

## WELCOME TO FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Since 1874, First Christian Church has joyfully welcomed all people to worship, serve, and grow in their relationships with God and one another. In 1981, the congregation moved from downtown Birmingham to our current campus on Valleydale Road in the North Shelby County suburbs. With thanksgiving for our heritage, we look to the future, discerning God's call to ministry here at home and throughout the world.

First Christian Church is a congregation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.

As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

We believe in the centrality of scripture, recognizing that each person has the freedom - and the responsibility - to study God's Word within the community of the church.

We practice the baptism of believers, while also recognizing baptisms performed in other churches, and believe that through their baptism all Christians are called to ministry.

We hear a special calling to make visible the unity of all Christians, proclaiming that in our diversity we belong to one another because we commonly belong to Christ.

This is an exciting time in the life of First Christian Church...  
come join us as we journey together with God!

### Sunday Schedule

Sunday School: 9 AM

**Worship: 10:15 AM**

Youth & Children's Groups: 5 PM

For more information:

[fcc-bhm.org](http://fcc-bhm.org) [facebook.com/fccbhm](https://www.facebook.com/fccbhm) 205.991.5000

# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Disciples  of Christ

*"Where the Grace of God Awaits You"*



9.14.2014 @ 4 PM  
**blessing of the pets**

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EST. 1984

[WWW.FCC-BHM.ORG](http://WWW.FCC-BHM.ORG)

September 14, 2014

### **Call to Worship**

Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,  
fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!  
and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!  
Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and women alike, old and young together!  
Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted;  
his glory is above earth and heaven.

He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful,  
for the people of Israel who are close to him.

Praise the LORD!

*Psalm 148:7-14*

### **Invocation**

#### ***This Is My Father's World***

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears,  
all nature sings and round me rings the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's World; I rest me in the thought of rock and trees,  
of skies and seas; God's hands the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world; the birds their carols raise,  
the morning light, the flowers bright, declare their Maker's praise.  
Our God has made this world and shines in all that's fair;  
in rustling grass I hear God pass, who speaks to me everywhere.

Our God has made this world; oh, let us never forget that  
Though the wrong seems often so strong, God is the ruler yet.  
God trusts us with this world, to keep it clean and fair.  
All earth and trees, the skies and seas, God's creatures everywhere.

### **Reading from the Prophets: Isaiah 11:6-9**

### **Reflections**

### **Blessing of the Animals**

### **Prayer of Blessing**

### **Benediction**

*Please join us for fellowship and refreshments following the service.*