

CHRIST FELLOWSHIP

Liturgy for Sunday, October 11, 2020

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.
- **Bathrooms & Diaper Changing:** We have now opened the family restrooms, for the purpose of CFC Kids and access to the diaper changing stations in those restrooms.
- The youth room is now (and again) serving as an overflow room. Additional seating is available in there, along with the service livestream.
- The Elementary Sunday School lesson, which is offered to K-5th graders during the sermon, will take place in a classroom or on the covered play area outside.
- 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

¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled



with all the fullness of God. ²⁰Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. (Ephesians 3:14-21)

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) "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

A mighty fortress is our God,
A bulwark never failing;
Our helper He, amid the flood
Of mortal ills prevailing:
For still our ancient foe
Doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great,
And, armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal

Did we in our own strength confide,
Our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side,
The Man of God's own choosing:
Dost ask who that may be?



Christ Jesus, it is He;
The Lord of Hosts, His Name,
From age to age the same,
And He must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled,
Should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed,
His truth to triumph through us:
The Prince of Darkness grim,
We tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure,
For lo, his doom is sure,
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers,
No thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours
Through Him Who with us sideth:
Let goods and kindred go,
This mortal life also;
The body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still,
His kingdom is forever.

2) "Only a Holy God"

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven
Who else could make every king bow down
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles
Only a Holy God

What other beauty demands such praises
What other splendour outshines the sun
What other majesty rules with justice
Only a Holy God

*Come and behold Him
The One and the Only
Cry out, sing holy
Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God*



What other glory consumes like fire
What other power can raise the dead
What other name remains undefeated
Only a Holy God

*Come and behold Him
The One and the Only
Cry out, sing holy
Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God*

Who else could rescue me from my failing
Who else would offer His only Son
Who else invites me to call Him Father
Only a Holy God
Only my Holy God!

*Come and behold Him
The One and the Only
Cry out, sing holy
Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God*

Apostles' Creed (Bart Box)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
The third day he rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God
the Father Almighty;
From there he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit;
the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints,



the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

[*that is the true Christian church of all times and all places]

Baptisms (Abigail Driver, Brittany Mann, Brett King)

⁴There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4:4-6)

Songs

3) "Before the Throne of God Above"

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on his hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heaven He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see him there
Who made an end to all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the just is satisfied
To look on him and pardon me
To look on him and pardon me

Behold Him there the risen Lamb
My perfect spotless righteousness
The great unchangeable I am
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood



My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God
With Christ my Savior and my God

Prayer of Illumination (Will Mitchell)



Acts of the Risen Lord: Lessons from a Riot

Acts 19:21-41

Five Lessons for 2020 from an Ancient Roman Riot

1) The gospel of Jesus Christ impacts the whole social order (vv.21-27).

1 Corinthians 16:8-9 – [8] *But I will stay in Ephesus until Pentecost, [9] for a wide door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.*

NT Wright: “This rushing together of the economic, religious and cultural impact of the gospel is one of the major issues that Christians are having to grapple with once more in our time. Many of us in the West have lived quite comfortably with all these things in separate compartments, and everything clinically wrapped so that nothing can leak from one compartment to another.”

2) A hostile world will not welcome our dismantling of its idols (V.28).

Acts 17:22-25 – [22] *So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. [23] For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. [24] The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, [25] nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.*

“An idol is anything so central and essential to your life that, should you lose it, your life would feel hardly worth living. An idol has such a controlling position in your heart that you can spend most of your passion and energy, your emotional and financial resources, on it without a second thought...If anything becomes more fundamental than God to your happiness, meaning in life, and identity, then it is an idol.” –Tim Keller

“Our contemporary society is not fundamentally different from these ancient ones. Each culture is dominated by its own set of idols. Each one has its shrines—whether office towers, spas and gyms, studios, or stadiums—where sacrifices must be made in order to procure the blessings of the good life and ward off disaster. What are the gods of beauty, power, money, and achievement but these same things that have assumed mythic proportions in our individual lives and in our society? We may not physically kneel before the statue of Aphrodite, but many young women are driven into depression and eating disorders by an obsessive concern with body image. We may not actually burn incense to Artemis, but when money and career are raised to cosmic proportions, we perform a kind



of child sacrifice, neglecting family and community to achieve a higher place in business and gain more wealth and prestige.” –Tim Keller

