**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.

6/4/23

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

***Members' Meeting and Dinner – Tonight at 5:00pm***

All members are invited to join us for a fellowship meal and members' meeting tonight at 5:00pm. We will first gather for dinner, which will be provided by CFC, and then begin the members' meeting afterward. Important items on the agenda include the reception of new members, removal of members, a vote on a staff pastor, vote on deacon/deaconesses, and other important matters. Childcare will be offered after the meal. Dinner is free, but please RSVP with this QR code to help us with food ordering.

***VBS Volunteer Training Today at 4:00pm***

The last VBS training opportunity is today at 4:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you plan to attend and haven’t registered yet, please talk to Sarah Beth Shepard today. If you still need to sign up to volunteer (more spots are still available), email sb@cfcbirmingham.org.

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

CFC is planning to send a team to Rio de Janeiro from August 30-September 7 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

***Summer Ladies’ Bible Studies***

Ladies, join us on Wednesday mornings in June and July to study "Promises Kept" by Courtney Reissig. We have chosen this study because we think it will lend itself to easy participation even if group members can only attend part of the time. We will provide childcare. For more details and to sign up, go to cfcbirmingham.org/women.

***Two Summer Men’s Bible Study Options***

Later this summer, CFC will be hosting two different 4-week men's Bible studies. One option is a 7:00am Tuesday study led by Dennis Schauer on the life of David. It will run from July 11-August 1. The other option will be noon on Thursdays, July 6-27, led by Billy Shepard. We will be studying the prayers of Paul. Register in the Church Center app. Men who participate are encouraged to bring food and enjoy growing in God's Word together. If you have any questions, please reach out to Billy Shepard at bshepard@cfcbirmingham.org.

***Bring a Friend or Neighbor to VBS***

It's time to invite your friends and neighbors to VBS! You can find an invite card and link in your midweek email. Participant spots could run out, so invite your friends now and encourage them to sign up soon! A field on the registration link has been added for visitors to request to be in class with a friend.

***Sign Up Now for Women’s Discipleship***

Registration is open now for CFC's mentorship program, “Growing Together.” To find out more, and to sign up to be a mentor or find a mentor, go to cfcbirmingham.org/women.

**Sunday, June 4th, 2023**

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

“God, Your Everlasting Light” Cowper & Smith

**Welcome** Billy Shepard

**Time of Silent Reflection**

**Call to Worship**

*9Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!*

 *Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!*

*Behold, your king is coming to you;*

 *righteous and having salvation is he,*

*humble and mounted on a donkey,*

 *on a colt, the foal of a donkey.*

*10I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim*

 *and the war horse from Jerusalem;*

*and the battle bow shall be cut off,*

 *and he shall speak peace to the nations;*

*his rule shall be from sea to sea,*

 *and from the River to the ends of the earth.*

*11As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,*

 *I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.*

*12Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;*

 *today I declare that I will restore to you double.* (Zechariah 9:9-12)

**Prayer of Invocation & Adoration**

**God’s Greeting & Mutual Greetings**

*28Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”* (Matthew 11:28-30)

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” Montgomery & Copes

“All Glory Be to Christ” Kensrue

**Public Reading of Scripture** – Psalm 118:14-29

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

*1I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.* (Romans 12:1-2)

*19You are not your own, 20for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body. (1 Corinthians 6:19b-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]

“What a Beautiful Name” Fielding & Ligertwood

“Is He Worthy?” Peterson & Shive

**Prayer for Illumination** Will Mitchell

**Reading of the Preaching Passage**

**Preaching of God’s Word** Bart Box

 “The Gospel According to John: “Come, Let Us Adore Him”

John 12:1-19

**The Lord’s Supper**

“Christ Is Mine Forevermore” Robinson & 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** Jared Jones

**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**

*5May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.* (2 Thessalonians 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. 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 the 15 new members that we will add to covenant membership this evening, that we would faithfully fulfill our covenantal obligations to one another: spurring one another on to love and good deeds, meeting together consistently, praying for one another regularly, sharing in each other’s joys, bearing each other’s burdens, and serving one another selflessly, for our good and God’s glory.

***For Our City***

For Covenant Presbyterian Church, pastor Robby Holt, their elders, staff, and congregation.

***For Our Nation***

For our nation, that God would bring true spiritual revival, that people would grow dissatisfied with their sin and long for the truth of the gospel, and that healthy churches would display the glory of God and the hope of the gospel to those around them.

***For Our World***

For the nation of Japan, that God would overcome the various factors that have made it extremely difficult for the gospel to take root in this country, that God would open doors for gospel workers and gospel resources to be sent to areas that have been inaccessible in the past, and that those who are suicidal or in despair would see that their only hope is in Christ.



