**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.

3/12/23

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

***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.

***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 Moe’s BBQ sandwiches.

***Medical Church Planting Trip to Brazil in September 2023***

CFC is planning to send a team to Rio de Janeiro from September 1-10 to assist pastors planting new churches in "favelas." The goal is to connect with and evangelize people in underprivileged communities through short term medical and dental clinics. Medical experience is helpful but in no way necessary. In fact, it is just as crucial to have non-medical Christian brothers and sisters to support the work of the clinic and to spend focused time establishing relationships with local Brazilians and sharing with them the love of Christ. Please pray and consider joining the team. If interested, visit cfcbirmingham.org/brazil23 or contact Michael Dumas at dumasms@gmail.com

 ***Sav-A-Life Baby Shower***

CFC is working with Sav-A-Life to host a baby shower on Tuesday, March 21 for six moms who have chosen to parent and are receiving support from SAL. You can sign up to buy items from the registry, help with, and attend the shower here [cfcbirmingham.org/babyshower](https://www.cfcbirmingham.org/babyshower).

***Beat the Clock and Sign Up to Volunteer for VBS!***

Whether it's crafts, Bible study, rec time, or missions there's a place for you to serve this year at Vacation Bible School! VBS will take place June 26-29 from 9 a.m.-noon. Please visit [cfcbirmingham.org/vbsvolunteer](http://cfcbirmingham.org/vbsvolunteer) to sign up to volunteer. Volunteer children can sign up now with a link that comes to your email after you sign up. Child registration for everyone else will begin in April. If you have any questions you can email Sarah Beth Shepard at sb@cfcbirminhgam.org.

***Adoptive and Foster Mom Group***

The next meeting for the adoptive and foster moms’ group will be March 19th at 9:00am. For more information, contact Kim Currie at kimcurrie123@yahoo.com.

***Ladies Spring Bible Studies***

Ladies, join us on Wednesdays at 9:30am for one of two six-week studies: one of Psalms: Real Help for Real Life by Ray Ortlund, and the other a study of Jesus Through the Eyes of Women by Rebecca McLaughlin, starting on April 12, and ending on May 17. Childcare is available by reservation only -- so please be sure to sign up both yourself and your little one/s! Sign up at cfcbirmingham.org/women.

**Sunday, March 12th, 2023**

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

“Christ the True and Better” Boswell & Papa

**Welcome** Nick Murray

**Time of Silent Reflection**

**Call to Worship**

*11I will remember the deeds of the LORD;*

 *yes, I will remember your wonders of old.*

*12I will ponder all your work,*

 *and meditate on your mighty deeds.*

*13Your way, O God, is holy.*

 *What god is great like our God?*

*14You are the God who works wonders;*

 *you have made known your might among the peoples.*

*15You with your arm redeemed your people,*

 *the children of Jacob and Joseph.*

*16When the waters saw you, O God,*

 *when the waters saw you, they were afraid;*

 *indeed, the deep trembled.*

*17The clouds poured out water;*

 *the skies gave forth thunder;*

 *your arrows flashed on every side.*

*18The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind;*

 *your lightnings lighted up the world;*

 *the earth trembled and shook.*

*19Your way was through the sea,*

 *your path through the great waters;*

 *yet your footprints were unseen.*

*20You led your people like a flock*

 *by the hand of Moses and Aaron.* (Psalm 77:11-20)

**Prayer of Invocation & Adoration**

**God’s Greeting & Mutual Greetings**

*17The LORD your God is in your midst,*

 *a mighty one who will save;*

*he will rejoice over you with gladness;*

 *he will quiet you by his love;*

*he will exult over you with loud singing.* (Zephaniah 3:17)

“Psalm 100” Arr. Beorgeois

“All Glory Be to Christ” Kensrue

**The Apostles’ Creed** Billy Shepard

**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]

**Baptisms** Alex & Anna Vogt

*4We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. 5For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.* (Romans 6:4-5)

“Before the Throne of God Above” Bancroft & Cook

“Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor” Boswell & Papa

**Prayer for Illumination** Will Mitchell

**Reading of the Preaching Passage**

**Preaching of God’s Word** Bart Box

The Gospel According to John: “Getting the Clues”

John 6:1-21

**The Lord’s Supper**

“Jesus, Strong and Kind” Buchanan, Robinson, Farren, and Thompson

**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** Sam Price

**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**

*11Once God has spoken;*

 *twice have I heard this:*

*that power belongs to God,*

*12 and that to you, O Lord, belongs steadfast love.*

(Psalm 62:11-12a)

“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**

***Baptism***

Baptism is a visual of the gospel story and a powerful reminder to the church of their identity with the crucified and risen Christ. The sacrificial death of Jesus and His victorious, bodily resurrection from the dead form the backdrop to baptism as believers are symbolically united to their Redeemer. Baptism in no way saves us, but it does call attention to the One who has saved us. If you know Jesus as Savior but have never been baptized, please speak with an elder after the service. If you are a baptized believer, rejoice today as you are reminded of your salvation in and through Jesus Christ. To God be the glory!

**This Week We’re Praying…**

***For Our Church***

For our church, that we would be faithful in discipling one another; that our Growth Groups would be places of biblical growth and accountability; and that we would grow together in godliness as we study the Bible together in church, Growth Groups, and one-on-one relationships.

***For Our City***

For The Church at Brook Hills, pastor Matt Mason, their elders, staff, and congregation.

***For Our Nation***

For those Americans living in poverty, that the church would open her eyes to see those around us living in crippling need, that God would give us—individually and corporately—ways to meet tangible needs of those we encounter, and that those in poverty would be treated with dignity and loving-compassion.

***For Our World***

For the nation of Pakistan, that gospel workers from inside and outside Pakistan would be sent to its many unreached people groups, that Christians and other citizens would have the freedom to evangelize and live in accordance with what they believe, that safe drinking water and quality education would be provided for all Pakistani people.



