

CHRIST FELLOWSHIP

Liturgy for Sunday, June 20, 2021

Welcome (Bart Box)

Time of Silent Reflection

Call to Worship

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Behold, your king is coming to you;

righteous and having salvation is he,

humble and mounted on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim

and the war horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,

and he shall speak peace to the nations;

his rule shall be from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth....

¹⁶On that day the LORD their God will save them,

as the flock of his people;

for like the jewels of a crown

they shall shine on his land.

¹⁷For how great is his goodness, and how great his beauty!

Grain shall make the young men flourish,

and new wine the young women. (Zechariah 9:9-10, 16-17a)

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) "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

2) "Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery"

Public Reading of Scripture – Zechariah 3 (Lesley McClanahan)

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon (Nick Murray)

⁸And the word of the LORD came to Zechariah, saying, ⁹"Thus says the LORD of hosts, Render true judgments, show kindness and mercy to one another, ¹⁰do not oppress the widow, the fatherless, the sojourner, or the poor, and let none of you devise evil against another in your heart." ¹¹But they refused to pay attention and turned a stubborn shoulder and stopped their ears that they might not hear. ¹²They made their hearts diamond-hard lest they should hear the law and the words that the LORD of hosts had sent by his Spirit through the former prophets. Therefore great anger came from the LORD of hosts. (Zechariah 7:8-12)

¹On that day there shall be a fountain opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness. (Zechariah 13:1)

Songs

3) "There Is a Fountain"

4) "Before the Throne"



Prayer of Illumination (Will Mitchell)

Reading of the Preaching Passage (Laine Williams)



Words of Life: Renewal
Zechariah

The invitation to renewal (1:1-6:14)

- The book is divided into three sections:
 - Eight visions in chapters 1-6.
 - Two sermons in chapters 7-8.
 - Two oracles in chapters 9-14.
- The first six chapters contain a simple invitation and eight visions that illuminate God's invitation.
- Zechariah 1:3 contains the key verse of the book ("return to me... and I will return to you").
 - Proximity to the Lord is not the same as intimacy with the Lord.
 - God wants to be close with His people.

Zechariah's Eight Visions

- 1 – Unrest in Judah
- 2 – Enemies defeated
- 3 – Jerusalem restored
- 4 – Sins forgiven
- 5 – Temple established
- 6 – Sin exposed
- 7 – Sin exiled
- 8 – Rest in Judah

- The eight visions are carefully arranged in sets:
 - Visions 1 and 8 take us from a world at rest under pagan powers (1:7-17) to a world at rest under God's power (6:1-8).
 - Visions 2-3 and Visions 6-7 show God at work...
 - Purging Israel of their enemies. (1:18-2:13)
 - Purging Israel of their sin. (5:1-11)
 - Visions 4 and 5 take us to the heart of God's merciful intentions...
 - God chooses His people in grace and clothes them righteousness! (3:1-10)

And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord." (1 Corinthians 1:30-31)

- God dwells with his people! (4:1-14)

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²² In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. (Ephesians 2:19-22)

- Application:
 - These chapters paint a picture of a merciful and compassionate God.

Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. ² He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; ³ a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. (Isaiah 42:1-3)

- Would you trust that this God invites and welcomes you back?

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. (Psalm 34:18)

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28)

The joy of renewal (7:1-8:23)

- Chapters 7 & 8 belong together as two sides of the same coin—both are sermons, and both deal with fasting and faithfulness.
- In chapter 7, there is a question of continued fasting in light of Temple reconstruction.
 - The people wanted to know if they needed to continue fasting. (7:3)
 - God wanted to know if their fasting was sincere. (7:5)
- In chapter 8, there is a reversal of fortunes.
 - The desolate city (7:14) becomes the faithful city. (8:3)
 - The city of truth is a city of peace, life, vitality, and freedom. (8:4ff)

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. (John 10:10)
- Application:
 - We should want outsiders to see the life of the kingdom in the life of the church.
 - We should pray that God would make our church an oasis of joy in a desert of misery.

The glory of renewal (9:1-14:21)

- Chapters 9-14 are difficult in their details but clearer in their overall meaning.
 - We see a salvation that reaches to the ends of the earth. (9:1-8; 14:1-21)
 - We see a shepherd-king who will rule and tend faithfully. (9:9-16)
 - He will be rejected by His people... (12:10)
 - But He will bring cleansing for His people. (13:1)
- Application:
 - Rest in the salvation that only God brings.
 - Return to the only God that saves.

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) "Psalm 23"

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 (Ryan Adams)

For Our Church

For those in our church who are fathers: that God would grant them godly intentionality in their roles as the lead disciple-maker in their families. For those in our church who have had difficult relationships with their own fathers: that God would be to them the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort. For those in our church who have lost fathers: that God would supply men in the church to help stand in the void of what is lost.

For Our City

For Iron City Church, pastor Kam Pugh, their elders, staff, and congregation.

For Our Nation



For the epidemic of fatherlessness in our country, for God to break into the lives of those whose families have been plagued by generational sin or injustice that has torn apart families, for the church to stand in the gaps left by absent fathers, and ultimately that our Heavenly Father would redeem men from their sins so that they find their hope in the gospel and then faithfully lead their families.

For Our World

For the nation of Saudi Arabia, that God would soften the strictness of their traditional Muslim culture so that open doors might be created and the gospel might be proclaimed in the nation, for workers to be sent into the harvest there, and that Christians there would hold fast to Jesus even in the midst of persecution.

"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

“Then he said to me, “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts. (Zechariah 4:6)

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...

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.

CFC Kids Teachers for the Fall

We are transitioning back to age-graded classrooms in CFC Kids on Sunday mornings starting this fall. We are excited to offer age-appropriate gospel-based teaching on a weekly basis, but that requires a lot of faithful teachers and assistants. We are asking every member to prayerfully consider serving on a rotation serving in CFC Kids. To indicate whether you'd like to be a teacher or an assistant, you can email Maggie or fill out the form in the midweek announcement email.

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! Our very own Nick Murray will be the camp pastor that week, so it will be a great week of teaching, recreation, and time with friends. Cost for camp is \$269, with additional discounts for families with multiple kids. A deposit of \$50/camper is due at sign up. We do not want the cost of camp to be the reason anyone doesn't go. Please let Ryan Adams know if you are interested in scholarships.

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 cfcbirmingham.org/women or email Rebekah Rein at rrein@cfcbirmingham.org.

