

Welcome, Visitors! If you are visiting today, we are pleased that you chose to worship with us. Here, at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), we take Communion each Sunday. Anyone who is a follower of Christ is invited to partake. If you are interested in membership or learning more about our church, please speak with Rev. Michael following the service.

Children in Worship

Children are always welcome to participate in Worship. We offer childcare for infants to 3 year olds in the Nursery while parents attend Worship and Sunday School. As an alternative to Sanctuary Worship, we offer Worship and Wonder, an experience designed to give children the opportunity to hear Bible stories and learn the Gospel at their own level. Children ages 3 through 2nd grade are welcome to join us following the "Children's Blessing."

If you haven't checked out our website and social media pages, we'd love to connect with you in that way:

Website: www.fccowb.org
 Facebook: FCCOwensboro
 Instagram: @fccowb



Online Giving

Online giving is available for tithes and offerings. To submit your gift, visit www.fccowb.org/give or text "FCCOWB" to 73256. You may also scan the QR code on the left!

This week at First Christian Church (DOC)

CR- Choir Room; C- Conference Room; F-Fellowship Hall; FHL-Fa-Ho-Lo Room; S-Sanctuary

Sunday, December 10

9:00 a.m. Worship Service (S)
 10:00 a.m. Fellowship (F)
 10:20 a.m. Sunday School
 Symphony Sunday
 Hospice Event

2:30 p.m.

Monday, December 11

10-1:30 p.m. Retired Teacher Luncheon

Tuesday, December 12

11-1:00 Garden Club Meeting (F)
 5:30 p.m. Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 13

6:30 a.m. Men's Fellowship (Panera)
 6:00 p.m. Youth Groups (F)
 6:00 p.m. Choir Practice (CR)

Thursday, December 14

Friday, December 15

Church Office Closed

Saturday, December 16

Owensboro Symphony Chamber Orchestra

Troy Quinn, Music Director and Conductor

First Violin

Christina McGann
 Michael Chu
 Jack Bogard
 Erina Buchholz

Cello

Graham Cullen
 John Yang

Bass

Greg Olson

Second Violin

Monona Suzuki
 Victor Tsai
 Jisu Youn
 Wendi Li

Flute

Leanne Hampton

Oboe

Bonnie Farr

Viola

Mark Hatlestad
 Elizabeth Jones

Timpani

Todd Sheehan

Piano

Diane Earle



First Christian Choir welcomes singers from
 Third Baptist Church & The OCTC Chorus

Symphony Sunday
 December 10, 2023



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
 700 J. R. Miller Blvd.
 Owensboro, KY 42303
 270-684-8879 www.fccowb.org

SEEKING THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Welcome Rev. Chris Michael

Bringing of the Light

Bell of Mindfulness

(Please use this time for quiet reflection.)

Prelude

"Praeludium from Holberg Suite"

Edvard Grieg

*Call to Worship Patrick Whitmer

One: Christmas is coming! Christ, the Promised One, is near!

All: We will prepare for God's Holy One with worship which is warm and joyful.

One: Christmas is coming! Christ, long hoped for, is near!

All: We will prepare for God's Cherished One with friendship which includes the outsiders.

One: Christmas is coming! Christ, the Peace-bringer, is near!

All: We will prepare for God's Anointed One with forgiveness and reconciliation.

One: Christmas is coming! Christ, beloved, is near!

All: We will prepare for God's Chosen One with compassion and sharing.***Hymn 142****"People, Look East"**

*Invocation and Lord's Prayer Patrick Whitmer

(using "debts" and "debtors")

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Candle of Peace**Eric & Laura Farmer**

Children's Blessing Rev. Chris Michael

Children ages 3 through 2nd grade are invited forward for a blessing, then will be escorted to Worship and Wonder
(Located at the end of the first floor education wing.)

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Chris Michael

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Choral Anthem

"Brightest and Best "

with Choir

arr. Shawn Kirchner

Song of the Season

Rev. Chris Michael

Hymn # 144 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Invitation to Discipleship

Hymn 159 "There's a Song in the Air"*OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD**

Preparation for the Offering

Rev. Chris Michael

Offertory

"Love's Pure Light "

with Choir

Elaine Hagenberg

*Doxology and Presentation of Gifts (Page 46)

*Dedication Prayer

RENEWING THE COVENANT IN THE LORD'S SUPPER*We are one in Christ, let everyone share in this communion**without regard for denominational affiliation.**You are invited to partake the cup and bread after your prayers.*

Invitation to Communion

Brian Belcher & Leslie Carlisle

Words of Institution

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion Music

"The First Noel"

GOING IN PEACE TO LOVE AND TO SERVE

*Benediction

Rev. Chris Michael

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.**Finale**

"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

arr. Morton Gould

"(The Dargason) from St. Paul's Suite"

Gustav Holst

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"1 O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.2 For Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth.Your voices raise to God in praise;
and peace to all on earth;3 How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!So God imparts to human hearts
the joys of highest heaven.No ear may hear Christ coming,
but in this world of sin,where meek souls will receive him still,
the dear Christ enters in.4 O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell:O come to us, abide with us,
our God, Emmanuel.