**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.

2/18/24

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

***Equip Meets Tonight***

The Spring Semester of Equip continues tonight. Dinner is served beginning at 4:45pm. The meal will be Moe’s BBQ, so plan accordingly! Classes begin at 5:35pm and will conclude at 6:25pm. 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.

***Members’ Meeting, Fellowship Meal, & Kids Spring Fling – March 3***

All members are invited to join us for a fellowship meal and members' meeting on Sunday, March 3rd at 5:00pm. We will first gather for dinner, which will be provided by CFC, and then begin the members' meeting afterward. To help us order the correct amount of food and have enough rooms for childcare, please RSVP at this QR code. During the meeting, kids 2 and up will be participating in the **CFC Kids Easter Spring Fling**! Your registration here secures their spot in the Spring Fling activities. Kids under 2 will not participate in the additional activities, but will have childcare available.

***Global Strategy Q&A – February 25***

On Sunday, February 25th from 9:00am-10:00am, Brian G. will host a Q&A session to build upon last Fall’s Equip series. We will continue to unpack specifics regarding the most critical needs in Asia as well as other existing global strategies within the CFC family. The entire hour will be devoted to Q&A so come prepared. The training will take place in the CFC Fellowship Hall and light breakfast and coffee will be provided. Childcare will not be available. Please register in the Church Center app.

***Global Sender’s Training – March 10***

As CFC sends out more global partners, we want to support these partners to be effective and healthy for long-term service around the globe. On Sunday, March 10th from 9:00am-10:00am, Brian G. will share about what makes a sending church effective, tips to serve you and our partners well, and advice for advocacy teams who are already connected with sent partners. All are welcome to attend this training to learn more. The training will take place in the CFC Fellowship Hall and light breakfast and coffee will be provided. Childcare will not be available. Please register on Planning Center.

***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.

***VBS Save the Date — June 24-27***

As you start making summer plans, be sure to include VBS on your calendar! We will host VBS **June 24-27**for ages 4 through those who just completed 5th grade. More to come about registration and volunteer information in March!

**Sunday, February 18, 2024**

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

“Our Great God” Ortega & Powell

**Welcome** Nick Murray

**Time of Silent Reflection**

**Call to Worship**

*1Bless the LORD, O my soul!*

 *O LORD my God, you are very great!*

*You are clothed with splendor and majesty,*

*2 covering yourself with light as with a garment,*

 *stretching out the heavens like a tent.*

*3He lays the beams of his chambers on the waters;*

*he makes the clouds his chariot;*

 *he rides on the wings of the wind;*

*4he makes his messengers winds,*

 *his ministers a flaming fire.*

*5He set the earth on its foundations,*

 *so that it should never be moved…*

*33I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;*

 *I will sing praise to my God while I have being.*

(Psalm 104:1-13, 33)

**Prayer of Invocation & Adoration**

**God’s Greeting & Mutual Greetings**

*2Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.* (Philippians 1:2)

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

“His Mercy Is More” Papa & Boswell

**Public Reading of Scripture** – Psalm 104:5-35

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

*30No wisdom, no understanding, no counsel*

 *can avail against the LORD.* (Proverbs 21:30)

Sovereign Lord,

When clouds of darkness, atheism, and unbelief come to me,
I see thy purpose of love
 in correcting me by thy Spirit that I might prize thee more,
 in chastening me for my confidence in past successes,

 that my wound of secret godlessness might be cured.

Help me to humble myself before thee
 by seeing the vanity of honor as a conceit of men’s minds,
 as standing between me and thee;
 by seeing that thy will must alone be done,
 especially as it contradicts my disordered desires;
 by seeing that my heart is nothing but evil,
 mind, mouth, life void of thee;
 by seeing that sin and Satan are allowed power
 in me that I might know my sin,

 be humbled, and gain strength thereby;
 by seeing that unbelief shuts thee from me,
 so that I sense not thy majesty, power, mercy, or love.
Then possess me, for thou only art good and worthy.

Thou dost not play in convincing me of sin,
Satan did not play in tempting me to it,
I do not play when I sink in deep mire,

 for sin is no game, no toy, no inconsequential thing;
**Let me never forget that the heinousness of sin lies
not so much in the nature of the sin committed,
as in the greatness of the Person sinned against.**
When I am afraid of evils to come, comfort me, by showing me
 that in myself I am a dying, condemned wretch,
 but that in Christ I am reconciled, made alive, and satisfied;
that I am feeble and unable to do any good,
 but that in him I can do all things;
that what I now have in Christ is mine in part,
 but shortly I shall have it perfectly in heaven.

In Jesus’ name. Amen.

(from the *Valley of Vision*, “Humiliation”)

*21For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. 22For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, 23but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, 24but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.* (1 Corinthians 1:21-24)

**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]

“Jerusalem” Robinson, Thompson, & Kleyn

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

**Prayer for Illumination** Will Mitchell

**Reading of the Preaching Passage**

**Preaching of God’s Word** Bart Box

 Beginnings: “The Perfection of Creation”

Genesis 1:2-27

**The Lord’s Supper**

“Amazing Grace” Newton

**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** Brian G.

**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**

*33Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!*

 *34“For who has known the mind of the Lord,*

 *or who has been his counselor?”*

 *35“Or who has given a gift to him*

 *that he might be repaid?”*

*36For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.* (Romans 11:33-36)

“Doxology” Bourgeois & Ken

**This Week We’re Praying…**

***For Our Church***

For our church, that we would maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Eph. 4:3), that any cause for division amongst brothers and sisters in Christ would be addressed quickly and humbly, and that we would be united in mind and love for one another (1 Pet. 3:8).

***For Our City***

For Dawson Memorial Baptist Church, pastor David Eldridge, their elders, staff, and congregation.

***For Our Nation***

For an end to gun violence in our country, that mass shootings would cease forever, that our swords would be beat into plowshares, that the underlying sin which ultimately leads to these horrible instances would be confronted with the gospel, and that our elected and appointed officials would work wisely to create solutions to this devastating issue.

***For Our World***

For the nation of India and specifically for Satya Vachan Church in Lucknow: for pastor Singh to continue in faithfully proclaiming the gospel and teaching the word of God; for those who hear the gospel to respond in repentance and faith, and follow Christ; and that God would raise up Christians from India to live in Lucknow to serve through their church.