“There is no such thing as not worshipping. Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship. And an outstanding reason for choosing some sort of God or spiritual-type thing to worship...is that pretty much anything else you worship will eat you alive. If you worship money and things—if they are where you tap real meaning in life—then you will never have enough. Worship your own body and beauty and sexual allure and you will always feel ugly, and when time and age start showing, you will die a million deaths before they finally plant you. Worship power — you will feel weak and afraid, and you will need ever more power over others to keep the fear at bay. Worship your intellect, being seen as smart — you will end up feeling stupid, a fraud, always on the verge of being found out.”
–David Foster Wallace

3) Christians ought to be people of clarity and calmness, not confusion and craziness (vv.29-34).

Philippians 4:5 – [5] Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand.

1 Corinthians 14:33a – [33] For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.

4) Christians should be thankful for and make use of political protections, but these protections cannot be our ultimate hope (vv.35-41).

5) We should beware of sinking the spiritual into the temporal.

“In proportion as the preaching becomes political, and the pastor sinks the spiritual in the temporal, strength is lost, and not gained.” –Charles Spurgeon

Revelation 2:1-5 – [1] “To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: ‘The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands. [2] “‘I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. [3] I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name’s sake, and you have not grown weary. [4] But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. [5] Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.’”

October 18 – Acts 20:1-38



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

4) "Jesus Is Better"

There is no other so sure and steady
My hope is held in your hand
When castles crumble and breath is fleeting
Upon this rock I will stand
Upon this rock I will stand

*Glory, glory, we have no other king
But Jesus Lord of all
Raise the anthem, our loudest praises ring
We crown Him Lord of all*

Your kindly rule has shattered and broken
The curse of sin's tyranny
My life is hidden 'neath Heaven's shadow
Jesus, your blood covers me
Jesus, your blood covers me

*Glory, glory, we have no other king
But Jesus Lord of all
Raise the anthem, our loudest praises ring
We crown Him Lord of all*

In all my sorrows, Jesus is better – make my heart believe
In every vict'ry, Jesus is better – make my heart believe
Than any comfort, Jesus is better – make my heart believe
More than all riches, Jesus is better – make my heart believe
Our souls declaring, Jesus is better – make my heart believe
Our song eternal, Jesus is better – make my heart believe



*Glory, glory, we have no other king
But Jesus Lord of all
Raise the anthem, our loudest praises ring
We crown Him Lord of all*

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 (Billy Shepard)

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 Christ the King Anglican Church, pastor Michael Novotney, their elders, staff, and congregation.

For Our Nation

For all levels of governing authorities over us, that they would have humility in seeing God's sovereignty over their own lives (Rom. 13:1), that they would execute just laws that punish wrong and reward good (Rom. 13:3), and that they would govern in such a way that we might live peaceful and quiet lives (1 Tim. 2:2).

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

¹⁷To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. (1 Timothy 1:17)

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...

Membership Matters Class – Sunday, October 18th at 2:30pm

If you are interested in becoming a member at CFC, we are planning to hold a Membership Matters class on Sunday, October 18th at 2:30pm. 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!

EQUIP Class on Race, Politics, & The Gospel – Continues Tomorrow

Tomorrow night at 7:30pm, we will continue our study on the topic of Race, Politics, and the Gospel. We will host sessions at the building those evenings and live-stream to our YouTube channel. More information can be found on our website at cfcbirmingham.org/equip.

Women's Zoom Bible Study Continues Tonight

Rebekah Rein is leading an 8-week Zoom study through the book *Hope When It Hurts*. The study takes place on Sunday evenings at 8:00pm. Email Rebekah at rrein@cfcbirmingham.org if you are interested in attending.

