

# CHRIST FELLOWSHIP

Liturgy for Sunday, January 17, 2021

Welcome (Billy Shepard)

Building Notes:

- **Face Coverings:** After reviewing the state-wide mask order, **we have decided to continue requiring the wearing of facial coverings by all adults during entering and exiting the building and while singing. We also recommend the wearing of facial coverings during the entirety of the service.** The current statewide ordinance encourages masks for kids over six years old. We understand that this may be difficult for some kids, so we are leaving this up to each parent as to when to allow their own kids to remove their masks once they are seated. **We would recommend kids over six to wear masks during entrance, exit, singing, and any other time they are not in their seats.** This guidance will be reviewed as we have more information and direction from the governor or local officials.
- **Nursing Mothers:** We are now using the adjacent mothers' room for additional worship seating. There is still space for nursing mothers in the Nursery room on the Kids Hallway.
- There will be an Elementary Sunday School lesson during the sermon. Kids K-5<sup>th</sup> who wish to attend will be dismissed and led to their classroom as the sermon begins.
- We still have a "Wiggle Room" designated in the Kids Hallway for parents of younger kids who need a minute to calm down. You can find those to the left down the Kids Hallway.

Call to Worship

<sup>1</sup>*When Israel went out from Egypt,  
the house of Jacob from a people of strange language,*

<sup>2</sup>*Judah became his sanctuary,  
Israel his dominion.*

<sup>3</sup>*The sea looked and fled;  
Jordan turned back.*

<sup>4</sup>*The mountains skipped like rams,  
the hills like lambs.*

<sup>5</sup>*What ails you, O sea, that you flee?*



O Jordan, that you turn back?  
<sup>6</sup>O mountains, that you skip like rams?  
O hills, like lambs?  
<sup>7</sup>Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord,  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,  
<sup>8</sup>who turns the rock into a pool of water,  
the flint into a spring of water. (Psalm 114)

### Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

### God's Greeting and Mutual Greetings

Leader: "The Lord be with you!"

All: "And also with you!"

Leader: "Lift up your hearts."

All: "We lift them to the Lord."

Leader: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God."

All: "It is right to give him thanks and praise."

### Songs

1) "Revive Us Again"

2) "Only a Holy God"

### Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

<sup>1</sup>Afterward Moses and Aaron went and said to Pharaoh, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'Let my people go, that they may hold a feast to me in the wilderness.'" <sup>2</sup>But Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice and let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, and moreover, I will not let Israel go." (Exodus 5:1-2)



O Heavenly Father, the only exalted One,  
 Let not pride swell my heart.  
 My nature is the mire beneath my feet,  
 the dust to which I shall return.  
 In body I surpass not the lowest creature;  
 Whatever difference of form and intellect is mine  
 is a free grant of Thy goodness;  
 Every faculty of mind and body is Thy undeserved gift.  
 Low as I am as a creature, I am lower as a sinner;  
 I have trampled Thy law times without number;  
 Sin's deformity is stamped upon me,  
 darkens my brow, touches me with corruption:  
 How can I flaunt myself proudly?  
 Lowest abasement is my due place,  
 for I am less than nothing before Thee.  
 Help me to see myself in Thy sight,  
 then pride must wither, decay, die, perish.  
 Humble my heart before Thee,  
 and replenish it with Thy choicest gifts.  
 As water rests not on barren hill summits,  
 but flows down to fertilize lowest vales,  
 So make me the lowest of the lowly,  
 that my spiritual riches may exceedingly abound.  
 When I leave duties undone,  
 may convicting thought strip me of pride,  
 deepen in me devotion to Thy service,  
 and quicken me to more watchful care.  
 When I am tempted to think highly of myself,  
 grant me to see the wily power of my spiritual enemy;  
 Help me to stand with wary eye on the watch-tower of faith,  
 and to cling with determined grasp to my humble Lord;  
 If I fall let me hide myself in my Redeemer's righteousness,  
 and when I escape, may I ascribe all deliverance to Thy grace.  
 Keep me humble, meek, lowly. (From the *Valley of Vision*, "Pride")

*“Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” (James 4:6b)*

## Songs

3) “Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul”



4) "His Mercy Is More"

Prayer of Illumination (Will Mitchell)



**Words of Life: Revelation**  
Exodus 1-15

*The key question in Exodus 1-15: Who is the LORD?*

**Three answers to that question...**

- Exodus reveals a God who hears our cries. (chapters 1-2)
  - The book of Exodus is clearly a continuation of the story begun in Genesis.
    - The book opens (1:1) with wording that is identical with Genesis 46:8.
    - The book contains Genesis-like themes:
      - The people of Israel are being fruitful and multiplying. (1:7)
      - The people of Israel are suffering under the curse.
        - Their labor is bitter. (1:14; see Gen. 3:17-18)
        - Their offspring are under attack. (1:16; see Gen. 3:15)

*I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.*  
(Genesis 3:15)

- The book of Exodus highlights at the beginning a story of God-fearing women. (1:17)

*For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him.* (2 Chronicles 16:9)

- The opening chapters close with the ingredients for deliverance:
  - God raises up a deliverer—Moses. (2:1-22)
  - God heard, remembered, saw, and knew! (2:23-25)

*Had it been another people, the tactics [of Pharaoh] might have been successful; but they were God's people, endeared to him by their ancestry, ennobled in his sight by their covenant destiny, and encompassed with his favor as with a shield. No conspiracy formed against them could thrive.* (Charles Spurgeon)

- We should rest in the fullness of who our God is.
  - He is not mere power.
  - He is powerful and personally committed to us by covenant in Christ.

