

CHRIST FELLOWSHIP

Liturgy for Sunday, May 2, 2021

Welcome (Bart Box)

Call to Worship

¹Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

² sing the glory of his name;
give to him glorious praise!

³Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!
So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.

⁴All the earth worships you
and sings praises to you;
they sing praises to your name."

⁵Come and see what God has done:
he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.

⁶He turned the sea into dry land;
they passed through the river on foot.

There did we rejoice in him,

⁷ who rules by his might forever,
whose eyes keep watch on the nations—
let not the rebellious exalt themselves. (Psalm 66:1-7)

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"

2) "Shine into Our Night"

Public Reading of Scripture – Romans 12:14-21 (Emily Buckner)

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon (Bart Box)

³*The pride of your heart has deceived you,
you who live in the clefts of the rock,
in your lofty dwelling,
who say in your heart,
"Who will bring me down to the ground?"*

⁴*Though you soar aloft like the eagle,
though your nest is set among the stars,
from there I will bring you down,
declares the LORD. (Obadiah 3-4)*

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,
we have followed too much the devices and desires
of our own hearts,
we have offended against thy holy laws,
we have left undone those things
which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things
which we ought not to have done.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
spare thou those who confess their faults,
restore thou those who are penitent,
according to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesus our Lord;
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,



to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

‘But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” (James 4:6)

Songs

3) “O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer”

4) “All I Have Is Christ”

Prayer of Illumination (Will Mitchell)

Reading of the Preaching Passage (Rebekah Rein)



Words of Life: Enemies

Obadiah

[16] All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, [17] that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

The Day of Judgment for Prideful Edom (vv. 1–14)

- **Players in the Divine Courtroom**
 - The court reporter – Obadiah
 - *[8] The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. (Isaiah 40:8)*
 - The Judge – The Lord GOD
 - The plaintiff – Judah
 - The defendant – Edom
 - *[23] And the LORD said to her, “Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the older shall serve the younger.” (Genesis 25:23)*
- **The Judgment: A day is coming when Edom will be cut off (vv. 1–10).**
 - Edom’s pride will be humbled (vv. 2-4).
 - Edom’s trust will be broken (vv. 5–7).
 - Edom’s downfall will be complete (vv. 8–10).
- **The Indictment: Edom gladly participated in Judah’s destruction (vv. 11–14).**
 - Edom was apathetic and opportunistic (v. 11).
 - Edom was joyful and boastful (vv. 12–13).
 - Edom aided God’s enemies instead of helping God’s people (vv. 14).
- **Three Big Truths**
 - God identifies with His people.
 - *[4] “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” (Acts 9:4)*

- Edom represents all of humanity apart from Christ.
- God is a just Judge (e.g., Genesis 18:25; Psalm 89:14; 1 Peter 1:17)

The Day of the Lord for All Nations (vv. 15–21)

- **The Warning: Judgment for All Nations (vv. 15–18)**

- Turn to Christ and be saved
 - *[15] Thus the LORD, the God of Israel, said to me: "Take from my hand this cup of the wine of wrath, and make all the nations to whom I send you drink it. (Jeremiah 25:15)*
 - *[39] "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." (Matthew 26:39)*
 - *[20] We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. [21] For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:20-21)*
- Turn judgment over to God.
 - *The human impulse to make perpetrators of violence pay for their crimes is almost an overwhelming one. It cannot possibly be overcome with platitudes like 'Now don't you see that violence won't solve anything?' If you have seen your home burned down and your relations killed and raped, such talk is laughable—and it shows no real concern for justice. Yet victims of violence are drawn to go far beyond justice into the vengeance that says, 'You put out one of my eyes, so I will put out both of yours.' They are pulled inexorably into an endless cycle of vengeance, of strikes and counterstrikes nurtured and justified by the memory of terrible wrongs. Can our passion for justice be honored in a way that does not nurture our desire for blood vengeance?... The best resource for this is belief in the concept of God's divine justice. If I don't believe that there is a God who will eventually put all things right, I will take up the sword and will be sucked into the endless vortex of retaliation. Only if I am sure that there's a God who will right all wrongs and settle all accounts perfectly do I have the power to refrain. (Tim Keller)*

- **The Promise: God Reigns with His People in His Place (vv. 19–21).**

- *And mine are keys to Zion city, where beside the King I walk. For there my heart has found its treasure: Christ is mine forevermore! (CityAlight)*

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 (Billy Shepard)

For Our Church

For our church, that we would be known for our gracious hospitality in our welcoming all kinds of people into our congregation and our homes, and that we would regularly refresh one another by sharing others' burdens as well as sharing our own lives.

For Our City

For Oak Mountain Presbyterian Church, pastor Bob Flayhart, their elders, staff, and congregation.

For Our Nation

For the men and women serving in the armed forces, that they would strive to maintain peace and order in the places they are serving, that the Lord would comfort and preserve



the families of those who are deployed, and that we would faithfully give thanks to God for these men and women.

For Our World

For the nation of Afghanistan: that in the midst of potential political upheaval, God would graciously cause peace to pervade the nation; that God would pour out his Spirit for repentance and renewal; that the gospel would spread rapidly; and that the church would thrive despite persecution and instability.

“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

²⁰The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. (Romans 16:20)

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...

Church Work Day – Saturday, May 8th at 8:00am

Everyone is welcome to come help as we clean up around the property and attend to some smaller projects inside the building as well. We would love at least 30 people who can help put together furniture, hang signs, weed eat, and clean up trash.

Membership Matters Class – Monday, May 17th at 6:00pm

If you are interested in becoming a member at CFC, we are planning to hold a Membership Matters class on Monday, May 17th at 6:00pm. 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.

VBS Is Coming and We Need Volunteers – June 28th -July 1st

VBS 2021 is headed to present-day Israel where discovery awaits at Destination Dig. Mark your calendars! June 28th - July 1st, 9:00am-12:00pm. Volunteer sign up is on the CFC website.

Women's Discipleship Ministry

To participate in the CFC Women's discipleship and mentoring program, please email rrein@cfcbirmingham.org.

Women's Ministry Opportunity

If you are interested in being a pen pal to a woman who is incarcerated, please contact Emily Herring at eeh@herring-group.com. CFC women are partnering with the Birmingham Women's Work Release prison to provide pen pal relationships and to find ways to minister to the women. We are expanding the pen pal ministry and looking for more women to serve in this way!

CFC Kids Camp — July 20-23

All current 3rd-5th graders are invited to join us at Student Life for Kids Camp July 20-23 at Shocco Springs! Cost for camp is \$269, with additional discounts for families with multiple kids.

Youth Camp – June 14-18

The student ministry will be attending Student Life Mission Camp at Lee University in Cleveland, TN from June 14-18. All students who have completed 6th-12th grade are welcome. Direct any questions to Billy Shepard at bshepard@cfcbirmingham.org.

