

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Elders on Call

Carole Rudd
Janet Bonds

Serving Diaconate

Kallie Blakemore, Linda Browning, Deb Carpenter,
Bob Frederickson, Bruce MacKenzie Sue MacKenzie, Bruce Moon,
Marian Moon, Donna Penn, Paul Penn, Bob Smith Art Varvoutis,
Regena Varvoutis, Barbara Wyrosdick

Communion Preparer

Molly Springfield

Acolytes

Addy Taylor
Emma Taylor

Sunday School Greeter

Bruce Moon

Worship Greeters

Shine & Virginia Guthrie (Door)
Donna Strickland (Sanctuary)

Children Worship & Wonder

Jesus and Bartemaeus
June Pryor (storyteller)
Katie Matthews, Jennifer Powell (greeters)

Nursery Volunteer

Kallie Blakemore

Rev. Troy Tatum
Senior Minister

Rev. Robin Blakemore
Associate Minister

Rev. John Allen Bankson
Music Director

David Brasher
Pianist/Organist

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Disciples  of Christ

"Where the Grace of God Awaits You"



February 25, 2018

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

WELCOME

We're delighted you're here today, and we hope you'll find this to be a meaningful time of worship with a vibrant community of faith.

NEW HERE?

If today is your first time visiting at First Christian Church, please be sure to stop by the welcome table near the front doors so that we can give you a small gift to thank you for worshipping with us.

CONNECTION CARDS

We ask everyone to take a few moments during worship to fill out the Connection Card included in this bulletin. You may place your card in the offering when it is received.

WORSHIPPING WITH CHILDREN

Children age 3K through fourth grade are encouraged to participate in Worship and Wonder, a special worship and education experience designed just for them. Young people may leave the service for Worship and Wonder following "A Time for Children." Of course, children of all ages are welcome to participate in morning worship, and childcare for infants and toddlers is available in the church nursery for all or part of the service. Worship bags with activity sheets, crayons, and children's bulletins are available in the narthex.

WAYS TO GIVE

Thank you for investing your gifts in the mission and ministry of First Christian Church. Your act of worship through giving is appreciated. You can give in person by cash or check, or online by visiting www.fcc-bhm.org/give or by scanning the QR code to the right with your smart phone. You may also contact the church office to learn more about automated giving.



GET IN TOUCH

fcc-bhm.org | info@fcc-bhm.org
office: 205-991-5000 | clergy on call: 205-295-6708



NATIONAL CONVOCATION

CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

25th Biennial Session

Call for Volunteers

Disciples churches in our area are thrilled to announce that Birmingham will host the Biennial Session of the National Convocation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) this summer. The National Convocation (www.nationalconvocation.org) is an expression of the church that promotes reconciliation, social justice concerns, and transformational ministry, and serves as a voice to promote pertinent issues related to the African American church. Volunteers are needed throughout the event, which will take place July 19-22 in Hoover at the Hyatt Regency -- Wynfrey Hotel. Volunteers are needed in the areas of Hospitality, Logistics, Transportation, and Youth and Children (our own Robin Blakemore is providing leadership for this segment of the event). If you are interested in volunteering for as little as a four-hour period or as much as the whole event, please email dixon@fcc-bhm.org with questions and to add your name to the volunteer pool. As we get closer to the event, the Volunteer Coordinator will contact you to make specific plans about your time to serve and area of service. We would love to have a strong showing from members and friends of First Christian Church for this important event!

Sunday Fellowship, Study, and Worship This Lenten Season

Jesus lived in a way that ran counter to the expectations of his culture. He questioned the wisdom of religious leaders, welcomed sinners and tax collectors to his table, and greeted lepers with a healing touch. As his followers, we are called to do the same — to live not by the values of our culture but by the values of God's kingdom. How might Jesus be calling you to go against the current in proclaiming God's radical grace, justice, and compassion?

