**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.

2/26/23

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

***Members' Meeting and Dinner – Next Sunday, March 5th at 5:00pm***

All members are invited to join us for a fellowship meal and members' meeting on Sunday, March 5th 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 with the QR code below.



***PRESSING NEED: CFC Kids Spring Teachers***

CFC Kids is in need of 16 new volunteers to commit before March 1. A new CFC Kids classroom is opening, and there are many current volunteers who will welcome babies this spring and need some time off. Please email Sarah Beth at sb@cfcbirmingham.org to get connected to a specific class!

***Equip Classes Continue Tonight***

The Spring Semester of our Sunday evening Equip classes continue tonight! Dinner is served starting at 4:45pm. We’ll dismiss to classes around 5:30pm. The meal tonight is pizza.

***Save the Date for VBS!***

We are excited to share VBS is scheduled for June 26-29 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Volunteer registration and sign ups will begin in early March. Kids ages 4 (or turning 4 before Sept. 1) through completed 5th grade are encouraged to attend!

***More Compassion International Sponsorships Available***

Last year, we formed a partnership with Compassion International to help build a church and a child development program in Masaya, Nicaragua. Our ongoing relationship with them mainly happens through child sponsorship. More children have been enrolled in the project and are available for sponsorship. If you would like to sponsor, please speak with a staff member who can help walk you through a packet and begin the process.

***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.

***CFC Men’s Lunch Gatherings***

We are organizing monthly regional lunches for the men of CFC to meet up and connect during a lunch break. We hope this will give men at CFC the chance to fellowship in a space close to their home or work. If you are interested in joining one of these groups please contact Dennis Schauer, schauer.dennis@gmail.com (205.527.6845) and he can connect you to your regional point person.

**Sunday, February26th, 2023**

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

“On Jordan’s Stormy Banks I Stand” Stennet & White

**Welcome** Bart Box

**Time of Silent Reflection**

**Call to Worship**

*1Oh sing to the LORD a new song;*

 *sing to the LORD, all the earth!*

*2Sing to the LORD, bless his name;*

 *tell of his salvation from day to day.*

*3Declare his glory among the nations,*

 *his marvelous works among all the peoples!*

*4For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;*

 *he is to be feared above all gods.*

*5For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,*

 *but the LORD made the heavens.*

*6Splendor and majesty are before him;*

 *strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.*

*7Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,*

 *ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!*

*8Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;*

 *bring an offering, and come into his courts!*

*9Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness;*

 *tremble before him, all the earth!*

*10Say among the nations, “The LORD reigns!*

 *Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved;*

 *he will judge the peoples with equity.”*

*11Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;*

 *let the sea roar, and all that fills it;*

*12 let the field exult, and everything in it!*

*Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy*

*13 before the LORD, for he comes,*

 *for he comes to judge the earth.*

*He will judge the world in righteousness,*

 *and the peoples in his faithfulness.* (Psalm 96)

**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)

“How Great Thou Art” Hine

“Here Is Love Vast as the Ocean” Edwards, Lowry, & Rees

**Public Reading of Scripture** – Luke 24:13-27

**Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon** Billy Shepard

*10For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.* (Galatians 1:10)

*15He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 16For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. 17And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. 19For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.* (Colossians 1:15-20)

**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

“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us” Townend

**Prayer for Illumination** Will Mitchell

**Reading of the Preaching Passage**

**Preaching of God’s Word** Bart Box

 The Gospel According to John: “Working in the Family Business”

John 5:1-47

**The Lord’s Supper**

“Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery” Boswell, Papa, & Bleecker

**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** Nick Murray

**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**

*24Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, 25to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.* (Jude 24-25)

“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.

**This Week We’re Praying…**

***For Our Church***

For our church, that we would all consider the opportunity before us to advance our gospel witness in this city by partnering with Philadelphia Baptist Church in Cahaba Heights, that God would call some from our midst to go there for the sake of the Kingdom, and that the joy multiplying healthy churches in our city would outweigh the sorrows of leaving or changing a church we love.

***For Our City***

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

***For Our Nation***

For church planters working in areas that are indifferent or skeptical towards the gospel, that the Lord would grant them endurance in times of difficulty, that they would be faithful to preach the Word in and out of season (2 Tim 4:2), and that the gospel would take root in people's hearts in their cities.

***For Our World***

For the continued relief work that is going on in Turkey and Syria in response to the recent earthquakes, that God would be merciful to the many families who have lost so much, that God would sustain gospel-preaching churches who are trying to minister to others while also sorting out their own great losses, and that God would generously meet the urgent physical needs of many Turkish and Syrian people.



