

CHRIST FELLOWSHIP

Liturgy for Sunday, August 23, 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:** There is space for nursing mothers in the cry room, and additional space 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 will now be used for elementary kids Sunday school during the sermon. So it is no longer available for overflow seating or for energetic children.
- 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

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. (Colossians 1:15-20)



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) "By Faith"

By faith we see the hand of God
In the light of creation's grand design
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness
Who walk by faith and not by sight

By faith our fathers roamed the earth
With the power of His promise in their hearts
Of a holy city built by God's own hand
A place where peace and justice reign

*We will stand as children of the promise
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward
'Til the race is finished and the work is done
We'll walk by faith and not by sight*

By faith the prophets saw a day
When the longed-for Messiah would appear
With the power to break the chains
Of sin and death



And rise triumphant from the grave

*We will stand as children of the promise
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward
'Til the race is finished and the work is done
We'll walk by faith and not by sight*

By faith the church was called to go
In the power of the Spirit to the lost
To deliver captives and to preach good news
In every corner of the earth

*We will stand as children of the promise
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward
'Til the race is finished and the work is done
We'll walk by faith and not by sight*

By faith this mountain shall be moved
And the power of the gospel shall prevail
For we know in Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His name

*We will stand as children of the promise
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward
'Til the race is finished and the work is done
We'll walk by faith and not by sight*

2) "Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor"

Christ the sure and steady anchor
In the fury of the storm
When the winds of doubt blow through me
And my sails have all been torn
In the suffering, in the sorrow
When my sinking hopes are few
I will hold fast to the anchor
It shall never be removed

Christ the sure and steady anchor
While the tempest rages on
When temptation claims the battle
And it seems the night has won



Deeper still then goes the anchor
Though I justly stand accused
I will hold fast to the anchor
It shall never be removed

Christ the sure and steady anchor
Through the floods of unbelief
Hopeless somehow, O my soul, now
Lift your eyes to Calvary
This my ballast of assurance
See his love forever proved
I will hold fast to the anchor
It shall never be removed

Christ the sure and steady anchor
As we face the wave of death
When these trials give way to glory
As we draw our final breath
We will cross that great horizon
Clouds behind and life secure
And the calm will be the better
For the storms that we endure

Christ the sure of our salvation
Ever faithful, ever true
We will hold fast to the anchor
It shall never be removed

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon (Nick Murray)

¹⁹And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.” (John 3:19-21)

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;**



we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

‘For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. (2 Corinthians 4:6)

Songs

3) “Amazing Grace”

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I’m found
Was blind but now I see

‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come
‘Tis grace that brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

When we’ve been there ten thousand years
Bright, shining as the sun
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise
Than when we first begun

Prayer of Illumination (Will Mitchell)



The Acts of the Risen Lord: Mission Critical
Acts 15:36-16:15

Four Critical Components for our Mission

#1 - We need God's grace to reach neighbors and nations. (15:36-41)

- An Acts recap:
 - The Gospel of Luke presents the work of Christ while walking the earth, and Acts presents the work of Christ while reigning from heaven.

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. (Acts 1:8)
 - By Acts 15, the gospel had multiplied from Jerusalem to Asia Minor, including Jews and Gentiles.
- After the Jerusalem Council, Paul and Barnabas were set to go on another missionary journey.
 - Paul wanted to check on the spiritual health of new believers.
 - The problem was a personnel problem, and that problem divided Paul and Barnabas.

Our judgment goes with Paul, but our hearts go with Barnabas. (Kent Hughes)

Luke alone is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry. (2 Timothy 4:11)
- Application:
 - God's grace is sufficient for God's mission, even though we are not on our own.
 - God is patient, kind, and gracious with us, even using us when we think we're useless.

God can strike a straight stroke by a crooked stick. (Thomas Watson)

#2 - We need personal sacrifice to reach neighbors and nations. (16:1-5)

- Background...
 - Timothy's father was Greek, and his mother was a Jewish Christian.
 - Timothy's circumcision occurs against the backdrop of the Jerusalem Council.
 - The Jerusalem Council denied circumcision as necessary *for salvation*.
 - Paul insisted on circumcision as helpful for evangelism of Jews.



Once the principle had been established that circumcision was not necessary for salvation, he was ready to make concessions in policy. (John Stott)

- Questions:
 - What concessions are we willing to make for the sake of the gospel?
 - What preferences, styles, and traditions are we willing to give up?
 - What sacrifices am I willing to make for others to hear about Jesus?

#3 - We need continual sensitivity to reach neighbors and nations. (16:6-10)

- We don't know why Paul's team was forbidden from preaching the gospel in some places; we do know that God wanted Paul to preach *somewhere*.
- God was guiding Paul's team even when that meant frustration and (apparent) failure.
- The point of the passage:
 - Our mission demands careful attention to the Lord's guidance.
 - We have plans, but the Lord has *the plan*.
 - We shouldn't grow overly discouraged or disheartened, even when a door closes.

Without Christ, not one step; with him, anywhere! (David Livingstone)

#4 - We need the Spirit's help to reach neighbors and nations. (16:11-15)

- Lydia was a God-fearer, a worshiper of God but not identified as a Jew.
- Lydia needed to hear the rest of the story, and God gave her a hearing heart.
- Application:
 - God is the sole author of salvation.
 - We must pray for God's saving power.

*Brethren, we have met to worship and adore the Lord our God;
Will you pray with all your power, while we try to preach the Word?
All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down;
Brethren, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around
(From "Brethren, We Have Met to Worship")*

Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. (Rom. 10:17)

August 30 - Acts 16:16-40



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) "All Glory Be to Christ"

Should nothing of our efforts stand
No legacy survive
Unless the Lord does raise the house
In vain its builders strive

To you who boast tomorrow's gain
Tell me what is your life
A mist that vanishes at dawn
All glory be to Christ!

*All glory be to Christ our king!
All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign we'll ever sing,
All glory be to Christ!*

His will be done
His kingdom come
On earth as is above
Who is Himself our daily bread
Praise Him the Lord of love

Let living water satisfy
The thirsty without price
We'll take a cup of kindness yet
All glory be to Christ!

*All glory be to Christ our king!
All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign we'll ever sing,*



All glory be to Christ!

When on the day the great I Am
The faithful and the true
The Lamb who was for sinners slain
Is making all things new.

Behold our God shall live with us
And be our steadfast light
And we shall e'er his people be
All glory be to Christ!

*All glory be to Christ our king!
All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign we'll ever sing,
All glory be to Christ!*

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 (Keith Pearson)

For Our Church

For the members of our church to live hope-filled lives that display a steady trust in our sovereign God, despite all of the fear and anxiety that fills our world today; that we would remember God's perfect track record in caring for his children; and that we'd be mindful of opportunities to speak of the peace that surpasses understanding that comes through Christ.

For Our City

For Shades Valley Community Church, pastor Jonathan Haefs, their elders, staff, and congregation.



For Our Nation

For our nation, that God would change the hearts of our lawmakers and elected officials to see the evil of abortion, that as a nation we would move toward ending this horrible practice, that our culture of death would be transformed into one that cherishes life at every stage. Also, for those who have had abortions or paid for abortions, that they would know the freeing and forgiving power of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

For Our World

For CFC member Clarke and his wife Elaina who are serving in the Middle East, that God would guide their ministry efforts and give them gospel opportunities in the midst of the pandemic, and that God would bless their strategic plans to enter into and minister inside of a very difficult country on the Arabian Peninsula, and that God would allow for a safe and healthy pregnancy as they expect their first child.

"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

⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

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

