

CHRIST FELLOWSHIP

Liturgy for Sunday, January 24, 2021

Welcome (Brad Lowe)

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-5th 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

¹*The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble!*

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

²*The LORD is great in Zion;*

he is exalted over all the peoples.

³*Let them praise your great and awesome name!*

Holy is he!

⁴*The King in his might loves justice.*

You have established equity;

you have executed justice



and righteousness in Jacob.

⁵*Exalt the LORD our God;
worship at his footstool!
Holy is he!*

⁶*Moses and Aaron were among his priests,
Samuel also was among those who called upon his name.
They called to the LORD, and he answered them.*

⁷*In the pillar of the cloud he spoke to them;
they kept his testimonies
and the statute that he gave them.*

⁸*O LORD our God, you answered them;
you were a forgiving God to them,
but an avenger of their wrongdoings.*

⁹*Exalt the LORD our God,
and worship at his holy mountain;
for the LORD our God is holy! (Psalm 99)*

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) "Christ Is Risen"

2) "Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder"



Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

⁷And the LORD said to Moses, "Go down, for your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves. ⁸They have turned aside quickly out of the way that I commanded them. They have made for themselves a golden calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" ⁹And the LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people. (Exodus 32:7-9)

⁶The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, ⁷keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty..." (Exodus 34:6-7a)

Songs

3) "Before the Throne of God Above"

4) "Is He Worthy?"

Prayer of Illumination (Will Mitchell)



Words of Life: Covenant
Exodus 16-40

3 Questions for the People of God

- **Are we thankful for God's good provision in our lives? (chapters 16-18)**
 - Consider all of God's provision for Israel between Egypt and Sinai:
 - God gave Israel bread from heaven. (16:1-36)
 - God gave Israel food in the camp. (16:12-13)
 - God gave Israel water from the rock. (17:1-7)
 - God gave Israel victory over the Amalekites. (17:8-16)
 - God gave Israel wisdom through Moses' father-in-law. (18:1-27)
 - Israel was being instructed that God is both *great and good*.
 - Application:
 - Do you see how the God of Christianity is both exalted and personal?
 - Do you regularly review the goodness of the Lord in your life?

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! ⁷For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. Today, if you hear his voice, ⁸do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, ⁹when your fathers put me to the test and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work. (Psalm 95:6-9)

- **Are we portraying God's good character to the world? (chapters 19-24)**
 - Israel would not be a kingdom of politicians but a kingdom of priests.
 - Israel was called to bear God's name before the world—they were identified with God.

Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar.... And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words." (Exodus 24:6-8)

God intends us, his people, to be different from the world around us. He does not mean for this to look arbitrary, such as having a special handshake or using odd language. No, of far greater significance, he means for us to reflect his character. It will look like a concern for justice, a willingness to give of ourselves, a love and care for our enemies and those who would hurt us. We should be marked as God's people because we share in God's character. (Mark Dever)

- The Mosaic Law provided Israel with a way to show God's character to the world.
 - The first 5 commandments would demonstrate love for God.
 - The last 5 commandments would demonstrate love for others.

Instead of being a kingdom of a particular king, it will be a kingdom marked by priesthood; that is, service of God on behalf of people and vice versa. It will be a kingdom run not by politicians

depending upon strength and connivance but by priests depending upon faith in Yahweh, a servant nation instead of a ruling nation. Israel will thus redefine the meaning of dominion—service. This will be its distinctive task, it's distinguishing characteristic among the world of nations. It will reclaim the lost dominion of humanity. (Stephen Dempster)

If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all. (Mark 9:35)

○ Application:

- We should be reminded of the importance of our corporate witness.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9)

- We should be prayerful that our lives would be marked by sacrificial love.

Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. (1 John 4:8)

• Are we resting in God's good grace through Christ? (chapters 25-40)

○ These chapters in Exodus revolve around the tabernacle.

- Instruction about God's dwelling place among them. (chapters 25-31)
- Construction of God's dwelling place among them. (chapters 35-40)
- Intercession for God's dwelling among them. (chapters 32-34)

○ The middle chapters (32-34) address the crisis of God's presence among a sinful people.

- The Bible begins with God's people in God's presence—this is God's intention.
- The Bible ends with God's people in God's presence—this is our hope.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. (Revelation 21:3)

○ The intercession of Moses is a preview of Christ's intercession, securing God's presence among us.

Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, declares the Lord God, and not rather that he should turn from his way and live? (Ezekiel 18:23)

- Have you trusted this provision?
- Are you resting in this provision?

If you are part of Christ's own body, your sins evoke his deepest heart, his compassion and pity. He takes 'part with you'—that is, he's on your side. He sides with you against your sin, not against you because of your sin. He hates sin. But he loves you.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

The Lord's Supper

²⁶Now 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." ²⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, ²⁸for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I 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) "All Glory Be to Christ"

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 (Bart Box)

For Our Church

For our church, that we would develop evangelistic friendships with friends, family, and neighbors who do not know the Lord; that we would have discernment and boldness in knowing how to best reach them with the gospel; and that the Lord would be pleased to draw people to himself through our faithful witness.

For Our City

For Shades Valley Community Church, pastor Jonathan Haefs, their elders, staff, and congregation.

For Our Nation



For all teachers and educators in America, that God would give them grace and endurance in this challenging school year, that they would be protected and granted health amid the pandemic, and that their work of shaping the minds and lives of children would be fruitful and lead to greater human flourishing.

For Our World

For missionaries around the world, including all of CFC's mission partners, whose work has been drastically affected and who have had to leave their posts due to the pandemic: that God would preserve the fruit that they have long labored over from the counter-work of the enemy; for those who wonder if or when they'll be able to return to their work, that God would help them to trust His sovereign strategy over all things; and for those whose financial support seems uncertain, that God would make all grace abound to them so that they may abound in every good work.

"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

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9)

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.

Membership Matters Class – Sunday, February 7th 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 7th 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, or email Nick Murray at 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.

CFC Youth Tonight

For students 6th 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 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 to arrange payment.

