

**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](http://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](http://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 3**

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

**Monday, December 4**

OCTC Concert

**Tuesday, December 5**

Primetimers Plus Brunch @ Miller House

**Wednesday, December 6**

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

**Thursday, December 7**

**Friday, December 8**

**Church Office Closed**

**Saturday, December 9**

**Announcements**

The Owensboro Choral Society, directed by Connie Ford, will present Handel's Messiah today, Dec. 3rd at 2:30 p.m. at Third Baptist Church. All proceeds go to the Goodfellows of Owensboro.

The OCTC Community Chorus will present a Christmas concert on Monday, Dec. 4th, at 7:00 p.m. at First Christian Church. Directed by Connie Ford and accompanied by Anna Sparks, the 40-voice chorus will present a variety of Christmas choral works.

The Primetimers Plus Christmas brunch will be held on Tuesday, December 4th at 9:30 a.m. at the Miller House. Reach out to Ron Waite to reserve a spot.

Pecans for sale in the lobby for St. Joseph Peace Mission- \$13.00

Please remember to bring mittens & gloves for our mitten tree that will be put up in the lobby!

Advent Devotionals are out in the lobby for sale, \$2.00 a piece



**Staff**

Sr. Minister.....Rev. J. Chris Michael  
 Financial Manager.....Kristin Callis  
 Administrative Assistant .....Krista Tischer  
 Information Technology..... Curtis Hannah  
 Director of Education & Youth Activities .....Meaghan 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](mailto:krista@fccowb.org)  
 Web Address: [www.fccowb.org](http://www.fccowb.org)



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
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 Owensboro, KY 42303  
 270-684-8879 [www.fccowb.org](http://www.fccowb.org)

First Sunday of Advent  
 December 3, 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  
"Sing We Now of Christmas"  
French Carol  
arr. Philip Keveren

\*Call to Worship Tom Maddox  
One: The circle of poverty will be broken.  
**All: Thanks be to God!**  
One: The vice grip of evil will be shattered.  
**All: Thanks be to God!**  
One: The ache of loneliness will be ended.  
**All: Thanks be to God!**  
One: The insight of a child will lead us.  
**All: Thanks be to God!**

**\*Hymn 122**  
**"Comfort, Comfort You My People"**

\*Invocation and Lord's Prayer Tom Maddox  
(using "debts" and "debtors")

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath- Candle of Hope**  
**John & Janey Burns**

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**

Choir Message  
"Rise Up, Shepherd, & Follow"

**Song of the Season** Rev. Chris Michael  
**Hymn # 119 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"**

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

Invitation to Discipleship  
**\*Hymn 125 "Come, O Long-expected Jesus"**

**OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD**

Preparation for the Offering Rev. Chris Michael  
Offertory Ann Jeannette Pierce, Piano  
"Savior of the Nations, Come"  
Enchiridian Oder Handbuchlein  
arr. Daniel Burton  
\*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 Tab & Vicki Quisenberry  
Words of Institution  
Prayer of Thanksgiving  
Communion Music Ann Jeannette Pierce, Piano  
"Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming"  
German Carol  
Arr. Lloyd Larson

**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.

**"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"**

1 O come, O come Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here,  
until the Son of God appear.  
Refrain:  
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

2 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
our spirits by thine advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
(Refrain)

3 O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
and order all things, far and nigh;  
to us the path of knowledge of show,  
and cause us in her ways to go. (Refrain)

4 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind;  
bid envy, strife and quarrels cease;  
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
(Refrain)