*No weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed, and you shall refute every tongue that rises against you in judgment. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord and their vindication from me, declares the Lord.”* (Isaiah 54:17)

- Exodus reveals a God who reigns supreme. (chapters 3-11)
  - God manifested Himself to Moses. (3:1-4:17)
    - Moses was reminded of the holiness of God. (3:1-6)
    - Moses was called to the mission of God. (3:7-4:17)

*By faith [Moses] left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. (Hebrews 11:27)*
  - God confronted Pharaoh with demands for submission. (4:18-6:30)
    - Israel was called to be the obedient son of God.

*Then you shall say to Pharaoh, “Thus says the Lord, Israel is my firstborn son, <sup>23</sup> and I say to you, ‘Let my son go that he may serve me.’ If you refuse to let him go, behold, I will kill your firstborn son.” (Exodus 4:22-23)*

    - Pharaoh was called to release God’s son for service. (5:1)
  - God overruled the gods and leaders of Egypt. (7:1-11:10)
 

*What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God’s part? By no means! <sup>15</sup> For he says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.” <sup>16</sup> So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy. <sup>17</sup> For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, “For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.” <sup>18</sup> So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills. (Romans 9:14-18)*
- Exodus reveals a God who deserves our praise. (chapters 12-15)
  - Both the Passover and the exodus from Egypt are like shadows which are, in the fullness of time, filled in by Christ’s life, death, and resurrection.
    - The Passover shows the judgment from which we are spared by Christ.
    - The exodus shows the freedom into which we are led by Christ.
  - And how should we respond to all this?
 

*The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father’s God, and I will exalt him. (Exodus 15:2)*

## The Lord's Supper

<sup>26</sup>Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." <sup>27</sup>And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, <sup>28</sup>for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>29</sup>I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." (Matthew 26:26-29)

## Song

5) "What a Beautiful Name"

## Offering

<sup>9</sup>For 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)

<sup>7</sup>Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup>And 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 (Ryan Adams)

### *For Our Church*

For our church, that the Lord would continue to grow our church in diversity along ethnic, socioeconomic, and age lines; that we would be united in mind and love for one another (1 Pet. 3:8); and that our unity amidst diversity would be a testimony to the reconciling power of the gospel.

### *For Our City*

For New Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church, pastor Thomas Beavers, their elders, staff, and congregation.

### *For Our Nation*



For our nation, that God would heal our country of the sin of racism, that we would work to bring about significant change in areas where there is rampant social injustice, and that local churches around our nation would be diverse pictures of the reconciliation found in the gospel.

For the peaceful transition of power to occur this week as president-elect Biden takes office, and that God would grant him the necessary wisdom to lead our country in the days ahead.

### *For Our World*

For the nation of Uganda, for God to grant the nation wise and honest leaders that would promote flourishing for all Ugandans, and that God would bless and use the ministry efforts of those in our congregation who are doing work in Uganda.

*“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 and ever. Amen.”*

### Benediction

*<sup>10</sup>Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;  
behold, his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.  
<sup>11</sup>He will tend his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs in his arms;  
he will carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead those that are with young. (Isaiah 40:10-11)*

### Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow



Praise Him, all creatures here below  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost



## What's Happening at Christ Fellowship...

### ***Words of Life Sermon Series and Bible Reading Plan***

To track along with the Words of Life sermon series, get a reading plan bookmark on your way out the door today. You can also access the entire reading plan at [cfcbirmingham.org/wordsoflife](http://cfcbirmingham.org/wordsoflife).

### ***Membership Matters Class – Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm***

If you are interested in becoming a member at CFC, we are planning to hold a Membership Matters class on Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm. Attending this class is an important part of the process of becoming a member of Christ Fellowship Church. If you are interested in attending, please sign up at [cfcbirmingham.org/membership-matters](http://cfcbirmingham.org/membership-matters), or email Nick Murray at [nmurray@cfcbirmingham.org](mailto:nmurray@cfcbirmingham.org) with any questions.

### ***Women's Winter Bible Study Options***

CFC is offering two ladies' studies this winter: *Gentle & Lowly*, by Dane Ortlund, and *Women of the Word*, by Jen Wilkin. Both studies are scheduled for Monday nights at 7:30pm via Zoom, and will begin meeting on January 11. For more information or to sign up, please email Rebekah Rein at [rrein@cfcbirmingham.org](mailto:rrein@cfcbirmingham.org).

### ***CFC Youth Tonight***

For students 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up, our youth group meets on Sunday nights from 5:30-7:00pm here at the church building. All students are welcome! Contact Billy at [bshepard@cfcbirmingham.org](mailto:bshepard@cfcbirmingham.org) with any questions.

### ***Bookstall Open***

The bookstall in the commons is open again! You can purchase books via Venmo @CFCBham. If you do not have Venmo, contact Ryan Adams at [radams@cfcbirmingham.org](mailto:radams@cfcbirmingham.org) to arrange payment.

