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 would like to update anything in the church directory, please email those updates to Keri Westbrook at [kwestbrook@cfcbirmingham.org](mailto:kwestbrook@cfcbirmingham.org).

***Members’ Meeting & Fellowship Meal – December 3***

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Description automatically generatedAll members are invited to join us for a fellowship meal and members' meeting on Sunday, December 3rd at 5:00pm. We will first gather for dinner, which will be provided by CFC, and then begin the members' meeting afterward. Childcare will be offered after the meal. To help us order the correct amount of food and have enough rooms for childcare, please RSVP at this QR code. The meal will be Taziki’s for adults and pizza for kids, so plan accordingly. We will also have special Christmas activities for ages 2 and up they will not want to miss!

***Men's Preaching Opportunity at Brother Bryan Mission***

CFC partners with an excellent recovery ministry in downtown Birmingham, Brother Bryan Mission. Members of CFC preach their chapel service every Monday at 6:30pm, and we are in need of more men willing to preach. This is an excellent opportunity to grow in teaching God's Word, while helping men in need. Direct any questions to Billy at [bshepard@cfcbirmingham.org](mailto:bshepard@cfcbirmingham.org).

**Sunday, November 26, 2023**

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

“God, Your Everlasting Light” Cowper & Smith

**Welcome** Bart Box

**Time of Silent Reflection**

**Call to Worship**

*1I will bless the LORD at all times;*

*his praise shall continually be in my mouth.*

*2My soul makes its boast in the LORD;*

*let the humble hear and be glad.*

*3Oh, magnify the LORD with me,*

*and let us exalt his name together!*

*4I sought the LORD, and he answered me*

*and delivered me from all my fears.*

*5Those who look to him are radiant,*

*and their faces shall never be ashamed.*

*6This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him*

*and saved him out of all his troubles.*

*7The angel of the LORD encamps*

*around those who fear him, and delivers them.*

*8Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!*

*Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!*

*9Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints,*

*for those who fear him have no lack!*

*10The young lions suffer want and hunger;*

*but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.* (Psalm 34:1-10)

**Prayer of Invocation & Adoration**

**God’s Greeting & Mutual Greetings**

*2For you are a people holy to the LORD your God, and the LORD has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.* (Deuteronomy 14:2)

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Robinson & Wyeth

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

**Public Reading of Scripture** – Jeremiah 5:20-25

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

*9The heart is deceitful above all things,*

*and desperately sick;*

*who can understand it?*

*10“I the LORD search the heart*

*and test the mind,*

*to give every man according to his ways,*

*according to the fruit of his deeds.”* (Jeremiah 17:9-10)

*2But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.* (Malachi 4:2)

**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]

“Christ Is Mine Forevermore” Robinson & Thompson

“It Is Well with My Soul” Bliss & Spafford

**Prayer for Illumination** Will Mitchell

**Reading of the Preaching Passage**

**Preaching of God’s Word** Bart Box

“The Book of Malachi: “Why Serve God?”

Malachi 3:13–4:6

**The Lord’s Supper**

“In Christ Alone” Getty & Townend

**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** Sandon Ward

**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**

*5The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels.* (Revelation 3:5)

“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.

**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 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.

***For Our City***

For Shades Mountain Baptist Church, pastor George Wright, their elders, staff, and congregation.

***For Our Nation***

For president Joe Biden and all other elected officials, that they would use authority for the benefit of others; that they would act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly; and that they would exercise discernment and wisdom in governing our cities, states, and nation.

***For Our World***

For the nation of the United Arab Emirates: for the Emerati people to hear and respond to the gospel; for Evangelical Christian Church Dubai, for Pastor John Folmar, their elders, and their congregation of believers from all over the world, and for their financial needs to be met in order to sustain their work and presence in Dubai.

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