

CHRIST FELLOWSHIP

Liturgy for Sunday, January 31, 2021

Welcome (Bart Box)

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 is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

² *He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.*

³ *He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.*

⁴*Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;*



*your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.*

*⁵You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.*

*⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
forever. (Psalm 23)*

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) "Holy, Holy, Holy"

2) "10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)"

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

⁴⁵For I am the LORD who brought you up out of the land of Egypt to be your God. You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy." (Leviticus 11:45)



²⁶For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. (Hebrews 7:26-27)

Songs

3) "Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder"

4) "Rock of Ages"

Prayer of Illumination (Will Mitchell)



Words of Life: Holiness
Leviticus

God dwelling among His people (Leviticus 1-9, 23-25)

- The first verse of the book tells us that God spoke to Moses *from the tent*.

Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. ³⁵ And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. (Exodus 40:34-35)

- God was among them, which was great.
 - But they were sinful, which was a problem!
- The book of Leviticus resolves the tension of a holy God living among a sinful people.
 - The book of Leviticus helps answer the fundamental problem of the Bible, and...
 - The book of Leviticus points to the final hope of Bible.

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)

I will make my dwelling among you, and my soul shall not abhor you. ¹² And I will walk among you and will be your God, and you shall be my people. (Leviticus 26:11-12)

- God cleansed Israel of their sins through sacrifices. (Leviticus 1-9)
 - God provided Israel with an ongoing system of sacrifice.
 - He prescribed five offerings for Israel. (Leviticus 1:2-6:7)
 - He prepared mediating priests for Israel. (Leviticus 6:8-8:36)
 - God demonstrated His presence among Israel by receiving Aaron’s offering. (Leviticus 9)

Then Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them, and he came down from offering the sin offering and the burnt offering and the peace offerings. ²³ And Moses and Aaron went into the tent of meeting, and when they came out they blessed the people, and the glory of the Lord appeared to all the people. ²⁴ And fire came out from before the Lord and consumed the burnt offering and the pieces of fat on the altar, and when all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces. (Leviticus 9:22-24)

- God reminded Israel of His grace through ceremonies. (Leviticus 23-25)

God distinct through His people (Leviticus 11-15, 17-22)

- The story of Nadab and Abihu underscored the seriousness of living in the presence of God. (Leviticus 10)
- The various laws of Israel were meant to set Israel apart from the nations.

And the Lord spoke to Aaron, saying, ⁹ “Drink no wine or strong drink, you or your sons with you, when you go into the tent of meeting, lest you die. It shall be a statute forever throughout your generations. ¹⁰ You are to distinguish between the holy and the common, and between the unclean and the clean, ¹¹ and you are to teach the people of Israel all the statutes that the Lord has spoken to them by Moses.” (Leviticus 10:8-11)

- Israel was given cleanliness laws. (Leviticus 11-15)
 - The cleanliness laws were (basically) divided in two categories.
 - Laws about what you consume. (Leviticus 11)
 - Laws about what you contact. (Leviticus 12-15)
 - Importantly, uncleanness was not always related to sin. (e.g. childbirth)
 - But God was making the point that He is utterly different and must be shown so.
 - Israel was taught that all of life is lived *before God* and the world.
 - We are reminded that our lives, too, are lived before God and the world.
- Israel was given holiness laws. (Leviticus 17-22)

Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth passes into the stomach and is expelled? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person. But to eat with unwashed hands does not defile anyone.” (Matthew 15:17-20)

- Whereas the cleanliness laws made Israel distinct in their normal lives, the holiness laws made Israel distinct in their neighborly loves.
- God was (and is) demanding complete integrity among His people.

Strive... for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. (Hebrews 12:14)

Do all things without grumbling or disputing, ¹⁵ that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, (Philippians 2:14-15)

God merciful to His people (Leviticus 16)

- God *scheduled* the Day of Atonement—a recognition of Israel’s ongoing need for mercy and forgiveness.

As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. (Psalm 103:12)

- God has provided a final, perfect atoning sacrifice in Christ!

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) ¹² he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. (Hebrews 9:11-12)

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) "Christ Is Mine Forevermore"

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 (David Morrison)

For Our Church

For our church, that individually and corporately we would live as a kingdom of priests in the world; that being saved by Christ's blood, we might grow in Christlikeness, cleansing ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God (2 Cor. 7:1).

For Our City

For Sharon Heights Baptist Church, pastor Jesse Carr, as well as other churches in the Fultondale area who are trying to minister to those affected by this week's tornadoes.

For Our Nation



For president Joe Biden and all other elected officials, that they would use authority for the benefit of others; that they would act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly; and that they would exercise discernment and wisdom in governing our cities, states, and nation.

For Our World

For the nation of China, that God would move in power among the governing authorities of the country, that he would convert leaders at all levels from enemies of God into disciples of Jesus, that there would be an end to the human rights abuses that are being carried out by the government against the Uighur people, and that national revival would sweep across the nation that would reverberate throughout the world.

“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

³And 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. ⁴He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” (Revelation 21:3-4)

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.

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.

