

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 17

9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (S)
10:00 a.m.	Fellowship (F)
10:00 a.m.	Congregational Meeting
10:20 a.m.	Sunday School

Monday, December 18

Tuesday, December 19

Wednesday, December 20

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

Thursday, December 21

1:30 p.m.	Refugee Food Pantry
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Friday, December 22

Church Office Closed

Saturday, December 23



Announcements

Please stay after the Service today for a quick Congregational Meeting.

Christmas Eve Service will be held at 9:00 a.m. and a special evening service at 5:00 p.m.



Staff

Sr. Minister.....Rev. J. Chris Michael
 Financial Manager.....Kristin Callis
 Administrative AssistantKrista Tischer
 Information Technology..... Curtis Hannah
 Director of Education & Youth ActivitiesMeaghan Murphy
 Choir Director.....Mike Tichenor
 Pianist.....Ann Jeannette Pierce
 Nursery Attendants.....Elee Roach
 Sherry Rhoads

Contact Us:

Church Office 270-684-8879
 Church Email: krista@fccowb.org
 Web Address: www.fccowb.org



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

Third Sunday of Advent
 December 17, 2023

SEEKING THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Welcome Rev. Chris Michael
 Bringing of the Light
 Bell of Mindfulness
 (Please use this time for quiet reflection.)

Prelude Ann Jeannette Pierce, Piano
 "Bring a Torch, Jeannette Isabella"
 French Carol
 Arr. Faye Lopez

*Call to Worship Chris Gaddis
 One: God's messenger is coming to prepare the way.
All: We rejoice that God loves us enough to send him.
 One: God's messenger has some challenging words to bring us.
All: We are ready to listen and to reflect.
 One: God's messenger will call us to action.
All: We will work to make the necessary changes.

***Hymn 164**
"Good Christian Friends Rejoice"

*Invocation and Lord's Prayer Chris Gaddis
 (using "debts" and "debtors")

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Candle of Joy
Patrick & Michelle Whitmer

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

Message in Music
 "Do You Hear What I Hear"
 Arr. Simeone
 Brian and Lily Belcher, duet

Song of the Season Rev. Chris Michael
"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"

One: The Word of God for the people of God.
All: Thanks be to God.

Invitation to Discipleship
***Hymn 162 "What Child Is This"**

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

Preparation for the Offering Rev. Chris Michael
 Offertory Ann Jeannette Pierce, Piano
 "Love Came Down at Christmas"
 Irish Carol
 Arr. Larry Shackley

*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 Doug and Brenda Hoyt
 Words of Institution
 Prayer of Thanksgiving
 Communion Music Ann Jeannette Pierce, Piano
 "The Rocking Carol"
 Czech Carol
 Arr. Anna Laura Pag

GOING IN PEACE TO LOVE AND TO SERVE

*Benediction Rev. Chris Michael
 One: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.

*Please stand, if you are able.

"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"

I heard the bells on Christmas Day
 Their old, familiar carols play,
 And wild and sweet
 The words repeat
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

And thought how, as the day had come,
 The belfries of all Christendom
 Had rolled along
 The unbroken song
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

Till ringing, singing on its way,
 The world revolved from night to day,
 A voice, a chime,
 A chant sublime
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

Then from each black, accursed mouth
 The cannon thundered in the South,
 And with the sound
 The carols drowned
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

It was as if an earthquake rent
 The hearth-stones of a continent,
 And made forlorn
 The households born
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

And in despair I bowed my head;
 "There is no peace on earth," I said;
 "For hate is strong,
 And mocks the song
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
 "God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;
 The Wrong shall fail,
 The Right prevail,
 With peace on earth, good-will to men."