Join us on Sunday mornings during Lent to explore this theme through bible study, group discussion, and worship. Each Sunday will start at 8:45 AM in the gym with delicious breakfast treats, coffee, juice, and time for conversation. At 9 AM Rev. Troy Tatum will lead Journey Together, a study and discussion of the day's text, followed by worship at 10:15 AM. We invite you to make a special commitment to study and worship this Lent, and hope you will join us for these opportunities to learn and grow in faith.

THIS WEEK

Today, February 25

8:45 AM Lenten Breakfast
9:00 AM Journey Together
10:15 AM Morning Worship
4:00 PM The Table
5:00 PM Children & Youth

Monday, February 26

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study
11:00 AM Staff Meeting

Tuesday, February 27

10:00 AM Ladies' Bible Study

Wednesday, February 28

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

GET INVOLVED

WORSHIP AT THE TABLE

The Table is a new worship community for those who are looking for something different in a church. We will meet on Sunday afternoons at 4 PM in the Farkas Room to worship, share, and laugh together. Our worship gatherings are laid-back but meaningful, modern but grounded, and always honest, intimate, and inclusive.

EASTER HYDRANGEAS

If you would like to purchase a hydrangea in honor or memory of a loved one for Easter, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the narthex, contact the church office at 205-991-5000, or email dixon@fcc-bhm.org.

The cost is \$24 per plant and the deadline for purchase is Sunday, March 25.

24 HOUR PRAYER VIGIL: MARCH 29-30 9 PM - 9 PM

Following our Maundy Thursday worship service, we will begin a 24-hour prayer vigil. Volunteers are invited to come to the sanctuary to pray in 30 minute blocks to complete a 24 hour chain of prayer. Sign-up in the narthex or email the church office (dixon@fcc-bhm.org) if you would like to participate in this meaningful tradition.

We Gather Before God

Prelude *We Believe* DiGesarie/Scott

Introit *The Glory of These Forty Days* ERHALT UNS, HERR

*Call to Worship Rev. Troy Tatum

Leader: Today is a day to sing praise to God.

People: God continually blesses us, each and every day.

Leader: Even in the midst of cold and darkness, the warmth of God's love is real.

People: We can count on God to be here for us.

Leader: Let your hearts rejoice and your voices shout praise to God.

People: For God is great and worthy to be praised!

*Hymn of Praise *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* Red Hymnal No.5

*Invocation and Lord's Prayer Rev. Troy Tatum

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

*Prayer Response *Gloria Patri* Red Hymnal No. 35

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen!**

*Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

A Time for Children Rev. Robin Blakemore

Children age three through fourth grade may leave for Children's Worship & Wonder

Invitation to Present Gifts Rev. Robin Blakemore

Offertory Music *Story of Jesus* arr. Brasher

*Doxology Red Hymnal No. 46
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication Rev. Robin Blakemore

We Offer Our Prayers With Love

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Troy Tatum

We Gather at Christ's Table

Communion Hymn *Break Thou the Bread of Life* Red Hymnal No. 321

Invitation to Communion Carole Rudd

Prayer of Communion Janet Bonds

Words of Institution 1 Corinthians 11:23-26
This is the Lord's Table; all believers in Christ are invited. As the communion elements are passed, please partake of the bread and hold the cup so that we may share together after the congregational response.

Elder: The Lord Jesus, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, broke it and said, "This is My Body which is given for you."

Communion Music *Holy Is the Lord* Schubert

Elder: In the same way also the cup, after supper saying, "This cup is the new covenant of My Blood. Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me."

People: As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

We Proclaim God's Word

Scripture Mark 4:10-12
Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem *Let Love Come Near* Ed Robertson

Sermon "The Power of Stories" Rev. Troy Tatum

We Respond With Our Lives

Invitation to Discipleship Rev. Troy Tatum

*Hymn of Discipleship *Be Thou My Vision* Red Hymnal No. 595

We Go Forth to Love and Serve

*Announcements & Benediction Rev. Troy Tatum

*Congregational Response *I Want Jesus to Walk With Me* Red Hymnal No. 627

**I want Jesus to walk with me.
I want Jesus to walk with me.
All along my pilgrim journey,
O, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

*Postlude *Guide Me O, Thou Great Jehovah* arr. Brasher

**All who are able please stand.*