

CHRIST FELLOWSHIP

Liturgy for Sunday, May 30, 2021

Welcome (Bart Box)

Time of Silent Reflection

Call to Worship

***¹We give thanks to you, O God;
we give thanks, for your name is near.***

We recount your wondrous deeds.

*²“At the set time that I appoint
I will judge with equity.*

*³When the earth totters, and all its inhabitants,
it is I who keep steady its pillars.*

*⁴I say to the boastful, ‘Do not boast,’
and to the wicked, ‘Do not lift up your horn;*

*⁵do not lift up your horn on high,
or speak with haughty neck.’”*

*⁶For not from the east or from the west
and not from the wilderness comes lifting up,*

*⁷but it is God who executes judgment,
putting down one and lifting up another.*

*⁸For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup
with foaming wine, well mixed,
and he pours out from it,*

*and all the wicked of the earth
shall drain it down to the dregs.*

*⁹But I will declare it forever;
I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.*

*¹⁰All the horns of the wicked I will cut off,
but the horns of the righteous shall be lifted up. (Psalm 75:1-10)*

***We give thanks to you, O God;
we give thanks, for your name is near.***

We recount your wondrous deeds.



Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

God's Greeting and Mutual Greetings

*⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.
(Romans 15:7)*

Songs

1) "O Love That Will Not Let Me Go"

2) "We Will Feast in the House of Zion"

Public Reading of Scripture – Habakkuk 2:2-4 (Gray Shipley)

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon (Nick Murray)

¹Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!

² O Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive

to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

³If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,

O Lord, who could stand?

⁴But with you there is forgiveness,

that you may be feared. (Psalm 130:1-4)

⁵I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,

and in his word I hope;

⁶my soul waits for the Lord

more than watchmen for the morning,

more than watchmen for the morning.

⁷O Israel, hope in the LORD!

For with the LORD there is steadfast love,

and with him is plentiful redemption.

⁸And he will redeem Israel

from all his iniquities. (Psalm 130:5-8)



Songs

3) "Rock of Ages"

4) "Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul"

Prayer of Illumination (Will Mitchell)

Reading of the Preaching Passage (Paige Herr)



Words of Life: Faith
Habakkuk

The Fight for Faith (1:1-2:1)

- Habakkuk’s prophecy is an oracle, a burden that Habakkuk experiences and expresses.
 - Judah was filled with injustice and unrighteousness (1:2-4).
 - Habakkuk could see all this... (“why do you make me see iniquity”)
 - But why was God blind to it all? (“why do you idly look at wrong?”)
 - God assured Habakkuk that Judah would be judged—by the Chaldeans (Babylonians)! (1:5-11)
 - Habakkuk objected to God’s plans since the Babylonians were even worse than Judah. (1:13)
- Application:
 - We think negatively about complaints, and many of our complaints are selfish and shallow.
 - But complaints to God *may* be welcomed by God.
 - Habakkuk was not troubled because he lacked faith altogether but because he had so much faith.
 - Habakkuk believed God was good and great, and he couldn’t see everything added up.
 - Habakkuk serves as a model for us—one who fights for faith in a faithless world.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? (Psalm 22:1)

- We should pray...
 - These sorts of prayers when we are confused and confounded by God’s ways.
 - For our brothers and sisters when they are struggling to believe.

The Foundation of Faith (2:2-20)

- Chapter 2 contains God’s answer to Habakkuk’s second complaint.
 - The answer contains 1 encouragement for Habakkuk—the righteous will live by their faith.
 - The answer contains 5 woes for the Chaldeans—the proud will be brought to nothing.
- The key ideas in the chapters are “write”, “wait”, and “faith”.
 - Habakkuk was to write down the vision to illustrate the trustworthiness of God’s Word. (2:2)
 - The concluding woe urges silence in God’s Temple.
 - The silence was commanded so that people could hear God’s Word.

- The idols of the nations are speechless.
- The God of the Bible speaks truth.
- Habakkuk was commanded to wait for the fulfillment of God's promises. (2:3)
 - The Chaldeans would have their ~~day~~ decades in the sun.
 - Habakkuk was called to do the otherworldly work of embracing a vision with his ears instead of his eyes.
- Habakkuk's calling, then, was faith. (2:4)
 - The unrighteous trust in themselves.
 - The righteous live in dependence upon God.
- Application:
 - Non-Christian, do you understand that judgment is coming some day? (2:5-20)

The Lord is slow to anger and great in power, and the Lord will by no means clear the guilty. His way is in whirlwind and storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet. (Nahum 1:3)
 - Church, do you see why it's imperative that our congregation be marked by hearing God's Word?

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. (Romans 10:17)
 - Christian, are your hopes anchored in this world or in the world to come? (2:14)

Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:2)

The Fruit of Faith (3:1-19)

- God wants to so convince us by His Word that we move from anguish to praise.
- Habakkuk assures himself that God is coming by the knowledge that God has come already.
- Reminded of God's faithfulness, Habakkuk is prepared to live (and sing) by faith.
- The same is true for us...
 - God has demonstrated his faithfulness by sending His Son, Jesus Christ.
 - Shouldn't we trust and worship such a good, loving, and wise God?

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. (Hebrews 11:1)

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) "He Will Hold Me Fast"

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 (Steve Killough)

For Our Church

For our church, that we would maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Eph. 4:3), that any cause for division amongst brothers and sisters in Christ would be addressed quickly and humbly, and that we would be united in mind and love for one another (1 Pet. 3:8).

For Our City

For Raleigh Avenue Baptist Church, pastor Nic Seaborn, 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 Bangladesh, for the truth of Jesus Christ to go forth and penetrate hearts in this vastly unreached nation, that God would shine the light of gospel over the darkness of Islam, and for strength and perseverance for the very few Bengali believers.

"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

*¹⁴For the earth will be filled
with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea. (Habakkuk 2:14)*

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...

Members Meeting — Next Sunday, June 6th at 5:00pm

All members are encouraged to attend the Members' Meeting next Sunday, June 6th at 5:00pm. Our time together will include a bring-your-own-dinner (but CFC will provide drinks and cookies for dessert) in the fellowship hall, affirmation of new members, and other important items of business.

Sign Up for VBS Today!

VBS is coming June 28-July 1 from 9:00am-12:00pm! You can now sign up your kids age 4 through 5th grade on our website. We also still need volunteers to help us ensure we are able to safely host as many kids as we can. You can sign up to volunteer on the website.

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@cfcbermingham.org.

Women's Summer Bible Study

On Monday nights in June and July, we will be going through the study *She Reads Truth: This is the Old Testament*. For more information, please visit cfcbermingham.org/women or email Rebekah Rein at rrein@cfcbermingham.org.

Held: Women's Fellowship Dinner – Thursday, June 17

Introducing an event series for the women of CFC as we seek to glorify God through fellowship, connection, and sharing. Please join us on Thursday, June 17, at 6:30pm for a meal as we seek to engage with and encourage one another, with the recognition that we were designed to grow together in Christ, and that it is Christ who continually sustains us. RSVP at cfcbermingham.org/women.

